

Tennessee's Race to the Top Application: Budget Summary

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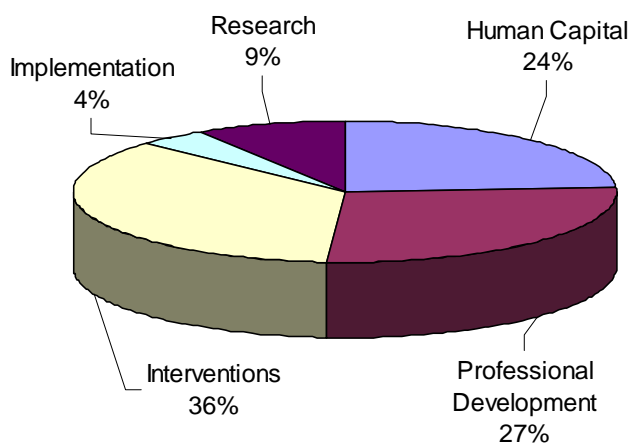
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On March 29, 2010, the USDOE announced Tennessee was one of two states to win a Race to the Top grant. Tennessee will receive \$501.8 million over a four-year period. Half of the Race to the Top funds - \$250.9 million – will be distributed directly to local school districts under the existing Title I formula. The other half will be used to underwrite a series of new investments.

The state plans to use the Race to the Top funds to focus on the four core education reform assurance areas (standards and assessments; great teachers and leaders; data systems to support instruction; and turning around struggling schools) and to emphasize STEM projects through investments in five major areas:

- **Interventions** in the state's lowest performing schools will target an estimated total of 196 schools in the first year and an estimated 226 schools by Year 4. **The budget for Interventions is approximately \$88.6 million.¹**
- **Professional Development** projects include expansion of content for teachers on the Electronic Learning Center; training on the Common Core Standards and assessments, a newly developed evaluation, the use of the Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS), and the use of data for instruction; and content area training in STEM disciplines. **The budget for Professional Development projects is approximately \$68.1 million.**
- **Human Capital** projects include the expansion of alternative licensure programs to train teachers, e.g. The New Teacher Project and Teach for America, \$30.6 million within the Achievement School District; pre-service training on standards, TVAAS, and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines; training of principals and teachers in residency programs; rethinking teacher and school leader preparation programs through the Teacher Preparation Program Effectiveness Report Card and UTeach replication; the administration of the Teacher Working Conditions survey; and an Innovation Acceleration Fund that will allow districts to realize more fully their differentiated compensation plans. **The budget for Human Capital projects is approximately \$61.3 million.²**
- **Research** efforts will track the continuous improvement of Tennessee's Race to the Top programs. Tennessee's Consortium on Research, Evaluation and Development will lead these

Exhibit 1: Breakdown of Tennessee's Race to the Top Budget



efforts in coordination with the non-profits that will work to integrate data for improving instruction, conducting a School Leader Supply and Demand study, and developing a Leadership Action think-tank. **The budget for Research is approximately \$22.8 million.**³

- **Implementation** funds will support coordination and oversight of all projects outlined within this application as part of the First to the Top Oversight Team; development of a Delivery Unit within the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) that will increase the department’s ability to design policy based on the data collected by the state; and creation of a STEM Innovation Network. **The budget for Implementation is approximately \$10 million.**

Below is a budget summary of the line items included in [Tennessee’s Race to the Top application](#), along with the corresponding page numbers for reference.

Tennessee’s Race to the Top Budget Summary

Project	Description	Project Assurance	Type	Recommended Budget
First to the Top Oversight	First to the Top Oversight Team Leader plus two staff for first two years; oversight and management consulting services (See p. 170.)	State Success Factors	Implementation	\$2,362,605
Tennessee Department of Education Delivery Unit	Consulting contract with an organization, such as the U.S. Delivery Institute, to increase the efficiency of TDOE and provide targeted assistance (See p. 173.)	State Success Factors	Implementation	\$538,000
Common Core Standards Professional Development	TDOE will provide training (in-person, online, and school-specific) on the Common Core Standards similar to training provided on the Tennessee Diploma Project. (See p. 175.)	Standards	Professional Development	\$1,614,000
Integrating Common Core Standards into Pre-Service	The Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) will contract to provide training to teacher and school leadership preparation program faculty on the Common Core Standards and the new teacher and principal evaluation systems. (See p. 178.)	Standards	Professional Development	\$1,350,000
Integrating TVAAS into Pre-Service (TVAAS Training Module for Pre-Service Curriculum)	The state will issue an RFP to develop an 8-hour module to teach pre-service teachers how to use TVAAS data to improve instruction. THEC will contract with teacher preparation programs to provide training to higher education faculty. (See p. 185.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$1,350,000
Electronic Learning Center (ELC)	TDOE will hire 17 new employees on a contract basis to expand the content of the Electronic Learning Center, including web and curriculum developers. (See p. 187.)	Data	Professional Development	\$4,734,400

Project	Description	Project Assurance	Type	Recommended Budget
Tennessee Consortium on Research, Evaluation, and Development (TN CRED)	THEC will contract with the Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) at the University of Tennessee to coordinate a team of national and state education experts to conduct evaluations of select Race to the Top interventions. (See p. 189.)	Data	Research	\$3,240,000
Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SDLS)	The state will expand its P-12 State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) to a P-20 SLDS by integrating TDOE data with data from THEC, the Tennessee Department of Children Services, and other state agencies. (See p. 191.)	Data	Research	\$19,470,491
Integrating Data to Improve Instruction	TDOE will contract with a non-profit (e.g., Battelle for Kids) to provide training on how to use TVAAS to improve classroom instruction and how to integrate data into teacher and principal evaluation and compensation systems. (See p. 202.)	Data	Professional Development	\$26,387,683
Data Dashboard	TDOE will expand its current contract with the SAS Institute to provide an improved data dashboard for teachers. This dashboard will build on the current TVAAS database and provide easy access to detailed education data for key education stakeholders. (See p. 206.)	Data	Professional Development	\$645,600
School Leaders Supply and Demand Study	THEC and the State Board of Education (SBE) will work in conjunction with CBER to conduct a study of the supply and demand for new school leaders in Tennessee. (See p. 208.)	Teachers and Leaders	Research	\$172,800
UTeach Program Replication *	TDOE will provide funding to replicate the UTeach program at both the University of Memphis and University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. (See p. 210.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$4,104,000
Teacher Preparation Program Effectiveness Report Card	THEC will hire a research director to annually produce the Teacher Preparation Program Report Card (See p. 212.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$432,000
Teacher Working Conditions Survey	TDOE will conduct an annual statewide survey of teacher working conditions. (See p. 214.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$1,127,648
SITES-M (Strengthening Instruction in Tennessee Elementary Schools: Focus on Mathematics) *	TDOE will expand its contract with SITES-M, which forms STEM partnerships between universities and elementary/middle schools, to double its number of university sites from 5 to 10. (See p. 184.)	Teachers and Leaders	Professional Development	\$8,608,000

Project	Description	Project Assurance	Type	Recommended Budget
Leadership Action Tank	TDOE will contract with a nonprofit to identify and share best practices in school leadership and train a cohort of 20-25 new principals a year to turnaround the state's lowest performing schools. (See p. 216.)	Teachers and Leaders	Professional Development	\$10,404,932
Innovation Acceleration Fund	TDOE will create a competitive grant competition to allow districts to develop and implement differentiated pay plans. (See p. 222.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$12,000,000
Teach Tennessee Expansion *	Teach Tennessee will train an additional 35 teachers per year in high-need fields. (See p. 224.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$645,600
Distinguished Professionals Expansion	Distinguished Professionals will expand to recruit highly qualified professionals in math, science, and foreign languages to teach in at least 3 additional urban sites. Possible sites listed are Chattanooga, Clarksville, Memphis, Nashville, and Tri-Cities. (See p. 226.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$400,000
Teacher and Principal Residencies	TDOE will create a competitive grant pool to support universities and/or districts in developing and expanding up to 4 teacher or principal residency programs. (See p. 229.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$8,000,000
Teacher and Principal Evaluation Development	TDOE will contract with national and state experts to provide consultation on the development and implementation of the new teacher and principal evaluation systems. (See p. 231.)	Teachers and Leaders	Human Capital	\$2,569,488
Focus Schools	Each school in School Improvement I or School Improvement II will be given \$6,000 to purchase school support services from an outside provider (e.g., 20 days of services at \$300 per day). (See p. 233.)	Turnaround	Intervention	\$3,745,090
Renewal Schools	Each school in Corrective Action or Restructuring I will be given \$300,000 to purchase school support services from an outside provider. (See p. 235.)	Turnaround	Intervention	\$52,650,000
Achievement School District (ASD)	Tennessee will contract with nationally recognized nonprofits (e.g., Teach for America, The New Teacher Project, New Leaders for New Schools) to turnaround 13 of the state's lowest performing schools. (See p. 237.)	Turnaround	Intervention/ Human Capital	\$49,168,869
Competitive Supplement Fund	TDOE will create a competitive supplemental grant for the state's smallest districts (the smallest 20 percent of districts by BEP funding) to implement differentiated pay systems and to turn around their low-performing schools. (See p. 240.)	Teachers and Leaders	Intervention	\$1,500,000

Project	Description	Project Assurance	Type	Recommended Budget
STEM Platform Schools *	TDOE will provide funding to expand existing STEM programs in Knoxville and Nashville. Additional districts will be eligible in Years 3 and 4 of the grant. (See p. 242.)	Competitive Priority	Intervention	\$9,000,000
Regional STEM Hubs *	TDOE will contract with several regional organizations (e.g., higher education institutions) to provide additional STEM professional development and teaching practice for teachers. (See p. 244.)	Competitive Priority	Implementation	\$5,380,000
STEM Innovation Network Infrastructure *	TDOE will partner with Battelle to establish a STEM Innovation Network for sharing best practices in STEM education and coordinating STEM professional development opportunities for teachers. (See p. 246.)	Competitive Priority	Implementation	\$1,667,800
College Access Network	THEC's Office of P-16 Initiatives will be given funding to create a statewide college access network. (See p. 249.)	Turnaround	Intervention	\$3,240,336
Oak Ridge Associated Universities STEM Teacher Training Academy *	TDOE will contract with Oak Ridge Associated Universities to provide training to 150 lead STEM teachers from across the state. (See p. 180.)	Teachers and Leaders	Professional Development	\$1,604,316
Rural Literacy Programs	TDOE will contract with Save the Children to expand its existing rural literacy efforts in Tennessee, including tutoring, assessments, extended learning, and professional development. (See p. 252.)	Teachers and Leaders	Professional Development	\$1,673,835
Intergrating PBS into Electronic Learning Center	TDOE will contract with PBS to place the content of PBS's Digital Learning Library on the Electronic Learning Center and to provide the PBS TeacherLine program, a set of courses offered in STEM areas. (See p. 255.)	Teachers and Leaders	Professional Development	\$4,628,952
STEM Professional Development *	TDOE will contract with existing STEM Centers of Excellence to provide additional STEM professional development for K-12 teachers. (See p. 258.)	Competitive Priority	Professional Development	\$6,480,000
LEA Funding	TDOE will distribute 50 percent of all Race to the Top Funding to school districts by Title I formula, per federal guidelines.			\$250,896,446
Total Budget				\$501,792,892

Note: * STEM-related projects

Endnotes

- ¹ The Tennessee Department of Education will leverage \$19.5 million in School Improvement Grant funds for the Achievement School District and approximately \$8.4 million for the Renewal Schools.
- ² Tennessee currently leverages \$3.6 million in federal funds from the Improving Teacher Quality grant program and Math Science Partnership grant program for UTeach replication sites at Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. If successful in the anticipated Teacher Incentive Fund grant application, Tennessee will leverage those funds to increase the Innovation Acceleration Fund and assist districts in realizing their differentiated compensation plans.
- ³ If successful in the previously submitted application for the State Longitudinal Data System, the Tennessee Department of Education will leverage approximately \$19.4 million in federal funds for research purposes.



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