



ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

**For Immediate Release  
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LITTLE ROCK: Teachers, school administrators and school board members will meet with State officials to help develop Arkansas's application for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Race to the Top Fund. The Arkansas Department of Education and the Arkansas Office of Recovery and Reinvestment will host a series of meetings to obtain feedback on the proposed application. *The media is invited to cover the sessions.*

The Race to the Top fund provides competitive grants to encourage and reward states that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform. Race to the Top calls for states to systemically advance reforms around four specific areas: adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and in the workplace of the 21st century; building data systems that measure student growth and success, and that provide information to improve instruction; recruiting, developing, rewarding and retaining effective teachers and principals; and improving our lowest-achieving schools.

The meetings schedule is:

- November 23, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Jonesboro High School, **Jonesboro.**
- December 3, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Henderson State University's Caplinger Airway Science Academic Center, **Arkadelphia.**
- December 7, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Northwest Arkansas Education Service Center, **Farmington.**
- December 8, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Southeast Arkansas Education Service Center, **Monticello.**
- December 14, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Arkansas Activities Association, **North Little Rock.**
- December 15, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Arkansas Tech University's Chambers Cafeteria, **Russellville.**

*The Arkansas Department of Education strives to ensure that all children in the state have access to a quality education by providing educators, administrators and staff with leadership, resources and training.*