RACE TO THE TOP PHASE 3 YEAR ONE
Colorado

QUICK FACTS
Total Grant Award: 17,946,236
Number of Participating LEAs: 161 (90%)
Number of Participating Students: 790,154 (96%)

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN YEAR ONE

Building Strong Statewide Capacity for Reform
- Organized its Vision 2020 office to support implementation of Race to the Top activities that are aligned with Colorado's reform initiatives
- Developed systems to monitor implementation of Race to the Top projects at the LEA level

Promoting Rigorous College- and Career-Ready Standards
- Established Content Collaboratives, comprised of experts in 10 content areas. to assist the State in the development and dissemination of high-quality resources that can be accessed by educators to support the implementation of the new CCSS-aligned Colorado Academic Standards (CAS)

Improving Educator Effectiveness
- Developed state model systems for principal and teacher evaluations and created materials to support LEAs that implement the state model systems
- Twenty-seven LEAs that initially piloted the principal evaluation rubrics in SY 2011-2012 are continuing the pilot in SY 2012-2013, and are piloting the teacher evaluation rubrics in SY 2012-2013
- Developed an assessment review tool used to vet more than 800 classroom-level assessments to inform instruction aligned with the new standards and for use, as appropriate, with educator evaluations

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Completed a STEM program needs assessment and the results are being used to develop a STEM in Action plan where LEAs will partner with community and business organizations to provide students with real life experiences with STEM-related content.

MAJOR CHALLENGES IN YEAR ONE

- Building processes to use data to proactively identify areas of technical assistance and support for targeted LEAs that need assistance to implement State reform initiatives, including Race to the Top projects
- Six month delays in developing draft guidance documents to support LEAs when determining how to select, weight, and combine the multiple measures of student growth
- Delays in developing the decision framework to support LEA processes for combining the student outcome rating and the professional practices rating to determine the overall evaluation rating

MILESTONES FOR YEAR TWO

- Fully implement college-and-career ready standards and educator evaluation systems in SY 2013-2014
- Award the first round of STEM in Action grants