

## Fiscal Cliff 2.0

### Sequestration 2013: Education Cuts Arrive

#### Winter/Spring 2013

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While Congress averted vast tax increases in Fiscal Cliff 1.0 with a rare New Year's Day tax agreement, Congress failed to reach agreement to stop across-the-board spending cuts ("sequestration"). The cuts began **March 1**, with the following results:

- Nearly all federal education programs face reduced funding;
- across-the-board cuts could mean over **\$3 billion** in education-related cuts nationwide (and a **\$60 million** hit to New Jersey);
- The **recently-passed \$60 billion aid package for Sandy Recovery** could be trimmed by billions of dollars;
- Nationwide, fewer services for **7.4 million** public school students and job losses for **50,000** educators.

#### Action Needed—Budget Deal at Month's End Might Bring Compromise

The Federal Government will begin rolling out the cuts over the next couple of months. An opportunity to halt the cuts before they get worse may occur with a budget deal between Congress and the President at the end of March. **Make a call** to your Member of Congress. Tell your Representative the following:

- You are **very concerned about federal education cuts**;
- **Solving long-term fiscal problems should never involve shortchanging our children's education**;
- Our nation's economic future depends upon investments in an educated and economically **productive citizenry**, not merely deficit/debt reduction.

**Please TAKE ACTION to halt cuts to education programs before getting worse.**