

STATE OF ARKANSAS



Department
of Workforce Education

Mike Beebe
Governor

William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr.
Director

March 16, 2009

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: William L. "Bill" Walker, Jr.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill Walker".

RE: State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF)

As you know, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), Arkansas public schools will receive a significant amount of SFSF distributed by formula. The funds require a commitment to advance essential education reforms and school improvement to increase student achievement. Subject to limited restrictions as defined by guidance, local education agencies may use funds in any activity authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), including facility renovation; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act; and the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA).

You are also aware, that the Department of Workforce Education (DWE) administers two of these federal programs: the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act and AEFLA. In order to assist districts to spend funds quickly to improve student achievement and ensure accountability and transparency, we would strongly encourage you to consider several preapproved activities. The activities can be found on the DWE website located at <http://dwe.arkansas.gov/>. These activities will advance technology and incorporate skills necessary in the 21st-century classroom. This technology is critical to meet accountability indicators of career and technical skill attainment and placement. For districts with adult education programs, the technology will be used to enhance instruction for adult education students, with the goal of preparing them to earn the General Educational Development (GED®) credential so that they are equipped to enter or retain employment, and/or pursue postsecondary education or training.

If you have questions about these activities, please do not hesitate to contact: John L. Davidson, Deputy Director, Career and Technical Education at (501) 682-1040 or James H. Smith, Jr., Deputy Director, Adult Education Division at (501) 682-1970.

(501/683-1152)

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cc: Chris Masingill, Governor's Office
Dr. Ken James, Department of Education

09/WLW/0132