

Archived Information

READING FIRST STATE GRANTS

Goal: To support high-quality reading instruction that is grounded in scientifically based reading research, in order to ensure that every student can read at grade level or above by the end of third grade.	Funding History (\$ in millions)			
	Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Fiscal Year	Appropriation
Legislation: To be determined.	1985	*	2000	*
	1990	*	2001	*
	1995	*	2002 (Requested)	\$900

*Note: Does not reflect funding levels appropriated for the antecedent program.

Program Description

This program provides States and local educational agencies (LEAs) with funds to implement comprehensive reading instruction for children in kindergarten through third grade that is based on scientifically based reading research. Its primary goal is to ensure that every child can read on grade level by the end of third grade. The program would build on the current-law Reading and Literacy Grants program, authorized under the Reading Excellence Act.

The Reading First State Grants program would give States both the funds and the tools they need to help eliminate the reading deficit. The findings of years of scientific research have generated a consensus about what constitutes effective practices in reading instruction and how they can be applied in the classroom. This program provides funding to build the capacity of states, districts, and schools to use this information from research to improve reading instruction. LEAs and schools that receive funds under this program would provide professional development in reading instruction for teachers and administrators, adopt and use reading diagnostics for students in kindergarten through third grade to determine where they need help, implement reading curricula that are based on recent findings of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and provide reading interventions for children in the early grades who are not reading at grade level. In addition, States would be required to assess students in reading in grades 3 through 8 through the State's accountability system.

The Secretary would provide 75 percent of funds to States through a formula based on the States' share of ESEA Title I grants. These multiyear grants would be subject to the recommendation of a peer review panel and approval by the Secretary. States would then award 80 percent of their funds to eligible LEAs on a competitive basis. After reserving funds for technical assistance, evaluation, and information dissemination at the federal level, the Secretary provides the remaining Federal funds on a competitive basis to States that effectively demonstrate that they have increased significantly the percentage of students who are at grade level or above by the end of third grade, as determined by the peer review panel. States that receive these competitive grants would then competitively award 100 percent of the funds to LEAs that demonstrate the most effective implementation of the program.

Program Performance

OBJECTIVE 1: AN INCREASING PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS WILL IMPROVE THEIR READING SKILLS.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
			Status: New program.	Source: Diagnostic reading assessments. <i>Frequency:</i> Every two years, annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> Unknown. <i>Date to be reported:</i> Unknown. Validation Procedure: Not applicable. Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: <i>Limitations:</i> Unknown. <i>Planned Improvements:</i> Unknown.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	Explanation: New program.	
1999:	Not Applicable	Not Applicable		
2000:	Not Applicable	Not Applicable		
2001:	Not Applicable	Not Applicable		
2002:		(Baseline to be established in 2003.)		
Indicator 1.2 An increasing percentage of kindergarten and first grade students will show progress on measures of phonemic awareness, decoding, and vocabulary.				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
			Status: New program.	Source: Diagnostic reading assessments. <i>Frequency:</i> Unknown. <i>Next collection update:</i> Unknown. <i>Date to be reported:</i> Unknown. Validation Procedure: Not applicable. Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: <i>Limitations:</i> Unknown. <i>Planned Improvements:</i> Unknown.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	Explanation: New program.	
1999:	Not Applicable	Not Applicable		
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2002:		(Baseline to be established in 2003.)		