

**NDE Bulletin**  
**February 10, 2011**

**SOSR: 2009-2010 Graduation Rate and Dropout Rate Now Available**

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2009-2010 graduation rates and dropout rates are now available on the State of the Schools Report website (<http://reportcard.education.ne.gov>). The 2009-2010 graduation rate calculation remains the same as has been used for several years. The 2010-2011 Cohort Four-Year graduation rate will not be available for another year.

**ARRA Funds – Balances!**

Contact Financial Services staff for each program.

Districts are reminded to submit reimbursement requests for ARRA funds that have been spent. This includes State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF), Title I – Part A, Title II – Part D (Technology), IDEA (Special Education), Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grant (SIG), and McKinney-Vento (Homeless). The amounts of these funds paid out by the state are being tracked nationally and at the state level. In a recent EDWEEK article, Nebraska recently ranked very high (47<sup>th</sup>) among the states having the largest balance (41%) of the funds unclaimed. ARRA funds expire at the end of the fiscal year on August 30, 2011 for SFSF, on September 30, 2011 for all others except Section 1003(g) SIG. Please submit reimbursement requests for ARRA funds that have been spent now and avoid the rush, and possibly delays, at the end of the summer.

**Title I /ARRA ESEA**

Contact: Diane Stuehmer (402-471-1740 or [diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov](mailto:diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov))

An additional \$143,147 of Title I, Part A funds is being allocated to districts now. Each district receiving additional funds will need to amend their 2010-11 NCLB Consolidated Application. Most applications must be amended to add in any carryover funds from the closeout of the 2009-10 application. A file with the additional allocations is on the NCLB homepage at <http://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/pdf/TitleIRe-Allocations1011.pdf>

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When districts completed the ARRA ESEA Consolidated applications (summer 2009), many districts entered TBA (To be announced) for staff. If you are one of the districts that did this, please create an amendment and enter actual names of staff hired and being paid with these funds. The same would apply to any other ESEA application for which TBA has been entered instead of a staff name. You can contact the application reviewer for your district. Contact information is available at <http://www.education.ne.gov/gms/contactlist.pdf>

**ARRA/ESEA Update Telecast**

The ARRA/ESEA Update that was telecast on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (Central time) is now available for videostreaming at:

<http://www.education.ne.gov/federalprograms/nclbupdates/video.htm>

**Accountability Counts! The 2011 State Data Conference**

For more information and to register, go to: <http://www.education.ne.gov/>

New tests, data collections, and reporting responsibilities are changing what we know about ourselves and what others will know about us! Accountability Counts! 2011 State Data Conference will have a dual focus this year: collecting and using data. It will be held in the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, the new facility behind the Hampton Inn, starting at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 18th and closing by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th. This is an opportunity to learn the latest, visit with NDE staff, and have personalized answers at the popular Information Tables.