

Grant Funding Leads

States vying for center ring

The Barnum and Bailey world of educational reform continues to pitch its tents in a variety of “chaos theory rings,” and states are vying for the center position. So far, Delaware and Tennessee hold the center ring after being designated as the “butterfly” that has caused the educational climate to change with their achievement of federal Race to the Top assistance. They haven’t caused a tornado but have stimulated other states to be aware that there is always “extreme sensitivity to initial conditions.” Delaware and Tennessee are the first with the most in acquiring the latest round of assistance.

Edward Lorentz prophesied that the butterfly and his wing flapping could affect weather across the country. Likewise, the elusive search for Race to the Top dollars can induce chaos among the states that were not successful in their quest for the coveted funds. Thus these winds of federal funds will be harnessed by the more creative state ringmasters in the next series of disclosures.

Listed below are some granting areas that may help state ringmasters salve some of the chaos should their next Race to the Top application fall short of the center ring.

Abbott Foundation

This foundation invests in creative ideas that encourage experimentation and promote science.

More information: www.abbottfund.org

Louis R. Cappelli Foundation

Cappelli directs funds toward innovative educational experiences that tie schools and parents together in the educational adventure with their children.

More information: www.cappelli-inc.com

The Louis Calder Foundation

This foundation seeks the development of children and youth by improving academic content at charter and parochial schools and at community-based organizations.

More information: <http://www.louiscalderfdn.org/about.html>

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Chevron Foundation

Chevron provides grants for partnerships between K-12 schools and local scientific organizations (e.g., museums, aquariums) to provide scientific exploration and discovery programs.

More information: www.chevron.com

The Kerr Foundation

Kerr supports organizations, programs, and institutions that provide new or enhanced opportunities, particularly to the young. They believe that this is best accomplished in the areas of education, health, and cultural development.

More information: <http://www.thekerrfoundation.org/guidelines.php>

The Lawrence Foundation

The foundation focus is on making grants to support environmental, education, health, human services, and other causes.

More information: <http://www.thelawrencefoundation.org/>

Monsanto Fund

Monsanto funds a variety of educational curriculums with primary emphasis on science.

More information: <http://www.monsantofund.org/asp/welcome.asp>

Teacher's Pet

(grant tip geared specifically toward teachers' smaller projects)

Air Force Junior ROTC Grant

The grant's purpose is to enhance teaching about how aerospace science plays an important role in tomorrow's society.

More information: <http://www.afa.org/af/aid/rotc.asp>