# The Education Reform and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Working Together to Channel Funds to Support Student Achievement

**October 15, 2009**
**Columbus, Ohio**

# Why Are We Concerned About Education Reform: Sobering Statistics

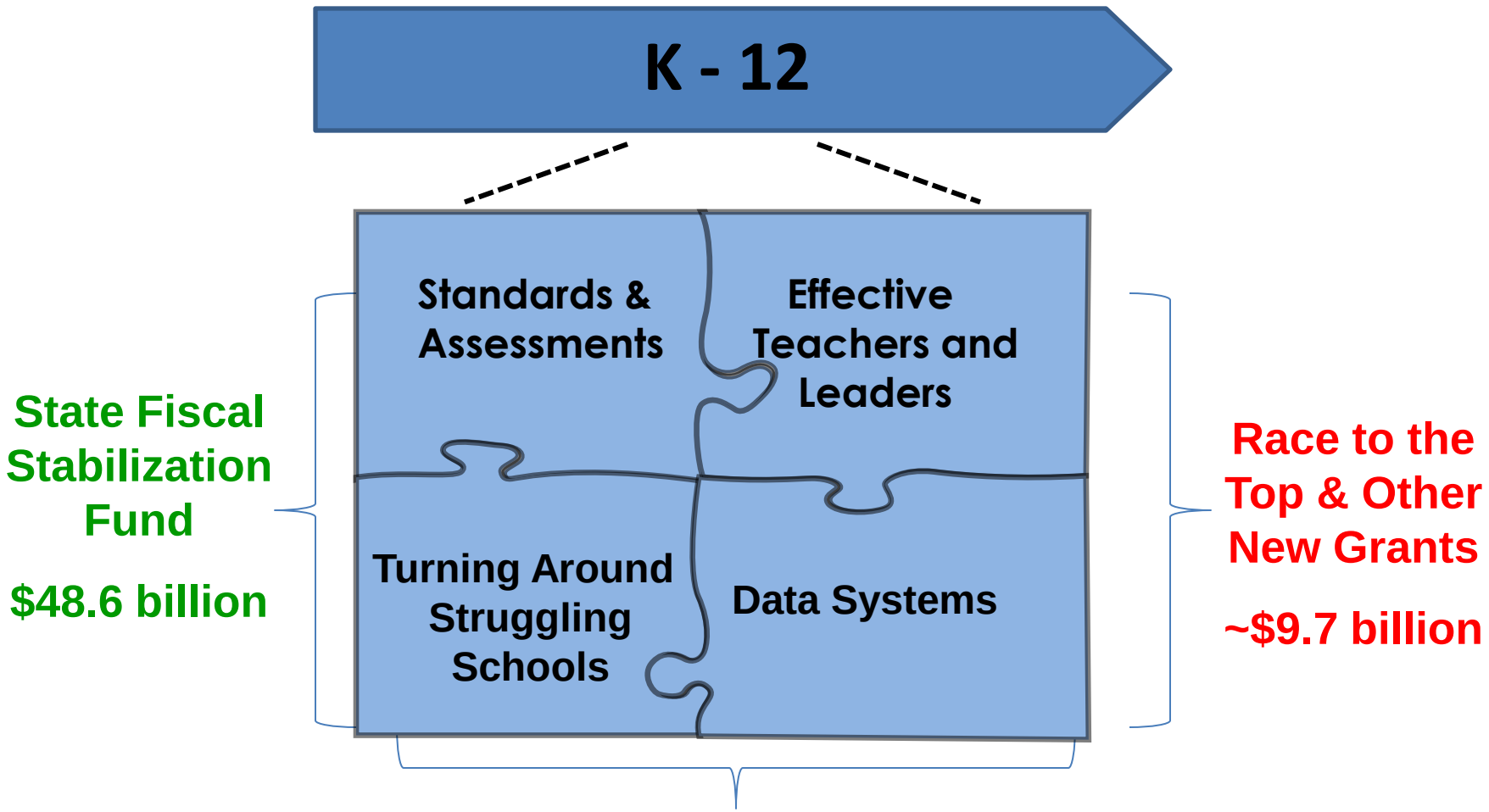
- High school dropouts earn increasingly less than high school graduates.
- College graduates earn 60 percent more than high school graduates.
- 1 million students spend Pell funds on non-college credit courses each year.
- 1 in 10 high schools loose more than 40 percent of students between $9^{th}$-$12^{th}$ grade.

# President Obama's Education Reform Agenda – P- 12 Items

- Pre-K (age 0-5 education support);
- Striving Readers (age 8 to high school reading initiative for Struggling Readers;
- High Schools (focus on dropout factories, strategies that work);
- School turnaround (focus on the lowest achieving/performing Title I schools);
- P-20 Longitudinal data systems,
- Support of common learning standards and assessments, and

Training, Incentive Pay and Pay for Performance for Teachers and Principals

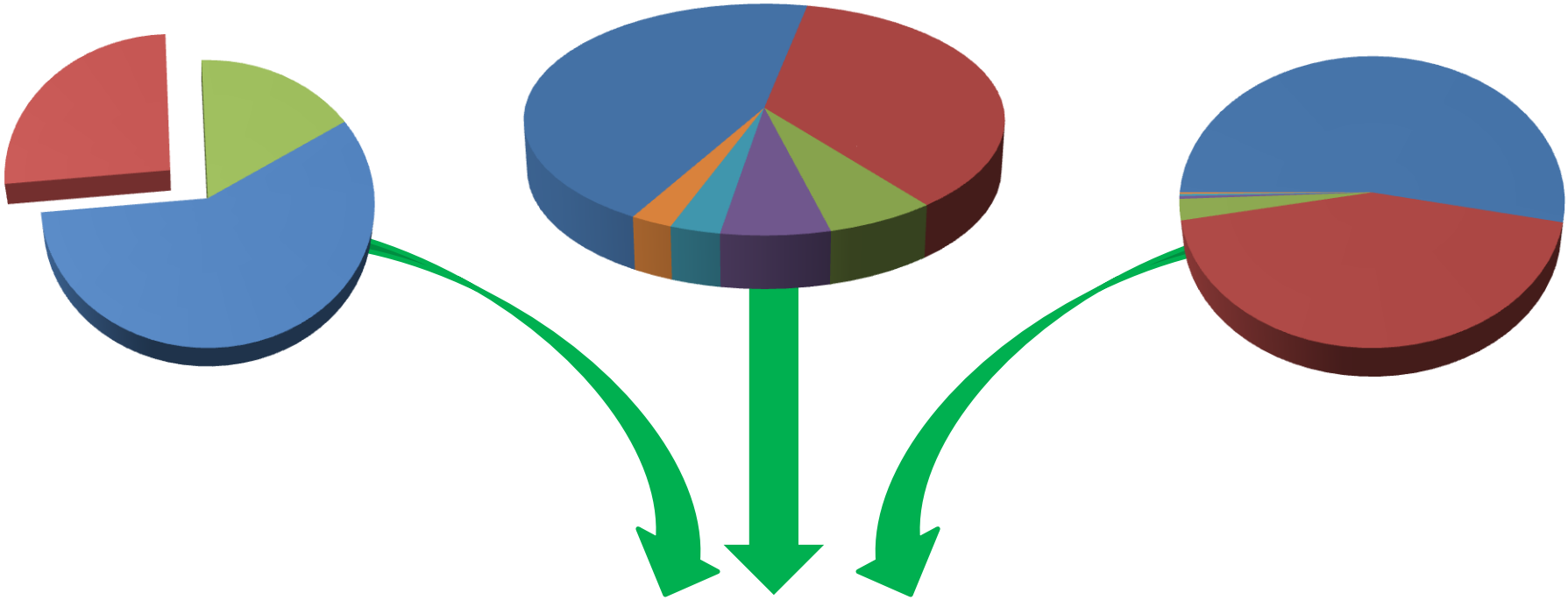
# K-12 Reform Priorities
## American Recovery & Reinvestment Act



**ARRA State Fiscal Stabilization Fund**
**$48.6 Billion**

**ARRA Race to the Top and Other Grants**
**$9.7 Billion**

**ARRA Funding for Existing Formula Grants**
**~ $26 Billion**



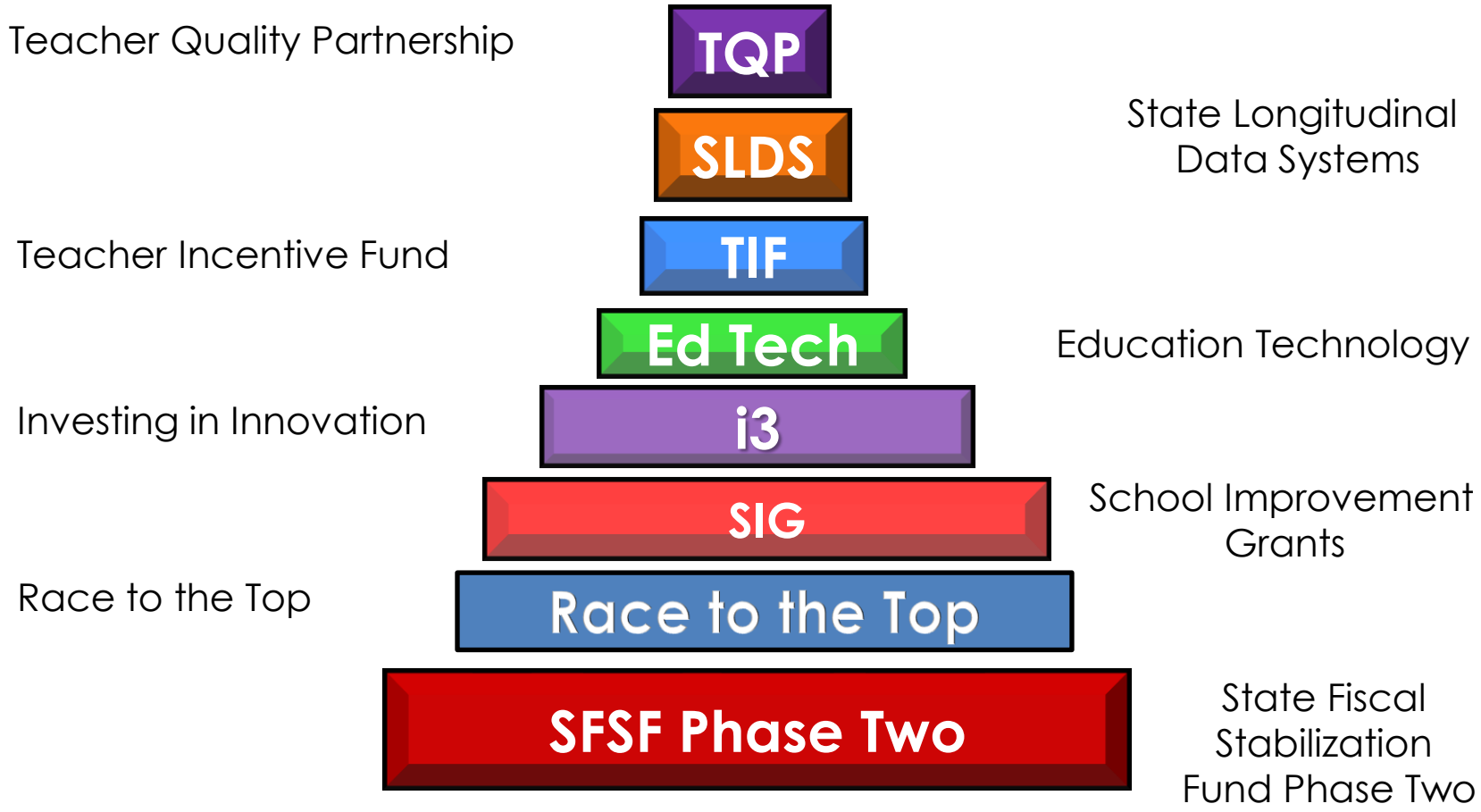
**Standards & Assessments**

**Effective Teachers & Leaders**

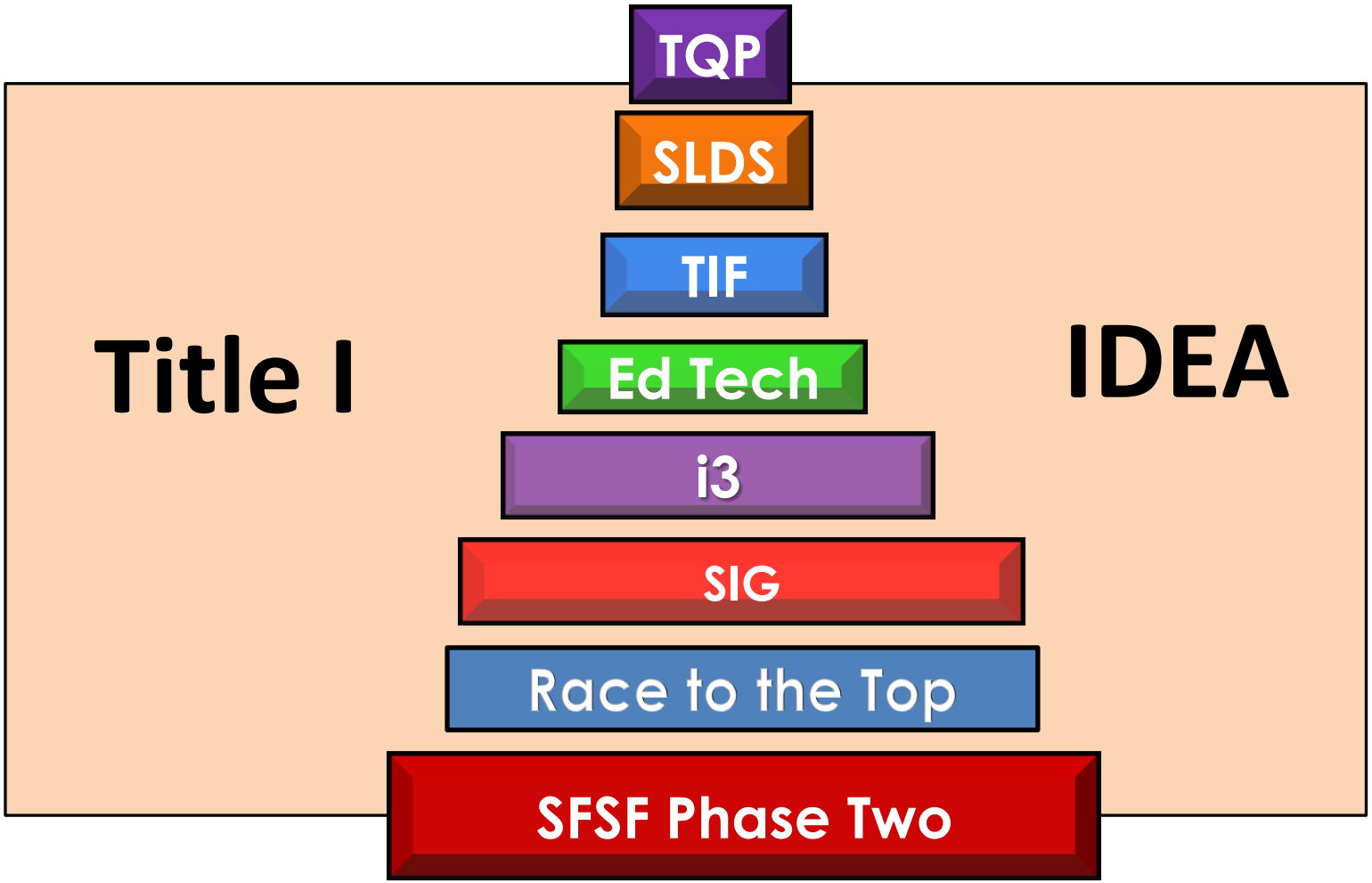
**Data Systems**

**Struggling Schools**

# Stacking up the New ARRA Grants



# A Comprehensive Approach



# State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Phase Two

# $11.5 Billion

**Type of Grant**: Formula

**Grantee**: Governor's Offices

**Distribution**: Funds flow to school districts based upon a State's primary funding formula

**Purpose**: To help states retain and hire teachers, augment or restore current budgets, and continue laying the foundation for the significant reforms that are required by Race to the Top and the other new grant programs

To provide transparency across all states regarding the status of their education reform efforts which will foster healthy competition and a vibrant exchange of ideas and allow parents and other stakeholders hold schools accountable

**Status:** The public comment phase for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Phase Two closed on August 28th – applications will be published this fall and due approximately 30 days later.

# Race to the Top
# $4.35 Billion

**Type of Grant**: Competitive

**Eligible Entities**: All States plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia with at least 50% of the award provided to LEAs based upon relative shares of funding under Part A of Title I

**Purpose**: To reward and incent states creating the conditions for education innovation and reform and implementing ambitious plans in the four core ARRA education reform areas in order to achieve significant improvement in student outcomes

**Status:** The public comment phase for Race to the Top closed on August 28th and ED received over 1100 comments. The Final Notice and application package are expected to be published late this fall and applications will be due 2 months later.

# Investing in Innovation
# $650 Million

**Type of Grant**: Competitive

**Grantee**: Local education agencies (including charter school LEAs), and non-profit organizations working in collaboration with LEA(s) or a consortium of schools.

**Purpose:** To provide competitive grants that expand the implementation of, and investment in innovative and evidence-based practices, programs and strategies that significantly:

- improve K-12 achievement and close achievement gaps,
- decrease dropout rates,
- increase high school graduation rates, and
- improve teacher and school leader effectiveness.

To accelerate the creation of an education sector that supports the rapid development and adoption of effective solutions.

**Status:** The notice for public comment will be published this fall and applications will be available early next year.

# Title I School Improvement Grants
# $3.5 Billion

**Type of Grant:** Formula to States; discretionary to school districts

**Grantees:** All states plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, which make subgrants to school districts

**Purpose**: To accelerate efforts throughout the nation to "close the gap" in student achievement

To focus resources on the lowest-achieving schools and ensure that comprehensive and aggressive reforms are carried out

NOTE: There will be an effort to look at secondary schools including high schools with extremely high drop-out rates. [In the past these funds have often not been used in Title-I eligible secondary schools that most need the help].

**Status:** The public comment phase for the School Improvement Grants closed on September 25th and those applications will be available this winter and due 30 days later .

# Teacher Incentive Fund
# $200 Million

**Type of Grant**: Competitive

**Grantee**: School Districts, States, and non-profits organizations will be the grantees

**Purpose**: To encourage school systems to establish performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems that sustain student achievement gains and provide teachers and principals in high-need schools with differentiated levels of compensation based on student achievement gains

To examine and develop best practices for conducting classroom evaluations and incorporating them into compensation systems

To reward teachers and principals in high-need schools for increases in student achievement and increase the number of instructors who teach hard-to-staff subjects (math, science, special education, and English as a second language) in high-need schools

**Status:** The notice of proposed priorities will be published for comments this fall. The notice inviting applications will be published this winter and applications will be due 60 days after the notice publishes.

# Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems
# $250 Million

**Type of Grant**: Competitive

**Grantee**: SEAs

**Purpose**: The purpose of this program is to provide grants to SEAs to enable such agencies to design, develop, and implement statewide longitudinal data systems to efficiently and accurately manage, analyze, disaggregate, report, and use individual student data.

**Requirements**: Data systems must have the capacity to link preschool, K-12, and postsecondary education as well as workforce data and must include the 12 elements prescribed by the America COMPETES Act.

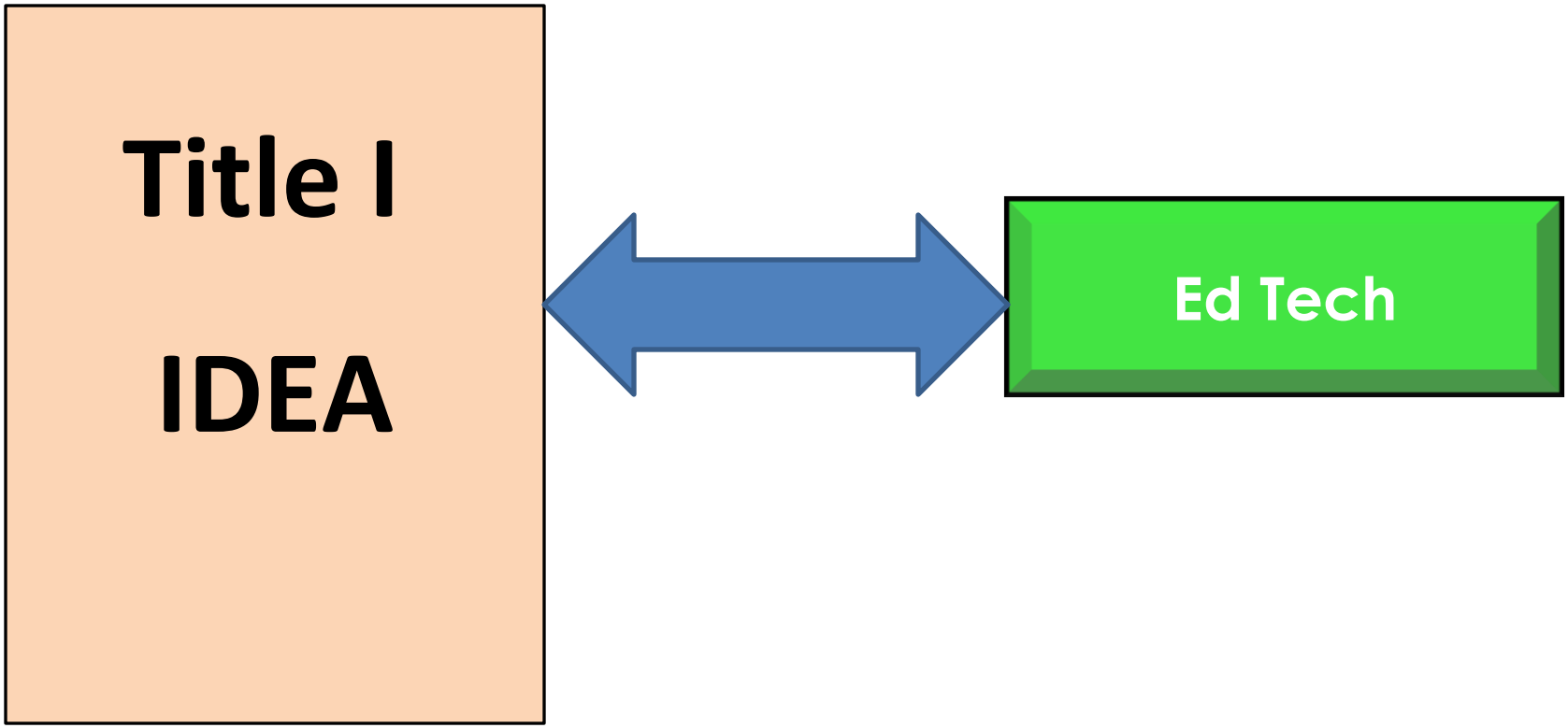
**Status:** Applications have been published and are due November 19th

**Non-supplant assurance:** SLDS funds must be used to supplement, and not supplant, other State or local funds used for developing State data systems.

# Teacher Quality Partnership Program
# $100 Million

| | |
|---|---|
| **Type of Grant**: | Competitive |
| **Grantee**: | An "eligible partnership" that must include at least one high-need LEA, its high-need schools, at least one partner institution (IHE) ***and*** the schools/departments of education ***and*** arts and sciences within the partner institution |
| **Purpose**: | To increase student achievement by improving the preparation and professional development of teachers, recruiting talented individuals including minorities and individuals from other occupations into teaching and holding IHEs accountable for preparing effective teachers |
| **Requirements:** | Applicants must propose to reform their teacher preparation pre-baccalaureate or 5th year initial licensing programs and/or teaching residency programs. They may propose to implement a school leadership program. |
| **Status:** | Notice Inviting Application has been published and applications are due October 6, 2009 |

# Making the Connections



# Education Technology

**(Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title II, Part D, Subpart 4)**

# $650 Million

**Type of Grant**: Formula

**Grantee**: States make formula and competitive subgrants to eligible school districts.

**Purpose**: To improve student academic achievement, teacher training, and curriculum through the use of technology in schools, and ensure that every student is technologically literate by the end of eighth grade.

To support innovative uses of technology resources and systems integrated with curriculum, professional development and instruction.

**Status:** The guidance has been published and funds have been obligated to the 50 states, Puerto Rico and DC. States are in the process of administering subgrant awards.

# Ed Tech Allocation =

# Proportional to Title I, Part A Allocation

Districts Submit Educational Technology Plans to the State (must include 25% set aside for professional development)

## Distribution Option

5% Set-Aside

For Technical Assistance to High-Need Schools and Public-Private Partnerships

## Distribution Mandate

50% formula allocation to LEAs

50% competitive allocations to eligible local entities

**Note**: if State chooses to uses 5% for TA set-aside, these amounts would be calculated based on the remaining 95%.

# Using Ed Tech Grants to Support Title I and IDEA Programs

| ED Tech Allowable Uses of Funds | Title I Activities | IDEA, Part B Activities |
|---|---|---|
| Increase accessibility to technology | Improve the academic achievement of low-achieving students in schools with high concentrations of children from low income families. | Provide appropriate support (including technology) to students with disabilities to enable them to advance toward annual IEP goals and make progress in the general curriculum. |
| Adapt or expand applications of technology to enable teachers to increase student academic achievement | Improve the academic achievement of low-achieving students in schools with high concentrations of children from low income families. | Ensure that personnel necessary to provide special education and related services are appropriately trained to increase academic achievement of students with disabilities |

# Using Ed Tech Grants to Support Title I and IDEA Programs

| ED Tech Allowable Uses of Funds | Title I Activities | IDEA, Part B Activities |
|---|---|---|
| Implement proven and effective courses and curricula | Use effective methods and instructional strategies that are based on scientifically based research | Provide special education and related services and supplementary aids and services that are based on peer-reviewed research |
| Use technology to promote parental involvement and foster communication among students, parents, and teachers | Implement effective parent involvement activities that improve student academic achievement and school performance. | Include parents of students with disabilities in IEP Team meetings, and other meetings about their child's education and progress |

# Using Ed Tech Grants to Support Title I and IDEA Programs

| EETT Grant Program Allowable Uses of Funds | Title I Grant Program Activities | IDEA, Part B Grant Program Activities |
|---|---|---|
| Prepare one or more teachers in schools as technology leaders who will assist other teachers | | Ensure that personnel that provide special education and related services are appropriately trained to increase academic achievement of students with disabilities |
| Enhance existing technology and acquiring new technology to support education reforms and to improve student achievement | Improve the academic achievement of low-achieving students in schools with high concentrations of children from low-income families | Improve the academic and functional achievement of students with disabilities |

# Using Ed Tech Grants to Support Title I and IDEA Programs

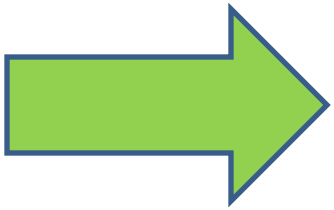
| EETT Grant Program<br><br>Allowable Uses of Funds | Title I Grant Program Activities | IDEA, Part B Grant Program Activities |
|---|---|---|
| Acquire connectivity linkages, resources, and services | Develop of resources and services | |
| Acquire, adapt, expand, implement, repair, and maintain existing and new applications of technology | | Provide appropriate aids and supports (including technology) for students with disabilities to enable them to meet annual IEP goals and be involved in and make progress in the general curriculum |

# Using Ed Tech Grants to Support Title I and IDEA Programs

| Ed Tech Allowable Uses of Funds | Title I Activities | IDEA, Part B Activities |
|---|---|---|
| Use technology to collect, manage, and analyze data to inform and enhance teaching and school improvement efforts | Conduct needs assessments, instructional management systems, data decision making applications assessment. | Provide special education and related services and supplementary aids and services that are based on peer-reviewed research |
| Implement enhanced performance measurement systems | Implement high-quality academic assessments with accountability systems so that students, teachers, parents, and administrators can measure progress against common expectations for student academic achievement | Measure the progress of students with disabilities on meeting their annual IEP goals and measuring the academic achievement and functional performance of students with disabilities on State and district-wide assessments |

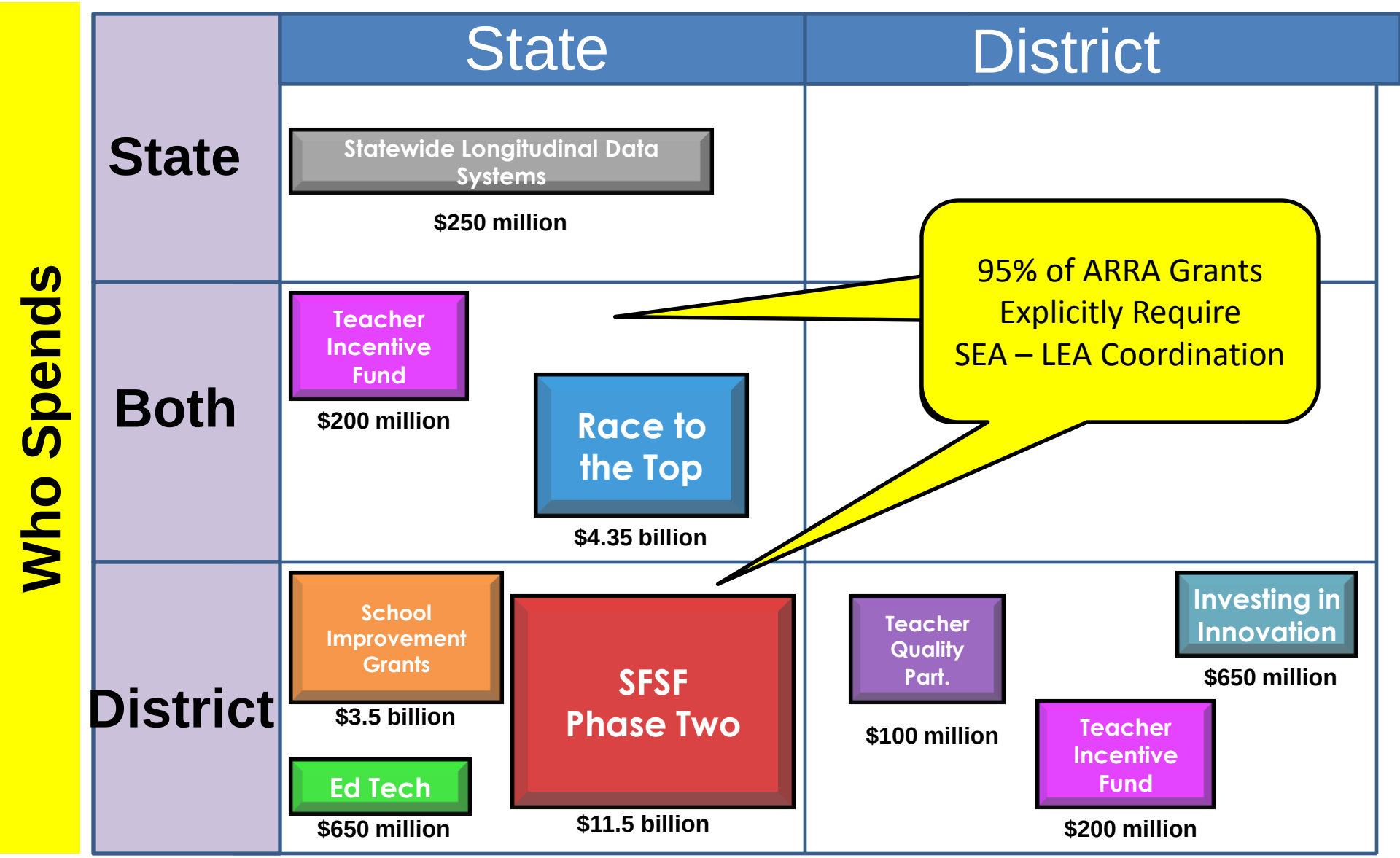
# Using Ed Tech to Support Title I and IDEA Programs

| Ed Tech Allowable Uses of Funds | Title I Activities | IDEA, Part B Activities |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Provide professional development for teachers, principals, and administrators | Provide ongoing high-quality and timely professional development for teachers, paraprofessionals, principals, and administrators that will improve the teaching of academic subjects, consistent with challenging State academic standards, to enable children to meet these standards. | Ensure personnel that provide special education and related services are appropriately trained to increase academic achievement of students with disabilities |



# State & District Coordination and Strategic Planning

# Who Applies


Who Spends
State
District
State
Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems
$250 million
Both
Teacher Incentive Fund
$200 million
Race to the Top
$4.35 billion
95% of ARRA Grants Explicitly Require SEA – LEA Coordination
District
School Improvement Grants
$3.5 billion
Ed Tech
$650 million
SFSF Phase Two
$11.5 billion
Teacher Quality Part.
$100 million
Investing in Innovation
$650 million
Teacher Incentive Fund
$200 million

# ARRA Strategic Planning Goals

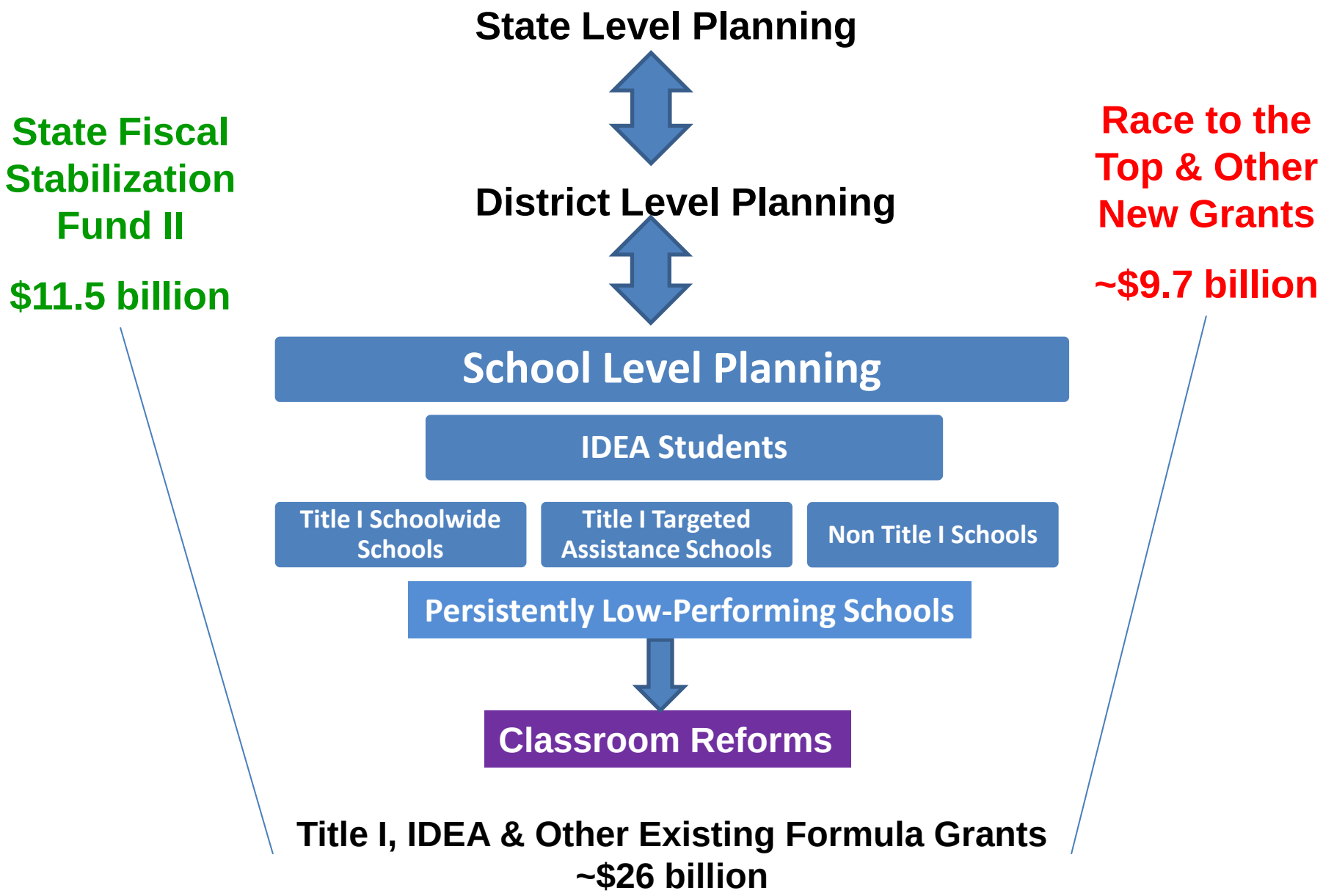
## Opportunities:

- Create Lasting Reforms
- Break Down Silos between SEAs and LEAs
- Break Down Silos between Title I & IDEA directors , budget managers and other program directors
- Establish models of Community Engagement & Transparency
- Improve Capacity for Grant Management in SEAs and LEAs

## Core Actions:

- Develop overarching vision for school reform at the state and local levels
- Convene state and local education officials and leaders throughout the grant planning, applying and implementation process to share information and collaborate on each ARRA grant
- Examine Use of Funds Guidance from ED for each grant
- Exchange best practices and create common reform models
- Make use of the reports, studies, analysis, and ED materials and education associations
- Collaborate with ED's Comprehensive Centers, Equity Centers, Technical Assistance Network Centers, and Regional Education Laboratories and National Research and Development Centers

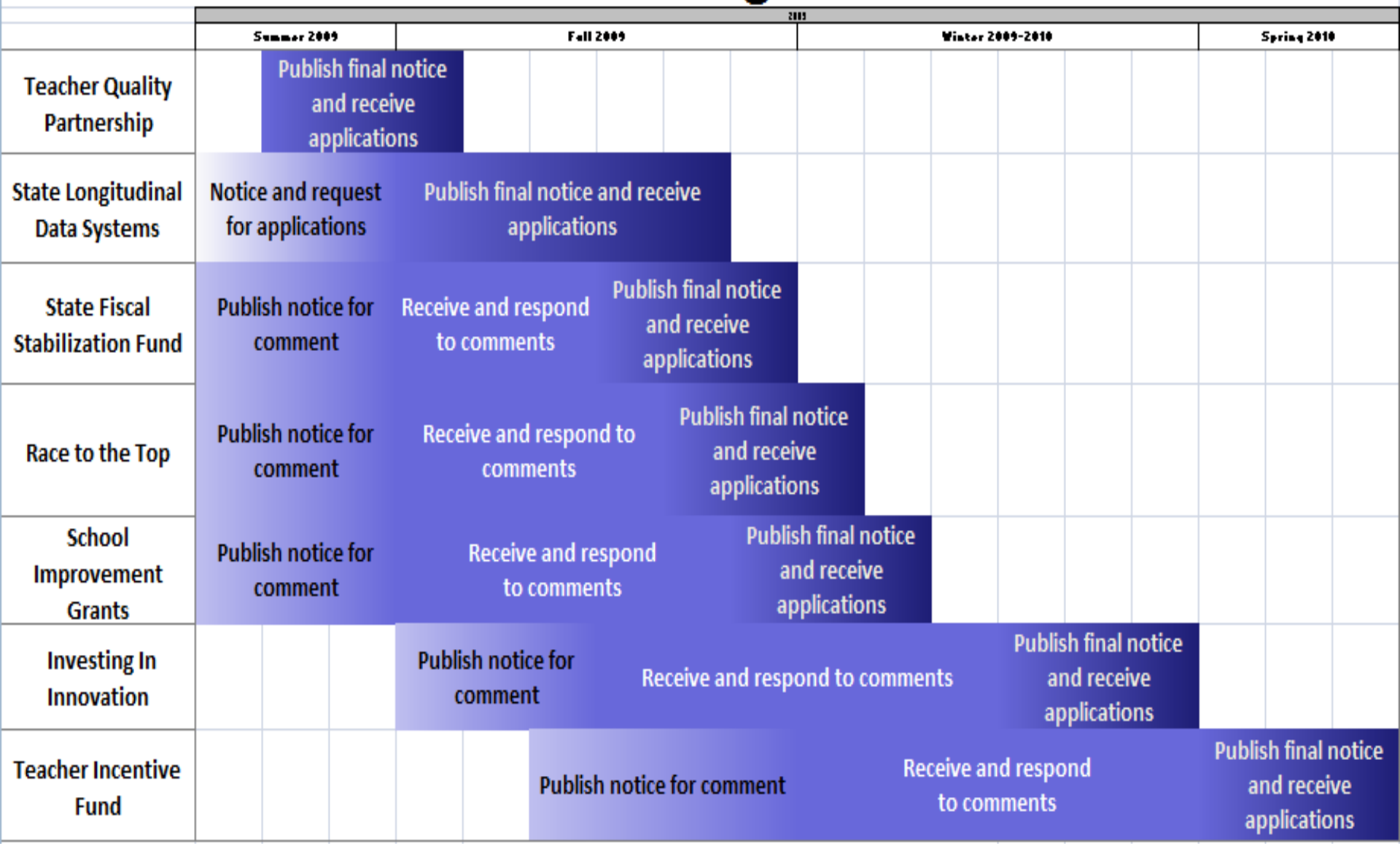
# Identify Reform Needs & Funding Sources



# Status and Timeline of ARRA Grants

## *Action Steps*

# ARRA Planning Timelines



# Action Steps to Ensure Strategic Planning and Implementation of all ARRA Grants

**Governor's Office & SEA Engage LEAs in Development of Overall State Education Reform Plan**

Governor's Office & SEA gather input from LEAs on their strengths and weakness in terms of the four reform priorities. Then together with LEAs, business leaders, parents, teachers, and community partners, SEA maps out overall plans that incorporate these reform priorities into a state-level framework for its ARRA applications and implementation of ARRA funds.

**October** | **November** | **Dec . – Feb.**

LEAs Implement **Title I and IDEA ARRA** plans

LEA planning and applying to SEA for **Education Technology (Ed Tech) grants**

Partnerships submit **TQP** applications to ED (due 10/6)

SEA applies for **SFSF Phase Two** grant (due early Nov)

SEA applies to ED for **SLDS** grant (due Nov. 19th)

SEA/Gov work on **RTT** application (due mid-winter)

SEA works on **SIG & i3** applications (due mid-winter)

## Action Steps:

❑ State and local Title I and IDEA directors review ED **Use of Funds Guidance** for both programs and identify possible ways to complement each others' spending plans around one or more of the ARRA reform areas.

❑ SEA briefs state and local Title I and IDEA directors on status of other ARRA funding sources and status of upcoming applications.

❑ SEA and state Title I and IDEA directors work with local Title I and IDEA directors to identify specific ways to contribute to the applications for new ARRA grants (i.e. supply data, ARRA spending plans and recommendations). This effort will improve the quality of ARRA applications for new grants and maximize the opportunities for cohesive and sustainable reform efforts.

## Action Steps:

❑ State and local Title I and IDEA directors, LEA data managers, and state **SLDS** project directors meet to identify opportunities to use district data models at state level.

❑ **TQP** applicants brief local Title I and IDEA directors on submissions – identify links to other ARRA grants.

❑ Governor's office and SEA briefs all LEAs on its **SFSF Phase Two** application which is the baseline for other ARRA grants.

❑ ED Tech applicants (LEAs) meet with local Title I and IDEA directors, and other education officials, to identify possible uses of Ed Tech funding to complement overall district reform planning.

## Action Steps:

❑Governors, SEAs and LEAs meet to review RTT and SIG applications together to outline an approach that builds on other ARRA funding.

❑ SLDS project directors, Ed Tech applicants, and state and local Title I and IDEA directors are briefed on RTT SIG and i3 applications – discuss connections and opportunities.

❑ Governors and SEAs meet with counterparts from other states to exchange reform ideas, best practices, and opportunities to form consortia.

❑ Governors and SEAs review Title I & IDEA use of ARRA funds and applications for TQP, SFSF Phase Two, SLDS, Ed Tech, and SIG to build upon for RTT and i3 applications.