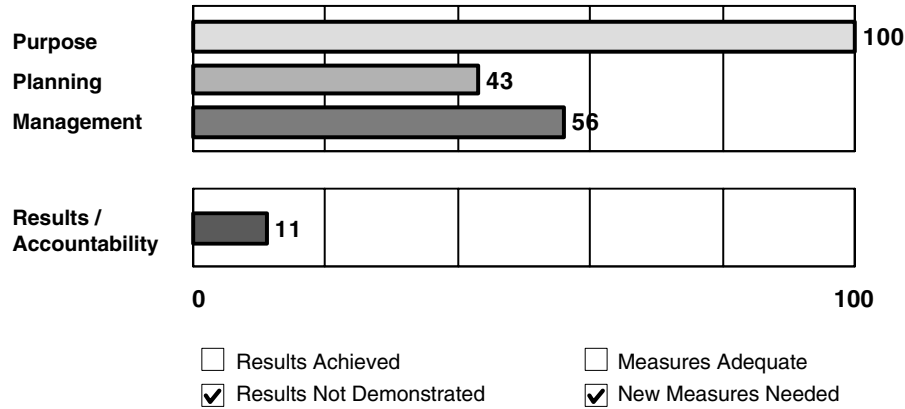


Program: IDEA Grants to States

Agency: Department of Education

Bureau: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

Long-term and Annual Measure: Percentage of students with disabilities who meet or exceed basic levels in reading, math, and science in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) (Fourth grade reading data provided at right. Targets under development)	1998		24.0%
	2000		21.5%
Long-term and Annual Measure: Percentage of children with disabilities served by this program who earn a high school diploma (Targets under development)	1996		52.6%
	2000	57%	56.2%
	2001	59%	57.0%
Long-term and Annual Measure: Other measures under development			

Rating: Results Not Demonstrated

Program Type: Block / Formula Grants

Program Summary:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grants to States program provides grants to states to provide special education and related services to students with disabilities aged 3-21. In exchange for receiving funding, which all states do, states must provide a "free appropriate public education" designed to meet each student's specific needs.

The PART assessment found:

1. The purpose of the IDEA Grants to States program (described above) is unique and unambiguous. The IDEA statute's requirements have a significant impact on how states and schools educate students with disabilities.
2. While IDEA funding has more than tripled in recent years, there is no evidence that this funding has further improved educational outcomes for children with disabilities.
3. The IDEA Grants to States program has annual performance measures, but no long term performance targets.
4. Annual data shows marginal increases in the graduation rate for students with disabilities. However, Department of Education achievement data on students with disabilities (based on National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data) is not timely and needs improvement. Longitudinal evaluations that are currently underway may provide additional program performance information.
5. The program is not sufficiently focused on educational outcomes and state accountability.
6. Services provided under special education are not coordinated well with other federal programs, such as Medicaid and Vocational Rehabilitation.

To address these findings, the Department will:

1. Provide a \$1 billion increase for this program. While there is no evidence that this program improves outcomes, the Administration has determined this increase is necessary to help states and schools meet their responsibilities under the IDEA while at the same time attempting to demonstrate the program is achieving real results.
2. Work with Congress on the IDEA reauthorization to increase the Act's focus on accountability and results, and reduce unnecessary regulatory and administrative burdens.
3. Collect timely NAEP data for students with disabilities that meet the same standards as other NAEP data.
4. Improve collaboration with other federal programs.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

<u>2002 Actual</u>	<u>2003 Estimate</u>	<u>2004 Estimate</u>
7,529	8,529	9,529