



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

- WHEREAS:** In August 2010, Georgia was awarded \$400 million to implement our Race to the Top reform plan designed to equip all Georgia students, through effective teachers and leaders and through creating the right conditions in Georgia's schools and classrooms, with the knowledge and skills to empower them to: graduate from high school; be successful in college and/or professional careers; and to be competitive with their peers throughout the United States and the world; and
- WHEREAS:** \$19.4 million of Georgia's Race to the Top award was set aside to create the Georgia Race to the Top Innovation Fund, a competitive grant program to promote partnerships between local education authorities or charter schools, institutions of higher education, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that develop or implement innovative and high-impact programs aimed at producing positive outcomes for students; and
- WHEREAS:** The Innovation Fund will provide competitive grants for proposals that creatively leverage applicants' resources to raise student achievement through the development and delivery of applied learning opportunities and experiences directly tied to a subject matter, especially in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); and
- WHEREAS:** The Innovation Fund will also award grants to support teacher effectiveness through innovative induction programs to bridge the gap between pre-service and career teaching, focusing on providing structured and intensive support to new teachers and leaders; and
- WHEREAS:** The Innovation Fund will provide grants to groups aimed at increasing the pipeline of effective educators by developing local capacity in rural regions to increase the workforce, especially in high-need subject areas; and
- WHEREAS:** The Innovation Fund will promote the development and expansion of charter schools that are focused on STEM education to direct students toward in-demand, high-tech careers and improve the level of science instruction throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS:** The state will continue to use the Innovation Fund in future years to determine best practices in innovative programming related to STEM education, applied learning, and teacher and leader recruitment and development to influence future education policy efforts ; and

**WHEREAS:** A review board must be formed to evaluate the proposals that will be submitted by Georgia education stakeholders in the first round of the grant competition.

**NOW THEREFORE PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That the Race to the Top Innovation Fund Board (the "Board") is hereby created with the composition, duties and responsibilities provided for below:

- 1) The Board shall serve in an advisory capacity;
- 2) The Board shall review proposals and assess which applications should receive funding from the Innovation Fund based on the stated goals and priorities of the fund;
- 3) The Board shall work in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget in administration of the Innovation Fund.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That the members of the Board shall be: Dr. Charles Knapp, Dr. M. Ann Levett, Mr. Tom Lewis, Ms. Jennifer Rippner, Mr. Eric Rosen, Mrs. Melanie Stockwell, and Mr. BJ Van Gundy, who will bring their experience and expertise in education to the work and goals of the Innovation Fund.

This 30 day of June, 2011.



GOVERNOR