

# Archived Information

## NATIONAL ACTIVITIES—IDEA PART D

<b>Goal:</b> To link best practices to states, school systems, and families to improve results for infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities.	<b>Funding History</b> (\$ in millions)			
	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>
	1985	\$157	2000	\$282
	1990	\$182	2001	\$327
<b>Legislation:</b> The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part D.	1995	\$254	2002 (Requested)	\$312

### Program Description

The purpose of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part D, is to provide support to States, schools, teachers, and families to improve results for children with disabilities through research, technical assistance, dissemination of information, and other activities that can be most efficiently carried out at the Federal level.

**The State Improvement Program:** The State Improvement program provides competitive grants to assist State educational agencies, in partnership with others, to reform and improve their systems for providing educational, early intervention, and transitional services to improve results for children with disabilities. This includes state educational agencies' systems for professional development, technical assistance, and dissemination. Specifically, the program provides resources to assist states to develop and implement their own plans for improving results.

**Research and Innovation:** The Research and Innovation program is the primary source of support under the IDEA for producing, and advancing the use of knowledge to improve services and results for children with disabilities. The program supports a wide range of activities including research, demonstrations, and outreach that are designed to produce new knowledge, integrate research and practice, and improve the use of professional knowledge.

**Technical Assistance and Dissemination:** The Technical Assistance and Dissemination program is the primary vehicle under the IDEA for putting information into the hands of individuals and organizations serving children with disabilities. The program carries out the purpose through regional resource centers, clearinghouses, and projects that support states and local entities in building capacity.

**Personnel Preparation:** The Personnel Preparation program assists States in meeting their responsibility to ensure an adequate supply of qualified personnel to serve children with disabilities. The program supports competitive awards to prepare personnel to serve children with low- and high-incidence disabilities and leadership personnel, and for projects of national significance.

**Parent Information Centers:** The Parent Information Centers program is one of the primary vehicles under the IDEA for providing information and training on student and parent rights under IDEA, the nature and needs of their child's disability, and effective communication with the educational profession to parents of children with disabilities.

**Technology and Media Services:** The Technology and Media Services program is the primary source of support under the IDEA for technology and media-related activities. Technology activities promote the development, demonstration, and utilization of technology. They include activities such as research on using technology to improve learning and provide access to the classrooms, and Media Services activities such as captioning and video description that focus on individuals who are hearing impaired, blind, or print disabled.

## Program Performance

OBJECTIVE 1: PROGRAMS RESPOND TO CRITICAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Targets and Performance Data					Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Percentage of program priorities</i>					<p><b>Status:</b> Unable to judge.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Fluctuations in data are expected for several years while the data collection methodology is refined. In FY 2000, expert panels rated each program activity for responsiveness to critical needs on a scale of 0-5, with a score of 3 or above considered responsive. For Research, 91 percent of activities were judged responsive (mean of 3.2); for Technology and media, 43 percent were responsive (mean of 2.4); for Personnel Preparation, 67 percent were responsive (mean of 3.2); for Technical Assistance, 50 percent were responsive (mean of 3.1). Data collected for FY 2000 represent baseline data for this indicator. Baseline data for the State improvement program will be available in 2002. Targets for 2001 and 2002 have been set to “continuous improvement” to reflect developmental nature of the panel review process.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> Expert panels (for State improvement: evaluation study). <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Data to be reported:</i> 2001.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data validated by internal review procedures of an experienced data collection contractor.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> In 2001 both the size of the expert panel and breadth of expertise represented on the panel will be enhanced.</p>
1999 Actual	2000 Actual	2000 Target	2001 Target	2002 Target		
Research and innovation:	No Data Available	91%	No target set	Continuous improvement		
Technology and media:	No Data Available	43%	No target set	Continuous improvement		
Personnel preparation:	No Data Available	67%	No target set	Continuous improvement		
Technical assistance:	No Data Available	50%	No target set	Continuous improvement		
State improvement:	No Data Available	No Data Available	No target set	No target set		

OBJECTIVE 2: PROJECTS USE HIGH-QUALITY METHODS AND MATERIALS.

<b>Indicator 2.1 Highest standards for methods and materials: Expert panels determine that IDEA-funded projects use exceptionally rigorous quantitative or qualitative research and evaluation methods (for Research and innovation and Technology and media activities); or use current research-validated practices and materials (for Personnel preparation, Technical assistance, and State improvement activities).</b>						
Targets and Performance Data				Assessment of Progress		Sources and Data Quality
<i>Percentage of projects that meet exceptionally high standards</i>						
		1999 Actual	2000 Actual	2000 Target	2001 Target	2002 Target
Research and innovation	Research:	60%	50%	65%	Continuous Improvement	
	Demonstration:	12%	70%	20%	Continuous Improvement	
	Outreach:	20%	20%	25%	Continuous Improvement	
Personnel Preparation	Data not available	97%	Target not set	Continuous Improvement		<p><b>Status:</b> Unable to judge.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Fluctuations in data are expected for several years while the data collection methodology is refined. This indicator identifies projects <i>that go beyond the requirement</i> for rigorous research and evaluation methodology. For 2000, data indicate that the percentage of research projects that met exceptionally high standards decreased from 60 percent to 50 percent the percentage of demonstration projects increased from 12 percent to 70 percent, and the percentage of outreach projects remained the same, at 20 percent. Baseline data were collected for three program areas (technology, personnel preparation, and technical assistance). Baseline data on the State improvement program will be available in 2002. The wording of the indicator has been modified to clarify what “highest standards” means with regard to specific programs. The research and innovation targets for 2001 have been revised to “continuous improvement” in light of the developmental nature of the panel review process.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Project applications. (For State improvement: Evaluation study).  <b>Frequency:</b> Annually.  <b>Next collection update:</b> 2001.  <b>Date to be reported:</b> 2001.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Applications are reviewed by a panel consisting of independent, third-party reviewers who are experts in the program content and trained in the review procedures. The panel results are analyzed by experts in evaluation research.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Because different amounts and types of Research and Innovation activities are conducted each year (such as directed versus non-directed research) and results can be affected by such variations, the activities in that program will be stratified for the expert panel review in 2001.</p>
Technical assistance	Data not available	94%	Target not set	Continuous Improvement		
Technology	Data not available	50%	Target not set	Continuous Improvement		
State improvement	Data not available	No Data Available	Target not set	Target not set		

OBJECTIVE 3: PROJECTS COMMUNICATE APPROPRIATELY AND PRODUCTS ARE USED TO IMPROVE RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Targets and Performance Data						Assessment of Progress		Sources and Data Quality																
<i>Percentage of projects that communicate with target audiences</i>						<b>Status:</b> Unable to judge.		<b>Source:</b> Project information. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Date to be reported:</i> 2001.																
1999 Actual	2000 Actual	2000 Target	2001 Target	2002 Target	<b>Explanation:</b> It had been expected that baseline data would be available for 2000. However, in 2000, a pilot effort was conducted to determine the number of products communicated by projects in each program area. For example, research and technology projects are expected to communicate findings through appropriate refereed journals and other vehicles such as the Internet, association publications, and Federally-funded technical assistance providers, and to include a citation of funding support under IDEA.  <b>Note:</b> Data from the FY 2000 pilot: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Av. No. products</td> <td>Products that</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>communicated</u></td> <td><u>cite IDEA support</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research</td> <td>28</td> <td>75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technology</td> <td>141</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personnel</td> <td>13</td> <td>45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical assist.</td> <td>No data</td> <td>No data</td> </tr> </table>		Av. No. products	Products that	<u>communicated</u>	<u>cite IDEA support</u>	Research	28	75%	Technology	141	80%	Personnel	13	45%	Technical assist.	No data	No data	<b>Validation Procedure:</b> Project information is reviewed by a panel consisting of independent, third-party reviewers who are experts in the program content and trained in the review procedures. The panel results are analyzed by experts in evaluation research.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Future collections will include a measure of quality or appropriateness. Also, in 2001, in the Personnel Preparation program, only projects of national significance will be reviewed since the other activities in this program focus on personnel preparation and have no major responsibility for communicating information.	
Av. No. products	Products that																							
<u>communicated</u>	<u>cite IDEA support</u>																							
Research	28	75%																						
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Personnel	13	45%																						
Technical assist.	No data	No data																						
Research and innovation:	No Data Available	See data in "note"	No target set	Baseline to be set	Target to be set																			
Technology:	No Data Available	See data in "note"	No target set	Baseline to be set	Target to be set																			
Personnel preparation:	No Data Available	See data in "note"	No target set	Baseline to be set	Target to be set																			
Technical assistance:	No Data Available	No data available	No target set	Baseline to be set	Target to be set																			

Targets and Performance Data						Assessment of Progress		Sources and Data Quality	
<i>Percentage of expert panel with positive determination</i>						<b>Status:</b> Unable to judge.		<b>Source:</b> Project applications. (For State improvement: Evaluation study) <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Date to be reported:</i> 2001 (For State improvement: 2002).	
1999 Actual	2000 Actual	2000 Target	2001 Target	2002 Target	<b>Explanation:</b> For 2000, data were collected on the Technology and Technical Assistance programs using a Web-based system. However, due to a methodological error, the data are not valid and are not available for reporting. The methodological problem has been corrected and data will be available for all five programs in 2001. (Targets for technology and technical assistance for 2001 have been revised to "continuous improvement.")		<b>Validation Procedure:</b> Verified by ED attestation process and ED <u>Standards for Evaluating Program Performance Data</u> .  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Baseline data for the State improvement grant program are being collected through an evaluation study and will be available in 2002.		
Research and innovation:	No Data Available	No Data Available	No target set	Baseline to be set					Target to be set
Technology:	78%	See explanation	89%	Continuous improvement					Continuous improvement
Personnel Preparation:	No Data Available	No Data Available	No target set	Baseline to be set					Target to be set
Technical assistance:	67%	See explanation	78%	Continuous improvement					Continuous improvement
State improvement:	No Data Available	No Data Available	No target set	Baseline to be set					Target to be set

OBJECTIVE 4: PERSONNEL ARE PREPARED TO SERVE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.

**Indicator 4.1 Persons trained to serve children with disabilities: The percentage of persons who obtain their degrees with IDEA support and serve children with disabilities as teachers, early intervention personnel, related services personnel, or leadership personnel within 3 years of receiving their degrees will increase.**

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p><b>Status:</b> Unable to judge.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Baseline data will be collected from project performance reports in 2001. This is a new data collection.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> Annual performance reports. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Date to be reported:</i> 2001.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data validated by an experienced data collection contractor.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> In 2001 this indicator will be revised to reflect employment, 1 year after receipt of degrees. This data is more readily accessible and timely than data in the current indicator.</p>
1999:	No Data Available	No target set		
<b>2000:</b>	<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>No target set</b>		
2001:		Baseline to be determined		
2002:		Target to be set		

**Indicator 4.2 Grants to minority institutions: The percentage of IDEA grants for personnel preparation awarded to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other minority institutions, including tribal colleges, will increase.**

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p><b>Status:</b> Positive movement toward goal.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> There was a significant increase in personnel preparation awards to minority institutions from 1999 to 2000.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> Analysis of project information. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Date to be reported:</i> 2001.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Verified by ED attestation process and ED <u>Standards for Evaluating Program Performance Data</u>.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> In future years, to provide a more meaningful indication of support to minority entities under all of Part D of IDEA, this indicator will measure funding to minority institutions from <i>all</i> Part D programs and not only from the personnel preparation program. The competition for which only minority entities are eligible will be excluded from the calculation. A new baseline will be established using 2000 data.</p>
<i>Percentage of all personnel-preparation awards (new and continuation) that went to minority institutions</i>				
1997:	15.4%			
1998:	17.7%			
1999:	26.4%	No target set		
<b>2000:</b>	<b>34.0%</b>	<b>28%</b>		
2001:		Target to be set		
2002:		Target to be set		

<b>Indicator 4.3 Minority and disabled personnel: The percentage of personnel who are minority and the percentage who are disabled who receive financial assistance for training under IDEA will increase.</b>				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Status:</b> Unable to judge.  <b>Explanation:</b> Baseline data will be collected from project performance reports in 2001. This is a new data collection. Target to be determined upon receipt of baseline data.	<b>Source:</b> Project performance reports. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Date to be reported:</i> 2001.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data to be validated by internal review procedures of an experienced data collection staff.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> None.
1999:	No Data Available	No target set		
<b>2000:</b>	<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>No target set</b>		
2001:		Baseline to be determined		
2002:		Target to be set		

OBJECTIVE 5: FAMILIES RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.

<b>Indicator 5.1 Increase in informed families: The percentage of families that report that the training and technical assistance received from the Parent Information and Training Centers made a positive difference in their child’s supports and services will increase.</b>				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Status:</b> Positive movement towards goal.  <b>Explanation:</b> The percentage of families that reported that training and technical assistance from the parent centers had a positive impact increased from 71 percent in 1999 to 86.5 percent in 2000. Because actual performance for 2000 substantially exceeds the 76 percent target for 2001, the 2001 target has been revised to “Continuous improvement.”	<b>Source:</b> Project performance data. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Data to be reported:</i> 2001.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Verified by ED attestation process and ED <u>Standards for Evaluating Program Performance Data</u> .  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Self-report by projects may hamper validity. OSEP will verify results with follow-up survey.
1998:	No Data Available			
1999:	71%	No target set		
<b>2000:</b>	<b>86.5%</b>	<b>75%</b>		
2001:		Continuous improvement		
2002:		Continuous improvement		

**INDICATOR CHANGES**

**From Annual Plan (FY 2001)**

Adjusted

- ❖ Indicator 2.1 (highest standards for methods and materials) “Expert panels determine that IDEA-funded projects use exceedingly high-quality methods and materials: (a) Research and innovation (b) Technology (c) Personnel preparation (d) Technical assistance (e) State improvement” replaced by “Expert panels determine that IDEA-funded projects use exceptionally rigorous quantitative or qualitative research and evaluation methods (for Research and innovation and Technology and media activities); or use current research-validated practices and materials (for Personnel preparation, Technical assistance, and State improvement activities).”
- ❖ Indicator 4.1 changed for 2001 to reflect 1 year after receipt of degree as opposed to 3 years.

Dropped—None.

New—None.