

State of Arizona

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Governor Brewer Announces Early Release of \$61 Million from State Fiscal Stabilization Fund

\$185 Million Now Available Through Government Services Fund

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced the State of Arizona will be receiving the final portion of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) Government Services Fund monies in the amount of \$61,078,328. The Government Services Funds are one portion of the SFSF, aimed at helping States to provide maximum flexibility in addressing budget shortfalls. More than 18 percent of the SFSF was set aside for "government services," allowing governors flexibility in how the funds are utilized. These funds will help stabilize state and local government budgets in order to minimize and avoid reductions in education and other essential public services.

The additional funds were initially scheduled to be awarded during the program's Phase II application process in the fall. However, on July 1, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the release of the remaining Government Services Funds to help states as they face difficult budgetary pressure.

"I appreciate Secretary Duncan recognizing the States' urgent needs for these funds as many find themselves in the same predicament as Arizona with massive budget shortfalls that impact our critical services," said Governor Brewer. "In coming weeks I will utilize these funds for my key priorities of education reform, health care for our most vulnerable, public safety; and innovation, technology, and economic development."

On May 21, Governor Brewer submitted the State of Arizona's application for the SFSF, which included \$185 million from the Government Services Fund that will be allocated at the Governor's discretion as designed by federal law. On June 10, the Governor's application for SFSF funds was approved and more than \$681 million was made available with \$124 million coming from the Government Services Fund. The funds were released to all States that have successfully completed Phase I applications.

For more information, please visit the State of Arizona's stimulus funds website at www.azrecovery.gov.