

## **“Educate to Innovate”**

President Obama’s “Educate to Innovate” campaign is a nationwide effort to help reach the administration’s goal of moving American students from the middle to the top of the pack in science and math achievement over the next decade. Launched in November 2009, “Educate to Innovate” is designed to improve the participation and performance of America’s students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

This campaign includes efforts not only from the Federal Government but also from leading companies, foundations, non-profits, and science and engineering societies to work with young people across America to excel in science and math. This nationwide effort includes over \$260 million in public-private investments.

## **“Educate to Innovate” Priorities**

- Increase STEM literacy so all students can think critically in science, math, engineering and technology
- Improve the quality of math and science teaching so American students are no longer outperformed by those in other nations
- Expand STEM education and career opportunities for underrepresented groups, including women and minorities.

## **Why “Educate to Innovate” is Important**

We have many great schools, excellent teachers, and successful students in America. But there are also troubling signs that, overall, our students should be doing better in math and science.

- In the [2006 Programme for International Student Assessment \(PISA\) comparison](#), American students ranked 21st out of 30 in science literacy among students from developed countries, and 25th out of 30 in math literacy.
- On the [2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\) math tests](#), 4th graders showed no signs of progress for the first time in many years, and 8th graders tallied only modest evidence of progress. We are not advancing as we must.
- A STEM workforce will address “grand challenges” of the 21st century, such as developing clean sources of energy that reduce our dependence on foreign oil and discovering cures for diseases. Success on these fronts will require improving STEM literacy for all students.