



Colorado Department of Education – Communications Office  
201 East Colfax Ave.  
Room 207  
Denver, CO 80203  
Phone: 303-866-3898  
Fax: 303-866-6938

**April 6, 2010**

## **News Release**

### ***Statement From Commissioner Dwight D. Jones On Decision To Apply For Second Round Of Race To The Top***

Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones today issued the following statement following Gov. Bill Ritter's announcement that Colorado would apply in the second round of the federal Race to the Top grant competition.

"Moving forward for round two is the right decision for Colorado students, teachers and schools," said Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones. "We will scrutinize every comment from the first round and look for every opportunity to improve Colorado's application while staying true to the reform plans we have already put in motion. We appreciate Gov. Ritter's ongoing support of the effort to access these resources in order to put Colorado's plan on a faster track."

Colorado was named as one of 16 finalists in the first round of the competition but only two states (Delaware and Tennessee) were declared winners. Colorado was the only western state among the finalists.

Applications for the second round will be due June 1, 2010, with awards anticipated by September.

An estimated \$3.4 billion is available nationally through the grant program. Colorado's second round application is capped at a maximum of \$175 million.

**For more information, contact** Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

Follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/codepted>

# # #