

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

September 2, 2009

Dear Colleagues:

While we recognize and appreciate the complexities and volume of work that must be accomplished to open another school year, it is critical that we inform you of the upcoming training and reporting which will take place.

As you know, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) imposes unprecedented reporting requirements upon recipients and sub-recipients, which include schools districts, of economic stimulus funds. It is imperative that we are extremely responsive to the ARRA reporting requirements listed below as our responsiveness, thoroughness and accuracy will be taken into consideration when RI's application for "Race to the Top" funding is reviewed. As such, your district's participation in the following event has been mandated by the Governor's Office on Economic Recovery and Reinvestment (OERR):

- A statewide "dry-run" on reporting scheduled for **September 10th, 2009** – reports will be submitted to www.recovery.ri.gov;

Additionally, the ARRA statute mandates the following:

- Federal Quarterly Reports - The first federal quarterly report is scheduled for **October 1st, 2009** – reports will be submitted to www.federalreporting.gov. The OMB (Office of Management and Budget) plans to release this data to the public via www.recovery.gov as early as October 11th.

In order to be certain that the October 1st reporting is as complete and accurate as possible, RIDE is requiring that all districts participate in one of the training sessions offered by OERR. Sessions are as follows:

- Training for sub-recipients - Attached you will find a list of training dates and times from which you can choose. Although it would be helpful for you to attend a training prior to the September 10th "dry run", we understand how difficult that may be with the opening of school. You will still be required to complete the "dry run" on the reporting as scheduled, even if you are not able to take advantage of a training session prior to that reporting. Additionally, you are still required to attend one of the training sessions, even if it is after the "dry run". To register for a training session, call (401) 222-8200 as soon as possible.

These exercises are being coordinated by the RI Office of Economic Recovery and Reinvestment (OERR) which, within the Office of the Governor and in conjunction with the

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Department of Administration (DOA), is responsible for transparency, tracking and accounting for funds associated with ARRA and other federal or state economic stimulus legislation, as well as filing necessary reports and information to the federal government and the General Assembly.

Who needs to participate?

RIDE as a prime recipient, and school districts as sub-recipients, are mandated to participate in all three exercises. Sub-recipients will also be required to collect and report jobs data to the prime recipient (Department of Education for programs listed below) from whom they have received ARRA funding.

OERR requires that all state agencies (prime recipient) report under a “delegated model”, i.e. the state agency will report to www.federalreporting.gov for themselves and any of their vendors, and the sub-recipients of state agencies (such as schools districts), will report directly to www.federalreporting.gov for themselves and any vendors that they engage.

What ARRA awards are prime recipients and sub-recipients required to report on?

- State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) -- Education Fund, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.394)
- State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) -- Government Services Fund, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.397)
- Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs Operated By Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.389)
- Education of Homeless Children and Youth, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.387)
- Enhancing Education through Technology, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.386)
- Impact Aid Construction Formula Grants, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.404)
- IDEA, Part B 611 Recovery Act (CFDA 84.391)
- IDEA, Part B 619 Recovery Act (CFDA 84.392)
- IDEA, Part C Recovery Act (CFDA 84.393)
- Vocational Rehabilitation Grant to States Recovery Act - Basic Support (CFDA 84.390)
- State Independent Living Services, Recovery Act (CFDA 84.398)
- Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Recovery (CFDA 84.399)
- Centers for Independent Living Services Program Recovery Act (CFDA 84.400)
- USDA National School Lunch Kitchen Equipment Grants (CFDA 10.579)

For the September 10th “dry run”, sub-recipients must report expenditure activity through August 31, 2009. For the October 10th reporting to Federalreporting.gov, sub-recipients must report on expenditure activity through September 30, 2009.

What data elements are to be reported?

Attached is the sub-recipient 1512 reporting excel spreadsheet and the data dictionary (also available at www.recovery.ri.gov/subrecipients). Please note that sub-recipients are required to collect and report job data to the prime recipient. More information will follow on this as it becomes available. Specific reporting requirements will be reviewed at the training.

What additional steps must I take to be ready to submit data to www.Federalreporting.gov on October 1, 2009?

In order to report your data directly to www.federalreporting.gov, you will need to register on the site. To do so you will need your district's DUNs Number, the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Number, a valid email address, and your contact phone number.


Where can I find additional information?

Please visit the website for the Rhode Island Office of Economic Recovery and Reinvestment at www.recovery.ri.gov/subrecipient/.

Your cooperation and assistance with this important reporting is very much appreciated. Know that we will do all that we can to provide assistance to you and look forward to both a successful "dry run" and first quarterly report. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming training.

If you have any questions, please contact Marliot Uzcategui at (401) 222-4648 or via email to Marliot.Uzcategui@ride.ri.gov. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner of Education

Cc: Laurie Patrone
Jamia McDonald
Carolyn Dias
Marliot Uzcategui

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