

ESEA Approved Activities

- Supplemental support activities-extended school day, extended school year, instructional materials
- After school programs
- Activities designed to promote progress towards academic goals
- Professional development
- Academic coaching
- Programs to recruit, hire and train highly qualified teachers
- Technology activities related to the implementation of school-based reform efforts
- Programs for the development or acquisition and use of instructional and education materials
- Programs designed to improved the academic achievement of educationally disadvantaged students
- Programs to establish or enhance prekindergarten programs
- Programs to establish smaller learning communities
- Programs and activities that expand learning activities through best-practice models
- School safety programs
- Supplemental educational services
- Research-based cognitive and perceptual development programs

NOTE: This is not an exhaustive list, and is not intended to provide advice on the use of ARRA/IDEA funds. It is intended to generate discussion and consideration.

For the specific amount your district may receive, please contact your local school district office.

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Marin Special Education Local Plan Area



IDEA and The Economic Stimulus Package -

*ARRA
The American
Recovery and
Reinvestment Act*

*Provided by the Marin
Special Education Local
Plan Area (SELPA)*



MARIN SELPA

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BACKGROUND

In 2009 President Obama signed into law the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA). Included in ARRA is a \$11.7 billion increase in funding for special education. Of that amount, California is expected to receive approximately \$1.23 billion.

TARGETED or FORMULA FUNDING

The ARRA/IDEA funds are considered Targeted or Formula Funds. They are intended to improve student achievement through school improvement and reform, and designed to ensure transparency, reporting and accountability. Districts are encouraged to spend the funds quickly, but do so in a ways that do not result in unsustainable, continuing commitments after the funding expires.

DISTRIBUTION

ARRA/IDEA funds will be distributed to the states on a 50/50 schedule, with the first half arriving in April. The State Department is expected to send the funds to districts sometime in May. The second half is expected to be distributed to California sometime in the Fall, with distribution to districts shortly afterward.

DISTRICT TIMELINES

Special education funds are typically distributed to districts by the SELPA. The current formula for distributing funds to districts will be used. The majority of the funds received by a district must be obligated for school years 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the remainder during 2010-11. These funds are one-time in nature, so a district should be cautious in how these funds are expended.



MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT

With few exceptions, districts may not reduce their special education expenditures. However, ARRA/IDEA allows districts to reduce its general fund contribution to special education by up to 50%. A district may direct up to 50% of their ARRA/IDEA funds to pay for general education activities, as authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

ALLOWED ACTIVITIES

Districts may consider professional development, staff training, expansion of program/ placement options, collection of data to improve teaching and learning, afterschool programs, instructional materials and extended school day as possible opportunities. Please refer to the “ESEA Approved Activities.”