



Federal Stimulus Plan Implications for Wayne County School Districts

FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Department of Education to Accelerate \$11.37 Billion in Stimulus Funds

Second Half of Title I, IDEA and VR Funds to be Released 30 Days Early

On August 3, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced that the Department will accelerate stimulus spending by making \$11.37 billion in Title I, IDEA, and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) funding, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), available to states one month early to help save jobs and drive reform.

On April 1, 2009 the Department awarded 50 percent of each state's Title I ARRA funds, 50 percent of each state's IDEA ARRA funds, and 50 percent of each state's VR ARRA funds. The remaining 50 percent, or \$11.37 billion, was to be made available on September 30. That timeline will be moved up and ensure that these funds are made available to all states on or around September 1.

The \$5 billion in Title I funding being made available early will go to local educational agencies (LEAs) for schools that have high concentrations of students from families that live in poverty in order to help improve teaching and learning for students most at risk of failing to meet state academic achievement standards.

The \$6.1 billion in IDEA funding being made available early will provide an opportunity for states, LEAs and early intervention service providers to implement innovative strategies to improve outcomes for infants, toddlers, children and youths with disabilities, while stimulating the economy. Before Wayne County districts receive this second installment of IDEA funds, MDE will need to readjust student counts, and revise ISD and local allocation figures. Wayne RESA will distribute contracts related to the second phase of IDEA ARRA funds following normal procedures. MDE will notify the LEAs when the applications are available in MEGS and districts will need to revise their

applications and obtain a re-approval of added activities by MDE.

There is much speculation and discussion about the impact the Federal Stimulus Plan will have on local school districts. Based on an analysis of information from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), American Association of School Administrators (AASA), and the House and Senate Fiscal Agencies, this bulletin is intended to provide you and your communities with up-to-date information for your planning purposes. Wayne RESA will continue to monitor information as it becomes available and support Wayne County school districts in their understanding and application of the stimulus funds.

**All funds must be obligated by
September 30, 2011.**

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