



A State Profile: Alaska

Enhancing Education through Technology, NCLB Title II, Part D: Year Three in Review

States across the nation are leveraging the federal funding for technology through the No Child Left Behind, Title II, Part D program to close the achievement gap and reduce the digital divide. Each year the State Educational Technology Directors' Association (SETDA) conducts a national survey of state technology directors that serves as a basis for their annual Trends report. This series of state profiles highlights key findings in each state and Washington DC.

<p>Alaska At A Glance:</p> <p>School District Awards Number of School Districts: 54 Eligible for NLCB IID: 53</p> <p>NCLB IID Allocations:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="269 1018 836 1192"><thead><tr><th>Fiscal Year</th><th>NCLB II D Allocation</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Round 1: FY02</td><td>\$3,075,155</td></tr><tr><td>Round 1: FY03</td><td>\$3,214,970</td></tr><tr><td>Round 1: FY04</td><td>\$3,304,308</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Grants Awarded in Round 3 (FY04) Formula Grants: 52 Competitive Grants: 6</p> <p>State Comments: There is no other categorical source of funding for technology, but other programs and/or grants provide occasional additional funding.</p>	Fiscal Year	NCLB II D Allocation	Round 1: FY02	\$3,075,155	Round 1: FY03	\$3,214,970	Round 1: FY04	\$3,304,308	<p><i>A Note from SETDA:</i></p> <p>The technology funding from the No Child Left Behind, Title II D program directly supports NCLB goals in three distinct ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closing the achievement gap by providing access of software, online resources, and virtual learning aligned to academic standards for instruction and learning.• Supporting the development of highly qualified teachers by providing online courses, communities of practice, and virtual communication that ensure flexibility and access.• Enhancing data systems to ensure that educators can utilize real-time data to inform sound instructional decisions and ensure that schools meet AYP.
Fiscal Year	NCLB II D Allocation								
Round 1: FY02	\$3,075,155								
Round 1: FY03	\$3,214,970								
Round 1: FY04	\$3,304,308								

The reader should note that the contents of the 2006 National Trends Report represents the Round 3 (2003-2004) allocated funds and does not represent the impact of the 2005 and 2006 federal budget cuts. To access the SETDA series of national reports visit www.setda.org and www.nctet.org.

State Policies on Educational Technology:

Each state was asked to comment on state policies in educational technology.

Survey Question: Indicate your state’s policy support for online learning by students.

The following options were checked by Alaska:

- None

State Policies to Align Technology to School Improvement:

Survey Question: Indicate which steps your state has taken/is taking to systemically integrate technology into the school improvement processes in the state:

The following options were checked by Alaska:

- Your state encourages schools and districts to include technology as an instructional resource and delivery system.

State Policy for Educational Technology that has resulted in the most effective uses of technology in the classroom:

No data available

National Trends: NCLB II D Transfers of Funds

NCLB II D grant recipients can (within guidelines) transfer funds between programs. This chart represents the transfers reported by all SETDA respondents for Rounds 1-3.

Overall Transfers as Reported by State Technology Directors

Round	Transferred IN	Transferred Out	Net Gain/Loss
Round 1 (FY02)	\$4,257,733	\$1,934,431	\$2,323,303
Round 2 (FY03)	\$3,087,476	\$3,096,308	-\$8,831
Round 3 (FY04)	\$6,070,630	\$2,783,732	\$3,286,898

EETT Fund Transfers in Alaska

Round	Transferred IN	Transferred Out	Net Gain/Loss
Round 1 (FY02)			
Round 2 (FY03)	\$415,674	\$74,361	\$341,313
Round 3 (FY04)	\$243,343	\$36,328	\$207,015

Alaska Program Priorities for Round 3 (FY04)

A number of priorities were outlined in the NCLB II D policy. The chart below lists the priorities for Alaska's grant programs in Round 3.

Formula Grant Priorities (FY04)	Competitive Grant Priorities (FY04)
1. Professional Development	1. Professional Development
2. Develop experts	2. Proven Learning and Technology Solutions
3. Foster outreach and communications with parents	3. Increase Access
4. Increase Achievement and Technology Literacy	4. Increase Achievement and Technology Literacy
5. Technology	5. Technology

Alaska Formula Grants

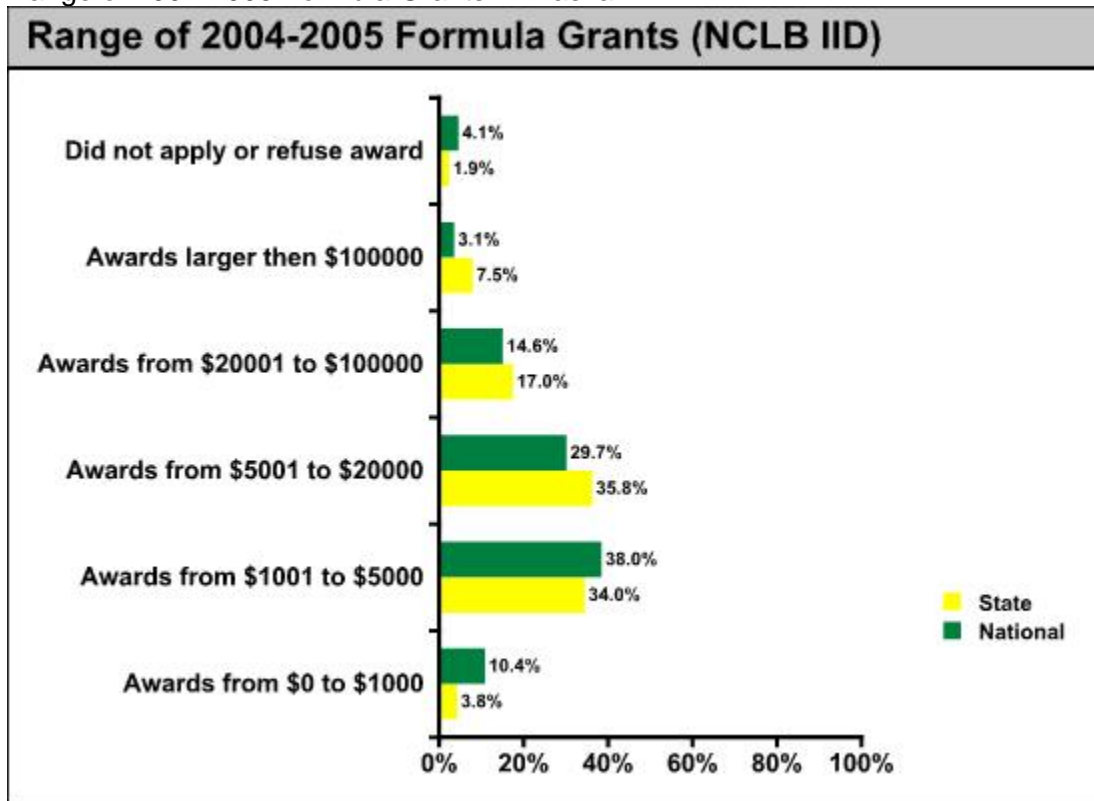
Approximately 50% of the NCLB II D funds are allocated annually to formula grants. Alaska reported the following information on their administration of this program for Round 3, FY04.

Release Date for FY04: 11/1/2004

Number of Grants Awarded: 52

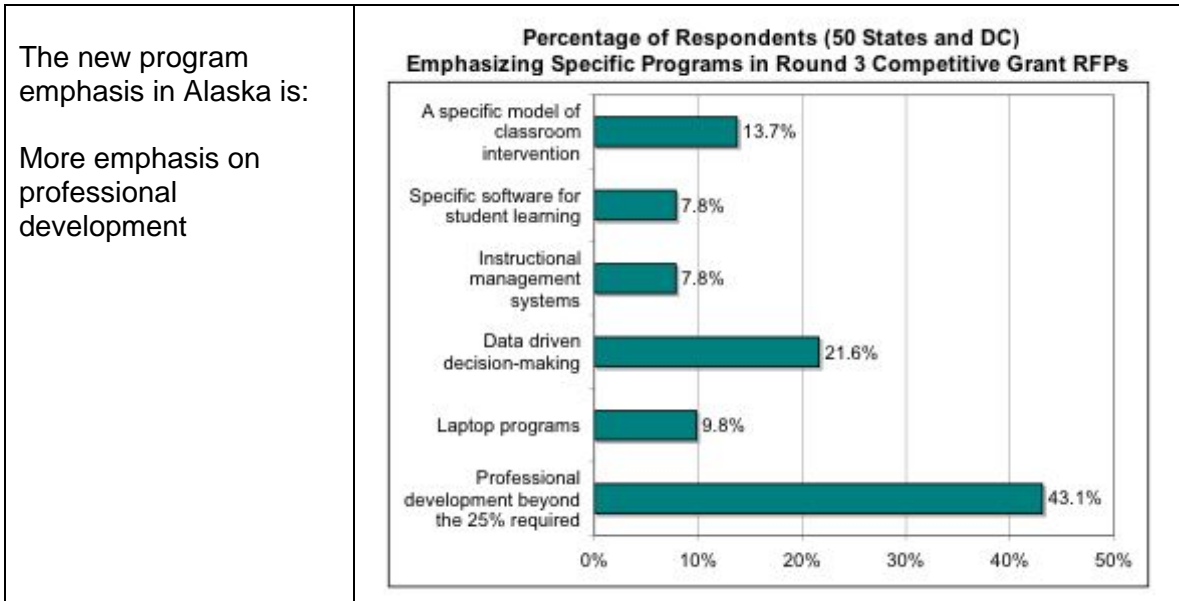
Range of Award: \$509.00 to \$526,844.00

Range of 2004-2005 Formula Grants in Alaska



Program Emphasis for Competitive Grants in Alaska

Some states have identified specific program guidelines for their NCLB II D competitive grant programs. The chart on the right shows trends across the nation. The list on the left includes any new program emphases in Alaska.



Research Emphasis

Policymakers are increasingly interested in the impact of the NCLB II D funds on student learning. States are reporting the following data related to research activity with their NCLB II D funds in Round 3.

Alaska's Requirements in FY04 competitive grants:

- Applicants required to provide a research basis for their projects

Have recipients used these funds to conduct impact studies?

No

How will your state measure the impact of its competitive grant program on student achievement?

The state will examine the results of each competitive grant's evaluation on the use of technology to improve student achievement

NCLB II D in Action

This is one example in Alaska where EETT is making a difference in teaching, learning, and closing the digital divide.

The Fairbanks School District Write On! Project sought to improve the writing ability of elementary students through the use of technology. Two hundred of the lowest performing 3rd- through 6th-grade students in the five lowest performing elementary schools in the district were to use AlphaSmart technology (small laptops) to increase

their writing ability. Target schools and students were selected, lesson plans created, and teachers trained through a combination of group workshops, in-classroom model lesson demonstrations, and one-on-one instruction. The Write On! students who used AlphaSmarts posted significantly higher gains in language arts than those who did not use AlphaSmarts. While 5th graders using AlphaSmarts showed more positive results in Writing, 6th graders showed more positive results in Reading.

For further information visit <http://www.setda.org> or <http://nctet.org>.
Report produced by Metiri Group.