

# Pre-K Director Webinar: Race to the Top – Early Childhood Initiative

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## Race to the Top Overview



- The Race to the Top fund is a \$4 billion grant to support new approaches to school improvement.
- Georgia was one of only 11 states to be awarded grant money.
- Georgia's total award amount is \$400 million over a four-year period for the implementation of the Race to the Top Plan.
- Race to the Top funds are divided between the state and partner school districts.

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## Race to the Top Overview

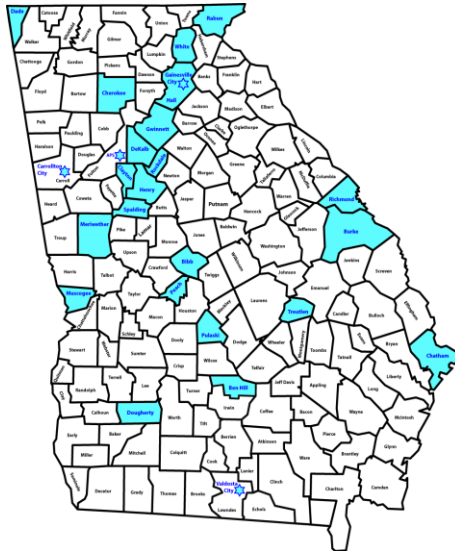


- Focused on encouraging and rewarding states for innovation and reform.
- Georgia's RT3 grant includes an early learning initiative that builds upon the work previously done in Georgia's Pre-K Program.
- Early Learning Initiative has a strong research component that includes random selection.

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## Race to the Top Participating Districts



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## Georgia's RT3 Early Learning Initiative



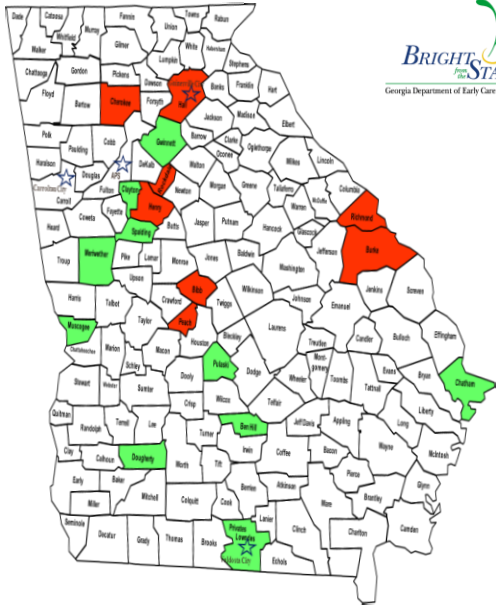
- \$1.4 million over a 3 year period
- Year Two of the early learning initiative begins Fall 2012.
- The overall goal is to create a statewide professional development framework for Pre-K teachers that encompasses CLASS interventions.

## Early Learning Initiative Year Two Basics



- Initiative focuses on the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS).
- Approximately 700 second-year plus teachers in five RT3 evaluation regions will be randomly selected to participate in one of five training opportunities and evaluation activities.
- Training opportunities are divided between “enhanced” and “traditional.”

## Evaluation Districts Years One and Two




**Year 1**

**Year 2**

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## Early Learning Initiative Year Two RT3 Evaluation Regions



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- Year Two will focus on five specific RT3 Evaluation Regions.
- RT3 Evaluation Regions include the following counties:
  - Region 1: Chatham
  - Region 2: Gwinnett
  - Region 3: Clayton, Spalding
  - Region 4: Muscogee, Meriwether
  - Region 5: Ben Hill, Pulaski, Dougherty (Private Sites only), Valdosta City Schools, Lowndes County (Private Sites only)
- All other Race to the Top counties/districts follow the procedures as the rest of the state.

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## Early Learning Initiative Year Two Basics



- Enhanced Professional Development is selected first. This is happening now.
- Teachers not randomly selected will follow the training plans of Pre-K teachers across the state. This will happen after the enhanced Professional Development group is selected.
- Project Directors in the five RT3 evaluation regions will not register any lead teachers or finalize their training plans until the random selection is completed.
- Additional questions about teacher registration may be directed to the Pre-K consultant.

## Professional Development Models



My Teaching Partner	Making the Most of CLASSroom Interactions	Standard Professional Development
Intensive, year-long, one-on-one coaching program. Will receive 2-3 CLASS observations from FPG.	Five-session course delivered over a semester. Will receive 2-3 CLASS observations from FPG.	Teachers will participate in standard professional development: NTI2, WSO, Best Practices, or Locally Developed. Will receive 2-3 CLASS observations from FPG.
67 teachers	73 teachers	70 teachers
5 regions	5 regions	5 regions
20 Georgia DECAL CLASS coaches	8 Georgia DECAL CLASS instructors	Various instructors

## Professional Development Models



Understanding the CLASS Framework	Looking at CLASSrooms
Four three-hour sessions offered over a two-day period. Some teachers will receive 2 CLASS observations from DECAL.	A six-week, self-study program. Some teachers will receive 2 CLASS observations from DECAL.
600+ teachers and directors	100 teachers
5 regions (teachers); statewide (directors)	5 regions
10 Georgia DECAL CLASS instructors	Self-directed

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## Tentative Start Dates



- My Teaching Partner Kick-off Meetings
  - September 2012
- Making the Most of CLASSroom Interactions
  - October 2012
- Understanding the CLASS Framework
  - October 2012
- Looking at CLASSrooms
  - TBD
- Standard Professional Development
  - Depends on training model

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## Other Key RT3 Points



- Student Learning Objectives
  - DOE Webinar: August 7

## Questions



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