Race to the Top
Early Learning Challenge Grant

Maryland's State Plan

Submitted to the U. S. Department of Education

Scope of the RTT-ELC

- High quality, accountable programs
- Promoting early learning and development outcomes for children
- A great early childhood education workforce
- Measuring outcomes and progress

Maryland's State Plan

- Vision
  - Complimentary early childhood education reform to Maryland's K-12 reform under the current RTT, thereby creating a seamless Birth to 12 reform agenda
- Mission
  - Enhancing existing system and focus on improving school readiness for children of high need

Maryland's State Plan

- Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System
- **Project #1**
  - Creating Local Early Childhood Councils
- **Project #2**
  - Implementing a Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System for all early learning and development programs, named Maryland EXCELS

Maryland Public Schools: #1 in the Nation AGAIN in 2011

Maryland's State Plan

- Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System
- **Project #3**
  - Establishing an Early Childhood Breakthrough Center that provides quality capacity building for programs participating in Maryland EXCELS and expand models of excellence to attendance areas of Title 1 schools in school improvement.
- **Project #4**
  - Revising the early learning standards to align with Common Core Standards

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- Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System
- **Project #5**
  - Professional Development to promote the use of the early learning standards by all early learning and development programs
- **Project #6**
  - Refining Maryland's comprehensive assessment system in early childhood, including the Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMSR) Kindergarten Assessment

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- Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System
- **Project #7**
  - Addressing the health and behavioral needs of children through a coherent set of early intervention and prevention programs.
- **Project #8**
  - Creating a Coalition of Family Engagement and three statewide outreach efforts to promote family engagement in being their children's first teacher.

Maryland's State Plan

- Ten Projects to Enhance the Current System
- **Project #9**
  - Establishing Leadership in Early Learning Academies for educators from school and early childhood programs to promote rigorous yet developmentally appropriate teaching practices for prekindergarten through grade 2
- **Project #10**
  - Enhancing the existing early childhood data system to link with the Maryland Longitudinal Data System