

**March 27, 2009**

**Additional information regarding allowable uses of ARRA funds for public education**

Dr. Patricia I. Wright, Virginia's Superintendent of Public Instruction, provided VACo with two additional and useful documents regarding allowable uses of ARRA funds for public education:

- The PowerPoint, [VA ARRA 3 27 09](#), inserts Virginia data and information into a recent presentation delivered at the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). The updated version included with this e-mail contains data and budget information unique to Virginia.
- The PDF document, [Use of Fund 3-27-09](#), outlines the allowable and non-allowable uses of the ARRA State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF). These funds may be used for: Modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, or any activity authorized under any and/or all of these four acts:
  - The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) – all titles
  - The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)
  - The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006
  - The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act

These four acts offer a broad range of allowable uses for the SFSF funds and should provide an opportunity for school divisions to use the funds with the conditions noted by the Secretary of Education:

- Spend them quickly to save and create jobs;
- Use them to improve student achievement and help close the achievement gap;
- Prepare for additional and more rigorous reporting requirements than normally apply to grant recipients; and
- Recognize that the funds are available for only two to three years and should be invested in ways that do not result in unsustainable continuing commitments after the funding expires.

In her email transmitting the documents and information to VACo, Dr. Wright added the following: “If you have further questions about specific uses of funds, I would refer you to the guidance provided by the [U.S. Department of Education on its ARRA Web site](#). Additionally, I have provided links to the various acts listed above that provide details about allowable uses under each:

- [The Elementary and Secondary Education Act \(ESEA\)](#)
- [The Individuals with Disabilities Act \(IDEA\)](#)
- [The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006](#)
- [The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act of 1998](#)

VACo thanks Dr. Wright for helping local governments better understand the allowable uses of new federal education funding.

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