


**MEMORANDUM**

**August 24, 2010**

**TO:** The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

**FROM:** Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools 

**SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT: RACE TO THE TOP SECOND ROUND WINNERS**

Earlier today, the United States Department of Education (USDOE) announced the winners of the second round of the \$4.35 billion Race to the Top school reform grant competition. The winners are: Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Washington D.C. **Florida is eligible to receive the maximum award up to \$700 million.**

The \$4.35 billion Race to the Top Fund is an unprecedented federal investment in reform designed to reward states that are leading the way in four key areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success and inform teachers and principals how to improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are most needed; and
- Turning around their lowest-performing schools.

Participating school districts have 90 days to submit detailed plans for implementing the reforms proposed by the State of Florida in its winning grant application.

A press release by the U.S. Department of Education is available at <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/nine-states-and-district-columbia-win-second-round-race-top-grants>.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Assistant Superintendent, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement, at 305-995-1497.

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cc: School Board Attorney  
Superintendent's Cabinet