Selected Federal Education Programs that can Help Middle and High School Students Get an Excellent Education



Alliance for Excellent Education

December 16, 2009

NOTES: A table showing the enacted funding levels for all the programs and activities of the U.S. Education Department for Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2009, is available at http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget/0/10action.pdf.

Program Name	FY 2009 Final Appropriation	FY 2010 President's Budget	FY 2010 Final Appropriation
Title I: Grants to School Districts Helps disadvantaged students meet high standards. Only about 24 percent of Title I funds go to middle and high school students.	\$14.49 billion	\$13.0 billion	\$14.49 billion
School Improvement Grants Helps build state and local capacity to identify and implement effective interventions to turn around low-performing schools. The budget request for fiscal year 2010 would require states to ensure that 40 percent of School Improvement Grant funds are spent on improvement activities in middle and high schools.	\$545.6 million	\$1.52 billion	\$545.6 million
Striving Readers As envisioned in the fiscal year 2010 budget proposal, the program would promote the development and implementation of research-based interventions that improve the skills of teenage students who are reading below grade level while also providing demonstration grants to school districts to implement comprehensive and coherent programs of reading instruction for children in the elementary grades.	\$35.4 million	\$370.4 million ¹	\$250 million ²
High School Graduation Initiative Provides assistance to school districts to test and implement strategies for increasing the graduation rate, particularly in those high schools and their feeder schools with unacceptably low rates.	N/A	\$50 million	\$50 million
Statewide Data Systems Provide grants to states to help them develop and implement longitudinal data systems that can track individual students throughout their school career and help states report more accurate high school graduation rates, among other things.	\$65 million	\$65 million	\$58.3 million

¹ The president's budget includes \$70.4 for adolescent literacy grants and \$300 million for early literacy grants.
² Represents a new comprehensive literacy initiative under the Striving Readers program to help struggling students from pre-K through grade 12 build their reading and writing skills.

Program Name	FY 2009 Final Appropriation	FY 2010 President's Budget	FY 2010 Final Appropriation
Title II: Teacher Quality State Grants Increase student academic achievement and student performance through such strategies as improving teacher quality, increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in the classroom, and reducing class size.	\$2.95 billion	\$2.95 billion	\$2.95 billion
What Works and Innovation Fund Supports competitive grants to school districts and partnerships between non-profit organizations and school districts that have made significant progress in improving student achievement, closing achievement gaps, or other areas to scale up their work and serve as models of best practice.	N/A	\$100 million	\$0
Advanced Placement Helps teachers in high-poverty high schools obtain the training needed to teach Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. Also supports competitive grants to states to pay AP and IB tests fees for low-income students.	\$43.5 million	\$43.5 million	\$45.8 million
Elementary and Secondary Schools Counseling Program ³ Competitive grants to school districts to establish or expand the range, availability, quality, and quantity of counseling for students in elementary and secondary schools. Expands eligibility for the program from elementary schools only to both elementary and secondary schools when appropriations reach \$40 million.	\$52 million	\$52 million	\$55 million
Smaller Learning Communities Offers competitive grants to local school districts to create smaller schools or break up larger schools by funding innovative strategies such as schools-within-schools and career academies.	\$88 million	\$88 million	\$88 million

³ According to the No Child Left Behind Act, if the amount appropriated for this program is less than \$40 million, the Secretary "shall award grants to local educational agencies only to establish or expand counseling programs in elementary schools." In other words, no money can be distributed to secondary schools unless the amount appropriated for the program is over \$40 million.

Program Name	FY 2009 Final Appropriation	FY 2010 President's Budget	FY 2010 Final Appropriation
Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Program State Grants Provides formula grants to States to further State and community efforts to improve vocational education programs and adult education and literacy systems.	\$1.16 billion	\$1.16 billion	\$1.16 billion
Special Education Grants to States ⁴ Assists states in providing a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment for children with disabilities ages three through 21 and early intervention services for infants and toddlers birth through age two and their families.	\$11.51 billion	\$11.51 billion	\$11.51 billion
Federal TRIO Programs The program provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education.	\$848.1 million	\$848.1 million	\$853.1 million
GEAR UP Funds partnerships of high-poverty middle schools, colleges and universities, community organizations, and businesses to work with entire grade levels of students.	\$313.2 million	\$313.2 million	\$323.2 million

[.]

⁴ Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, which was signed into law by President Bush on December 3, 2004, a school district can use up to 15 percent of funding to develop and implement coordinated, early intervening services, which may include scientifically based literacy instruction, for students in kindergarten through grade 12 (with a particular emphasis on students in kindergarten through grade 3) who have not been identified as needing special education or related services but who need additional academic and behavioral support to succeed in a general education environment.