

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS (STEM) EDUCATION COALITION

*American Association of Physicists in  
Medicine  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Astronomical Society  
American Chemical Society  
American Educational Research Association  
American Geological Institute  
American Geophysical Union  
American Institute of Aeronautics and  
Astronautics  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Institute of Physics  
American Meteorological Society  
American Physiological Society  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
American Sociological Association  
ASEE Engineering Deans Council  
Association of State Supervisors of  
Mathematics  
Biological Sciences Curriculum Study  
(BSCS)  
Center for Educational Outreach, Whiting  
School of Engineering, Johns Hopkins  
University  
Chabot Space & Science Center  
Council of State Science Supervisors  
Crop Science Society of America  
Delta Education  
Education Development Center, Inc  
Exploratorium  
Institute of Food Technologists  
International Technology Education  
Association  
Michigan State University  
Museum of Science, Boston  
National Association of Biology Teachers  
National Education Knowledge Industry  
Association  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
National Science Teachers Association  
Optical Society of America  
Project Lead the Way  
Society of Automotive Engineers  
Society of Women Engineers  
Soil Science Society of America  
SPIE-The International Society for Optical  
Engineering  
Technology Student Association  
TERC  
The Association of American Geographers  
The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological,  
& Cognitive Sciences  
Triangle Coalition*

## SUPPORT FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MATH & SCIENCE PARTNERSHIPS

The science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and education groups listed here, strongly support the Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program at the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

It is imperative that additional funding be provided to the ED MSPs so we can ensure that all students receive a world-class education in science and math. We understand in these tight fiscal times, Congress is unable to provide the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) authorization of \$450 million for the MSPs, but we do support substantial increases in order to prepare for the science assessments that will be required in 2007. Therefore, we urge you to support the President's request of \$269 million for the FY 2006 Math and Science Partnerships under Title II, Part B of NCLB.

We urge oppose the creation of a new initiative that would redirect \$120 million of the funds away from the ED state-based MSP programs to create a new federal grant program. This would require a change to the NCLB statute, cut funds to the states, and greatly reduce state flexibility to meet their most critical needs.

Funding for the ED MSPs goes directly to the states as formula block grants. States provide these funds through competitive grants to local partnerships of schools, higher education institutions and others for reform efforts to meet the NCLB math and science education obligations. Most grants go to high-need districts so they can strengthen teacher professional development and increase student performance in science, mathematics, and technology.

In summary, we strongly urge Congress to fund the FY 2006 ED Math and Science Partnerships at \$269 million and to oppose efforts to redirect \$120 million of these funds away from the states.

If we can provide any additional information or answer questions, please contact Patti Curtis at 202.785.7385.