

As you know, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the Title XIV State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) was created to appropriate funding to states in order to restore and/or increase education funding, save and create jobs, and drive education reform in four key areas in order to improve student achievement.

Out of the Title XIV SFSF, \$5 billion was set aside for the United States Department of Education (the Department) to use for two competitive grant opportunities. Specifically, \$4.35 billion is designated for Race to the Top, a competitive grant for **states to apply**. For more information on Race to the Top, please refer to the Department's website <http://www.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/index.html>

The remaining \$650 million has been set aside for an innovation fund, **Investing in Innovation or i3 grant**. This grant is available to the following:

1. Local education agencies (LEAs); or
2. Partnership between a nonprofit organization and-
  - a. one or more LEAs, or
  - b. a consortium of schools.

The proposed rules for the **i3** grant application can be found at the federal register website <http://www.ed.gov/programs/innovation/index.html>. The comment period on the proposed rules for **i3** will close on November 9, 2009. Eligible entities are encouraged to review the **i3** grant proposal, submit comments as necessary, and finally compete for potential grant awards that will aid in driving reform and improve student achievement across our state.

Finally, please visit the Department's website for any further information on grant opportunities under ARRA <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/programs.html>

Thank you,  
Office of ARRA Coordination

[www.tea.state.tx.us/arrastimulus](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/arrastimulus)  
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