



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION**

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GOVERNOR

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2010

TO: Wisconsin School District Administrators

FROM: Secretary Daniel J. Schooff

RE: Education Jobs Fund

As you know, President Obama and Congress have enacted a \$10 billion Education Jobs Fund to help local schools in Wisconsin and throughout the nation fill critical educational staff shortages in the 2010-11 school year. Your school district may share challenges facing schools across our great nation, such as larger class sizes and fewer class offerings due to layoffs and vacancies resulting from the impact of the Great Recession on state and local economies. Wisconsin has filed the proper paperwork to receive its \$179 million allocation from the fund to help our school districts rehire, retain and employ teachers and educational support staff who are the foundation of Wisconsin's excellent school system.

The Education Jobs Fund law directs the Governor to allocate funding to Wisconsin school districts for "compensation and benefits and other expenses, such as support services, necessary to retain existing employees, to recall or rehire former employees, and to hire new employees, in order to provide early childhood, elementary, or secondary educational and related services." Consistent with the distribution method adopted by the Legislature for the State Fiscal Stabilization Funding received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Education Jobs Fund will be distributed based on the state's general school aid formula. An allocation amount by school district is attached.

With the start of the school year only days away, these funds are being quickly distributed to school districts. School districts are encouraged to move quickly to recall or rehire teachers and support staff to ensure that students receive vital educational and related services.

A school district may immediately begin utilizing its allocation to cover salary and fringe benefit costs incurred as of August 10, 2010. School districts should also be prepared to comply with federal transparency requirements for the expenditure of these funds and the number of jobs funded as a result.

The Department of Administration (DOA) Federal Funds Team will be working closely with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to ensure that funds are used to save

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or create education jobs during the 2010-2011 school year. Additional information on the use of these funds is attached. For further information on uses and goals of the Education Jobs Fund, please contact Nina Carlson, DOA Federal Funds Team at (608) 266-7871, Jerry Landmark, Director, DPI School Financial Services Team, at (608) 266-6968 or Debra Brown, Assistant Director, DPI School Financial Services Team, at (608) 267-9209.

Our children are our greatest resource. Teachers and other educational staff are a critical part of the foundation of our children's success in school. Our success as a nation in the global economy relies on making appropriate investments in our educational system.

Thank you in advance for investing the Education Jobs Fund so that our children receive the resources they need for our entire nation to succeed.

cc: Governor Jim Doyle
State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Evers