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Community Colleges Receive ARRA Funds

The State Board for Community and Junior Colleges has requested from the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration the first withdrawal of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009's (ARRA) State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) for ten community colleges in the amount of \$3,193,077.59. Governor Haley Barbour has allocated a total of \$9,331,362 to Mississippi's fifteen community colleges. The allocations range from \$312,693 at Coahoma Community College to \$1,279,456 at Hinds Community College. The funds received from SFSF are intended to meet the overall goals of ARRA.

Some ways the funds are being utilized in Mississippi include:

- Hiring additional faculty to support large enrollment increases for the 2009-2010 school year;
- Saving jobs;
- Paying for utility costs; and
- Helping to pay for scholarships to students.

As a way to promote transparency, each community college was required to submit to the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges its plan for how to spend the stimulus dollars. Each college's plan can be found at the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges' ARRA section of the website (<http://www.sbcjc.cc.ms.us/stimulus/stdefault.aspx>).

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