

ILLINOIS RACE TO THE TOP

What is Race to the Top?

Race to the Top is a federal competitive grants program that aims to accelerate key education reforms in states and districts and create the conditions for greater educational innovation while increasing student achievement. Illinois was awarded a \$42.8 million phase three Race to the Top (RTTT3) grant in December 2011 after being a finalist in the competition's first two rounds.

Who is Participating?

19
WINNERS
NATIONWIDE

Illinois joins 19 winners across the country. The 18 states and D.C. have been awarded grants through three rounds of Race to the Top.



■ Phase I ■ Phase II ■ Phase III

35 LEADING
DISTRICTS

35 Participating Districts across the state are blazing the path by being the first to implement key reforms aimed at improving school performance and student achievement throughout Illinois.

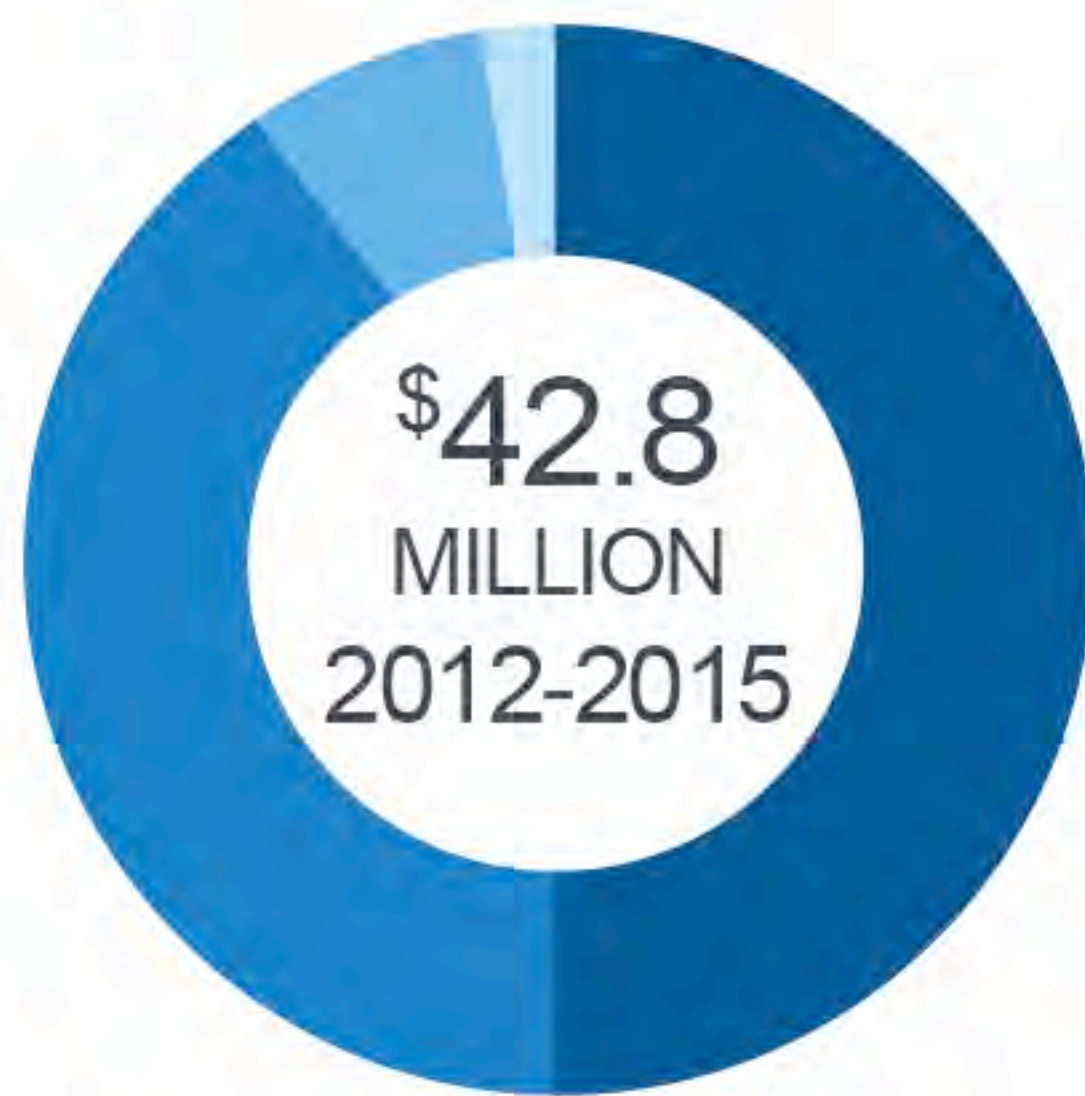


Illinois' RttT Budget

\$42,800,000

OVER FOUR
YEARS

The rules of the competition have established that 50% of the award goes directly to the 35 leading Districts since they serve as reform exemplars. The remaining funds benefit Participating Districts and the state as a whole.



- Funds awarded directly to Participating Districts (50%)
- Funds to build state capacity and support (43%)
- Supplemental funding for Participating Districts (5%)
- Funds for equipment, supplies, indirect, or other (2%)

Where the Money is Spent

The grant is being used to bolster Illinois' ongoing work on projects and programs in four areas including:



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE & CAREER



BUILDING STATE CAPACITY AND SUPPORT



BUILDING A WORKFORCE OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS & LEADERS

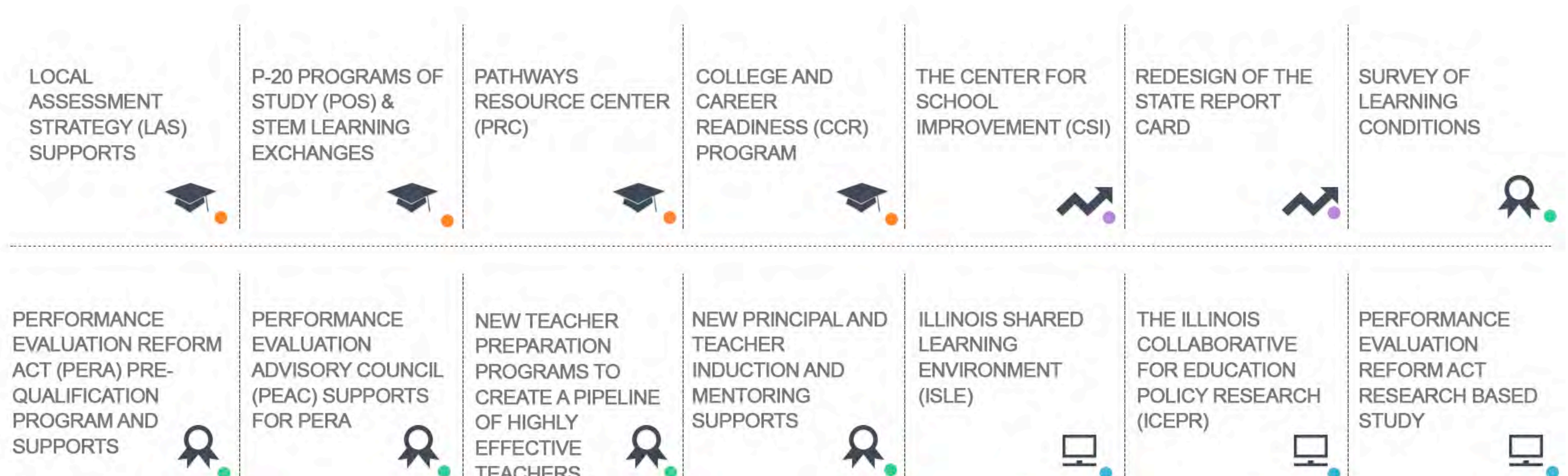


BUILDING DATA SYSTEMS THAT MEASURE STUDENT SUCCESS

How?

STATE PROJECTS

Illinois is implementing several state initiatives to ensure Districts will be well positioned and prepared to offer all students a top-notch education that will prepare them for success in college, career, and in life in the 21st century. One of ISBE's primary goals through RttT is to support the leading 35 Participating Districts that will build the systems and processes needed to accelerate and sustain improved student outcomes while also building capacity to extend these reforms state-wide.



For detailed project descriptions, visit isbe.net/racetothetop/state_projects.htm