



Spring 2008 SRTS Program Tracking Brief

The Quarterly SRTS Program Tracking Brief is prepared by the National Center for Safe Routes to School to provide information about State SRTS programs. Each quarter, a different snapshot and brief analysis of one key trend across all State programs is presented. It also provides a tracking table summarizing key attributes from all programs.

Spring 2008 Snapshot: Announced SRTS Spending Exceeds \$221 million

The national Safe Routes to School program again grew at an impressive rate during the first quarter (January to March) of 2008, with total committed spending jumping nearly 21 percent from \$183.7 million at the end of 2007 to approximately¹ \$221.7 million at the end of March 2008. This increase of \$38 million is the second largest quarterly increase in announced SRTS spending since the program began in 2006.

State Safe Routes to School Programs² have now announced spending commitments for more than half (53.3 percent) of the \$416 million that has been made available to states so far. \$221.7 million is also about 37 percent of the total \$612 million federally-provided for SRTS activities. Forty-two states have now announced spending of SRTS funds, up from 39 at the end of 2007. *The National Center for Safe Routes to School continues to see the rapid growth in announced spending and the steady increase in state-level SRTS activity as a sign of the strength and promise for the national Safe Routes to School program.* The \$221.7 million is more than a nine-fold increase from \$24.3 million in spring 2007.

All but one state (50 states, 98%) are actively involved in their funding process. With only five states remaining to announce initial spending commitments, the national program is now well established. NCSRTS anticipates continued steady increases in announced spending, but that it will begin to follow a more regular pattern, with most announced spending coming during the winter and spring. Also, with nearly 37 percent of funds now committed, and with most states having announced some spending, NCSRTS anticipates that quarterly increases will average 10 to 12 percent. Twenty-six states have now opened, closed, or announced funding for a second application cycle, and another six are in their 3rd cycle. Future announced spending will primarily come from second, third, or fourth funding cycles.

SRTS programs include infrastructure improvements to make walking and bicycling safer and more appealing for children, and SRTS education, encouragement, and enforcement activities.

Key Points (Spring 2008) - SRTS Spending:

- Approximately \$221 million has been spent or committed for SRTS programs.³
- 42 states (82%) have announced funding for local SRTS programs.
- 46 states (90%) have announced funding for local and/or statewide SRTS programs.
- At least 2665 schools are participating in state-funded SRTS programs.

¹ The figures are approximate because Massachusetts has an open-ended contract to a state-level agency that is providing SRTS services to schools and communities, but has not calculated current expenditures.

² For the purposes of this tracking report, the District of Columbia is treated as a state, because it receives funds and is subject to the same program requirements and restrictions as states. This approach also simplifies the tracking and reporting of SRTS programs.

³ This spending figure does not include state-level program administration costs, such as salaries for State Coordinators, office expenses, printing, travel, etc. All states are now operating SRTS programs, and therefore have spent some funds for program administration and operations.

Safe Routes to School State Program Status Table – Spring 2008

| State | Coordinator Status ¹ | SRTS Application Status ² [Cycle] | Schools Receiving SRTS ³ | Funding Announced ⁴ | Statewide Spending ⁵ |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alabama | Permanent | Closed [1st] | No | N/A | \$415,000 |
| Alaska | Permanent | Open [2nd] | No | N/A | N/A |
| Arizona | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [23] | \$1,899,000 | N/A |
| Arkansas | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [38] | \$2,553,498 | \$178,905 |
| California | Permanent | Open [2nd] | Yes [98] | \$41,100,000 | \$3,900,000 |
| Colorado | Permanent | Awarded [3rd] | Yes [60] | \$4,629,681 | \$68,700 |
| Connecticut | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [13] | \$2,300,000 | \$180,000 |
| Delaware | Permanent | Open [Rolling] | Yes [4] | \$37,000 | \$67,740 |
| District of Columbia | Permanent | Open [1st] | No | N/A | \$1,900,000 |
| Florida | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [180] | \$26,946,358 | \$94,660 |
| Georgia | Permanent | Preparation | No | N/A | N/A |
| Hawaii | Permanent | Closed [1st] | No | N/A | \$177,387 |
| Idaho | Permanent | Open [3rd] | Yes [45] | \$2,500,000 | \$200,000 |
| Illinois | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [113] | \$8,337,721 | N/A |
| Indiana | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [69] | \$4,394,083 | N/A |
| Iowa | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [38] | \$3,373,518 | \$398,459 |
| Kansas | Permanent | Open [3rd] | Yes [48] | \$3,352,719 | N/A |
| Kentucky | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [21] | \$2,659,150 | N/A |
| Louisiana | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [38] | \$3,695,833 | \$143,200 |
| Maine | Transition | Awarded [1st] | Yes [23] | \$2,300,000 | \$60,000 |
| Maryland | Permanent | Awarded [3rd] | Yes [218] | \$7,000,000 | N/A |
| Massachusetts ⁶ | Permanent | ---- ⁶ | Yes [124] ⁶ | ---- ⁶ | ---- ⁶ |
| Michigan | Transition | Open [Rolling] | Yes [10] | \$1,624,000 | \$3,250,000 |
| Minnesota | Permanent | Closed [3rd] | Yes [67] | \$5,250,000 | N/A |
| Mississippi | Permanent | Open [2nd] | Yes [56] | \$2,899,290 | \$190,000 |
| Missouri | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [96] | \$4,113,220 | \$200,000 |
| Montana | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [22] | \$840,000 | N/A |
| Nebraska | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [39] | \$2,957,392 | N/A |
| Nevada | Permanent | Closed [1st] | No | N/A | N/A |
| New Hampshire | Permanent | Open [2nd] | Yes [24] | \$477,343 | \$6,000 |
| New Jersey | Permanent | Open [2nd] | Yes [65] | \$4,150,000 | \$326,970 |
| New Mexico | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [16] | \$459,700 | \$75,000 |
| New York | Permanent | Closed [1st] | No | N/A | N/A |
| North Carolina | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [17] | \$1,450,000 | N/A |
| North Dakota | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [13] | \$917,353 | N/A |
| Ohio | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [107] | \$4,018,466 | N/A |
| Oklahoma | Permanent | Open [1st] | No | N/A | \$40,015 |
| Oregon | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [49] | \$1,883,549 | \$35,987 |
| Pennsylvania | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [5] | \$1,424,525 | \$2,037,282 |
| Rhode Island | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [13] | \$1,900,000 | N/A |
| South Carolina | Permanent | Open [2nd] | Yes [13] | \$2,400,000 | \$105,000 |
| South Dakota | Permanent | Open [1st] | No | N/A | N/A |
| Tennessee | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [40] | \$4,500,000 | N/A |
| Texas | Permanent | Awarded [1st] | Yes [395] | \$24,678,953 | N/A |
| Utah | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [34] | \$2,950,005 | \$184,000 |
| Vermont | Permanent | Awarded [3rd] | Yes [60] | \$2,400,000 | \$87,000 |
| Virginia | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [103] | \$3,530,932 | \$100,000 |
| Washington | Permanent | Awarded [2nd] | Yes [32] | \$9,049,289 | N/A |
| West Virginia | Permanent | Open [2nd] | Yes [16] | \$872,226 | N/A |
| Wisconsin | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [192] | \$4,085,432 | N/A |
| Wyoming | Permanent | Closed [2nd] | Yes [18] | \$2,767,500 | \$47,000 |
| Total | ---- | ---- | approx. 2,655 | \$207,253,211 | \$14,468,305 |

Detailed Notes and Comments:

Methodology: The information contained in the Program Status Table and discussed in the overall report has been provided to the National Center for Safe Routes to School by State SRTS Programs in each state, and has not been verified through other means. For this report, all state SRTS programs either provided updated information from previous months to the NCSRTS, or their latest information was available from their SRTS Program Web sites.

¹ NOTE: This is the final quarterly tracking report that will include “Coordinator Status” as a benchmark. All states now have or have had a permanent SRTS Coordinator, so tracking this benchmark no longer provides significant insight into the States’ implementation of their SRTS programs. A new tracking benchmark will be included in the next report.

Coordinator Status options include:

- Permanent: A full-time, permanent State SRTS Coordinator has been named by the State Department of Transportation. A permanent SRTS Coordinator position usually indicates that a State SRTS program has adequate institutional infrastructure to effectively operate the program.
- Interim: An interim SRTS point of contact has been named by the State DOT. This person might oversee the initial establishment of the State SRTS program, as well as operation of the State’s program until a permanent Coordinator is in place. Naming an interim point of contact is frequently the first step that a State DOT takes in establishing an SRTS program.
- Transition: The State has already had a permanent SRTS Coordinator in place, but that person has left the position and it is vacant. An interim point of contact may have been named, but the permanent position is vacant and it is presumed that will be filled again.

² **SRTS Application Status** options include [Brackets indicate the funding cycle]:

- Preparation: The State SRTS Program has started developing an application process, including some of the following types of activities: identifying program requirements, determining spending levels, developing the application, review and selection process, establishing an advisory board, and/or preparing application materials.
- Open: The State SRTS Program has opened its application process. Brackets indicate the funding cycle.
- Closed: Applications for SRTS programs have closed, and the State SRTS Program is reviewing applications and will next announce selected funding recipients. Brackets indicate the funding cycle.
- Awarded: The State has already gone through a complete application process, and has announced selected funding recipients. In some instances, local programs have already received funds. This category also includes States that have completed a funding cycle and are preparing to release a new application.

³ **Local SRTS Projects Funded** options include:

- No: No funds have been awarded to local SRTS funds. The State SRTS program may be at any point prior to announcing selected projects, including the no action, preparation, open, and closed Application Status options described above.
- Yes: The State Program has announced funding for selected local SRTS programs or projects. This typically indicates that a competitive process has been followed, but in some instances the State may directly select local programs to fund.
- [number]: If known, the number of schools in the State that are receiving SRTS funds or state-funded SRTS activities. This number will usually be an estimate, because many funding recipients will conduct programs in numerous schools.

⁴ **Funding Announced** includes the amounts that State SRTS Programs have announced they will spend on specific local SRTS projects or programs. This does not identify funds that have actually been dispersed. It also does not include the amounts that a State has committed to making available through its application process.

⁵ **Statewide Spending** includes funds that State SRTS Programs have announced they will spend on statewide SRTS activities. These are typically funds provided to statewide organizations or agencies that will conduct SRTS-related encouragement, education, enforcement, or training. These are funds that are directly intended to reach target audiences; the category does not include State SRTS program administrative costs, such as Coordinator salary, office expenses, travel, printing, etc.

⁶ Massachusetts’ SRTS program is currently conducting education and encouragement activities at 124 schools. The State announced its SRTS program and then selected these initial participating schools based on criteria to ensure distribution between different populations, parts of the state, and rural, suburban, and urban locations.