



NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND TEACHER-TO-TEACHER INITIATIVE



"Highly skilled teachers are the key to closing the achievement gap and leaving no child behind. The U.S. Department of Education's Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative is helping teachers strengthen their skills by increasing their opportunities to engage in frequent professional development." – U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings

The U.S. Department of Education's Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative helps teachers to improve student achievement by supporting teachers.

- Research confirms that teachers are the single most important factor in raising student achievement. Highly qualified teachers can maximize every child's potential to meet high academic standards. Teachers are essential to closing the achievement gap and ensuring that no child is left behind.
- The Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative was created by teachers for teachers and provides support in areas that teachers have requested. It provides convenient access to various free professional development activities, keeps teachers informed in areas of vital importance to the profession and honors teachers for their hard work and dedication.
- This Initiative provides teachers with the opportunity to receive free professional development through workshops or eLearning while reaching out to States and districts to ensure that teachers will have the opportunity to receive credit toward professional development requirements for successful program completion.

The Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative is engaging some of the nation's best teachers and principals in sharing strategies for raising student achievement and informing teachers of the latest successful research-based practices.

- **eLearning:** The Department's Teacher-to-Teacher website provides educators **Free** access to professional development courses, anytime, anywhere. eLearning supports mastery of academic content, models strong teaching strategies that have been successful in the classroom and provides a classroom application component, follow-up activities and an online assessment. It's simple: Access the website (www.ed.gov/teacherinitiative) or DISH Network (channel 9418), enroll, complete the course, take an assessment and complete follow-up activities, and incorporate what you learn in the classroom. Principals may use an implementation rubric developed for each session. These sessions are from the recent highly successful Teacher-to-Teacher summer and fall workshops.
- **Teacher Workshops:** After an overwhelmingly positive response to 2004's summer and fall workshops, the U.S. Department of Education will host summer 2005 workshops in Cincinnati, Minneapolis, Phoenix, San Jose, Tampa and Bethesda, MD. These workshop sessions are **Free** and feature some of the best teachers and principals sharing research-based practices that they have successfully applied in the classroom. Information can be found at www.ed.gov/teacherinitiative.
- **Teacher Updates:** Teachers may sign up at www.ed.gov/teacherinitiative to receive electronic updates from the U.S. Department of Education. These short e-bytes address some of the hot topics from our teacher outreach and provide links to resources that aid teachers in learning about the latest policy, research and professional issues affecting the classroom.
- **Teacher Roundtables:** The Department has hosted teacher roundtables on various topics during which senior Department officials listened to and engaged teachers in discussions regarding teacher needs and concerns.
- **American Stars:** The U.S. Department of Education realizes how important it is to honor teachers who are fulfilling the promise of NCLB. To this end, American Stars in Teaching honors teachers who are improving student achievement across the nation, using innovative strategies to reach students and making a difference in the lives of their students. Learn more about 2004's American Stars and nominate a teacher at <http://www.ed.gov/teachers/how/tools/initiative/american-stars.html>.

Call 1(888) 814-6252 or visit www.nclb.gov for more information on No Child Left Behind.