

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

The U. S. Department of Education has posted the following on their website at <http://www.ed.gov/recovery/>

- State Fiscal Stabilization Fund application, guidance, and letter on metrics;
- Title I, Part A guidance;
- IDEA, Part B guidance;
- IDEA, Part C fact sheet and guidance

NDE has posted some preliminary information on district allocations for Title I, Part A and the final amounts for IDEA on the Department's homepage under ARRA at: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/>. NOTE: **The amounts in the Title I file are preliminary at this time. We will send a notice when they are final.**

ARRA School Lunch Equipment Assistance Grants

This competitive grant will open on Friday, April 10, 2009. The application and information will be available on Friday at the following link: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ns/nslp/ARRA/ARRA.htm>. Applications will be due by May 15, 2009 since grants are to be awarded by early June.

New Application Information

The **2009-10 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant** applications will be available through the Portal on Friday, April 10, 2009. (These are the regular McKinney-Vento Homeless Education grants. The application for the ARRA Homeless Education grants will be available soon.) If you have questions regarding this application, please contact Roger Reikofski at 402-471-2968 or roger.reikofski@nebraska.gov

The **2009-10 Distance Education Reimbursement for Hardware/Software** application will be available through the Portal on Friday, April 10, 2009. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact SuAnn Witt at 402-471-2085 or suann.witt@nebraska.gov

Career Education

Perkins Intent to Participate and Programs of Study

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 provides federal support for Career and Technical Education. Annually, a school district must identify intent to participate in the funding of Perkins; certify the existence of essential components in the district; and identify the programs of study (POS) planned to be offered at the participating school district for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year. All public school districts must determine participation intent. The online resource to complete this task is now available through the NDE portal, under the data collections tab, entitled Perkins IV Career and Technical Education.

Specific information was emailed to school superintendents. A hard copy packet will also arrive in the US Mail as well. The deadline goal for identifying intent to participate is April 22, 2009. For more information, contact Rich Katt, rich.katt@nebraska.gov.

Follow Up Data and the National Student Clearinghouse

StudentTracker for Outreach Programs provides schools with Web access to an enrollment database, representing 92% of US collegiate enrollment. Data is updated three times each term by the 3,200 participating colleges and universities, ensuring the most current and accurate information. These institutions permit the Clearinghouse to make their information available, in full compliance with **FERPA**, (<http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/outreach/ferpa.htm>) to educational organizations, such as outreach programs, for the betterment of education.

In collaboration with several organizations (including P-16 and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education), the Nebraska Department of Education has entered into a state level agreement that **provides free access for all public schools in Nebraska** to the StudentTracker resource. In order to access the resource, an agreement form must be completed and sent to the National Student Clearinghouse. The agreement form and additional information about the process is located at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nce/nsc.htm>.

Reminder:

Data Conference

You can register on-line now for the Data Partnership Conference (<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/>) to be held in Kearney on April 30 – May 1, 2009. This link also provides a list of all breakout sessions under the “Schedule of Events”.