

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

I. RESOURCE SUMMARY

(Budget Authority in Millions)

	2004 Final	2005 Enacted	2006 Request
Drug Resources by Function			
Prevention	\$594.381	\$592.894	\$232.967
Total	\$594.381	\$592.894	\$232.967
Drug Resources by Decision Unit			
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) State Grants	\$440.908	\$437.381	\$0.000
SDFSC National Programs	153.473	155.513	232.967
Total	\$594.381	\$592.894	\$232.967
Drug Resources Personnel Summary			
Total FTEs (direct only)	----	----	----
Information			
Total Agency Budget (Billions)	\$55.6	\$56.6	\$56.0
Drug Percentage	1.1%	1.0%	0.4%

II. PROGRAM SUMMARY

- The Department of Education (ED) administers programs to improve and help ensure that all students can achieve challenging standards in the areas of elementary and secondary education, special education and early intervention programs for children with disabilities, English language acquisition for limited English proficient and immigrant children, vocational and adult education, and higher education. In addition, ED carries out research, data collection, and civil rights enforcement activities.
- The programs funded under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) Act comprise the only ED programs included in the drug control budget. The SDFSC program provides funding for research-based approaches to drug and violence prevention. Under the SDFSC Act, funds may be appropriated directly for State Grants and for National Programs.
- SDFSC State Grant funds are allocated by formula to states and territories, half on the basis of school-aged population and half on the basis of each state's share of the prior-year's

federal funding for “concentration grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) for improving the academic achievement of disadvantaged students” under section 1124A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Generally, Governors receive 20 percent, and state educational agencies (SEAs) 80 percent, of each state's allocation. SEAs are required to subgrant at least 93 percent of their allocations to LEAs; these subgrants are based 60 percent on LEA shares of prior-year funding under Part A of Title I of the ESEA, and 40 percent on enrollment. LEAs may use their SDFSC State Grant funds for a wide variety of activities to prevent or reduce violence and delinquency and the use, possession, and distribution of illegal drugs, and thereby foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement. Governors may use their funds to award competitive grants and contracts to LEAs, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations for activities to provide safe, orderly, and drug-free schools and communities through programs and activities that complement and support activities of LEAs.

- SDFSC National Programs authorizes funding for drug and violence prevention programs and for activities to help promote safe and drug-free learning environments for students. SDFSC National Programs also authorizes 1) mentoring programs, 2) Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence, a crisis response program that provides education-related services to LEAs in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis), and 3) School Emergency Preparedness Initiatives. However, since these programs have no clear drug control nexus, funds for these three activities are not included in the drug control budget.

III. BUDGET SUMMARY

2005 Program

- The FY 2005 enacted level includes \$592.9 million for prevention activities that support the *Strategy*. This includes \$437.4 million for SDFSC State Grants and \$155.5 million for SDFSC National Programs. Within the SDFSC National Programs, \$9.9 million will be used to support school-based drug testing programs for students, and to launch a national evaluation of student drug testing. Also within National Programs, \$89.3 million will support the ED’s share of the “Safe Schools/Healthy Students” initiative, which the department funds jointly with the Department of Health and Human Services, for comprehensive programs between schools and their and communities that create safe, disciplined, and drug-free learning environments and promote healthy childhood development.

2006 Request

- The FY 2006 drug control request for ED’s drug prevention activities total \$233 million, a reduction of \$359.9 million from the FY 2005 enacted amount. Included in this reduction are a \$437.4 million decrease as a result of the elimination of the Safe and Drug Free Schools State Grant Program and a decrease of \$32.7 million for the Alcohol Abuse Reduction Program. These reductions are partially offset by a \$15.4 million increase to the Student Drug Testing Initiative, an \$87.5 million increase to implement research-based drug prevention grants for local educational agencies, and an increase of \$7.3 million in other National Programs. Program changes are highlighted below.

SDFSC State Grants

- The President's FY 2006 Budget proposes to terminate funding for SDFSC State Grants, given the program's inability to demonstrate effectiveness and that grant funds are spread too thinly to support quality interventions. Instead, the request includes significant increases for SDFSC National Programs activities that provide direct support to LEAs, in sufficient amounts to make a real difference. The Administration's SDFSC National Programs proposal will support drug prevention and school safety projects that are structured in a manner that permits grantees and independent evaluators to measure progress, hold projects accountable, and determine which interventions are most effective. Key proposals where increases are being requested for the SDFSC National Programs are discussed below.

SDFSC National Programs

- Key programs supported within the \$233 million request include:
 - \$25.4 million, an increase of \$15.4 million over the FY 2005 enacted level, to triple the number of grants for school-based drug testing of students (from an estimated 24 grants in 2005 to an estimated 72 in 2006). Drug testing funded by these grants must be part of a comprehensive drug prevention program in the schools served, and provide for the referral to treatment or counseling of the students identified as drug users. The projects funded by these grants must also be consistent with recent Supreme Court decisions regarding student drug testing and must ensure the confidentiality of testing results.
 - An increase of \$87.5 million to support the implementation of Research-Based Grants to Local Educational Agencies. This enhancement will support the implementation of drug prevention or school safety programs, policies, and strategies that research has demonstrated to be effective in reducing youth drug use or violence and for implementation and scientifically based evaluation of additional approaches that show promise of effectiveness. Under this proposed new activity, grantees would be required either to carry out one or more programs, practices, or interventions that rigorous evaluation has demonstrated to be effective, or to carry out a rigorous evaluation of a promising program, practice, or intervention to test its effectiveness and thereby increase the knowledge base on what works in the field. In making awards, the department would ensure the equitable distribution of grants among urban, suburban, and rural LEAs.

IV. PERFORMANCE

Summary

- This section on the accomplishments of the SDFSC program is drawn from the FY 2006 Budget Request and Plan, the FY 2004 Performance and Accountability Report, and the FY 2004 PART review. The table below includes conclusions from the PART assessment, including scores on program purpose, strategic planning, management, and results achieved. Also included is a comparison of targets and achievements from the GPRA documents listed above for the latest year for which data are available. The outcome-oriented measures and selected output measures presented indicate how program performance is being monitored.

- The PART rating, conducted during the FY 2004 budget process, concluded that the SDFSC State Grant program was “Ineffective,” due to the program’s inability to demonstrate effectiveness and the fact that grant funds are spread too thinly to support quality interventions. No update of this review has been undertaken.
- Outcome measures have been identified for National Program grant competitions and baseline data are expected late in 2005, after which targets will be established.

Selected Measures of Performance		
PART Review of State Grant Programs		
Purpose	60	FY 2004 Rating: <i>Ineffective</i> . Not updated in FY 2005. The program failed to
Planning	57	demonstrate effectiveness because it relied exclusively on national survey data that
Management	38	do not reflect state and local drug use. Grant funds are spread too thinly to support
Results	0	quality interventions.
Outcome-Oriented Measures		
		FY 2003
		Target Actual
SDFSC State Grants		
a. The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during the past 12 months.	not available*	29
b. The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days.	not available*	22
c. The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (that is, within a couple of hours) one or more times during the past 30 days.	not available*	28
		FY 2004
d. The percentage of drug and violence prevention programs/practices supported with SDFSC State Grant funds that are research-based.	to be established**	not available***
e. The percentage of drug and violence prevention programs/practices supported with SDFSC State Grant funds that are implemented with fidelity.	to be established**	not available***
		FY 2004
		Target Actual
SDFSC National Programs		
a. The percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees whose target students show a measurable decrease in binge drinking.	to be established**	not available***
b. The percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees that show a measurable increase in the percentage of target students who believe that alcohol abuse is harmful to their health.	to be established**	not available***
c. The percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees that show a measurable increase in the percentage of target students who disapprove of alcohol abuse.	to be established**	not available***
d. The percentage of Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant sites that experience a decrease in substance use during the 3-year grant period.	to be established**	not available***
e. The percentage of grantees experiencing a 5 percent annual reduction in the incidence of drug use by students in the target population served by these grants.	to be established**	not available***
Selected Output Measures		
		FY 2004
		Target Actual
a. # awards -- drug testing initiative	none	8
b. # awards -- safe school/healthy students	none	93
c. # awards -- postsecondary prevention	none	14

* 2003 targets are not available because the department did not establish this measure until 2004.

** Targets to be established once baseline data become available.

*** Baseline data expected to be available in 2006.

Note: The department refined their performance measures to align with their Strategic Goal (Develop Safe Schools and Strong Character); these are shown above. Measures a, b, and c for the State Grants are based on FY03 YRBS, a biennial survey. The rest of the measures are based on departmental analysis.

Discussion

- The FY 2004 PART rating of “Ineffective” for the SDFSC State Grants reflected the program’s failure to demonstrate effectiveness, relying as it did on national surveys that did not measure youth crime and drug abuse at state and local levels. The review recommended performance measures that would help improve local programming decisions.
- The PART review also cited the 2001 RAND study, which concluded the structure of the SDFSC State Grant program was “fundamentally flawed,” with grant funds being spread too thinly to support quality interventions.
- ED has established outcome measures for individual SDFSC National Programs grant competitions. The department’s grants for school-based drug testing of students provide funding for drug testing programs and evaluations of their effectiveness. In FY 2004, all eight drug testing grantees refined mechanisms for participant identification, test results accuracy, and referral to treatment. This will yield data and information for full-fledged program implementation in FY 2005. The department has set a target of a 5 percent annual reduction in drug use by students in the target population served by these grants.