

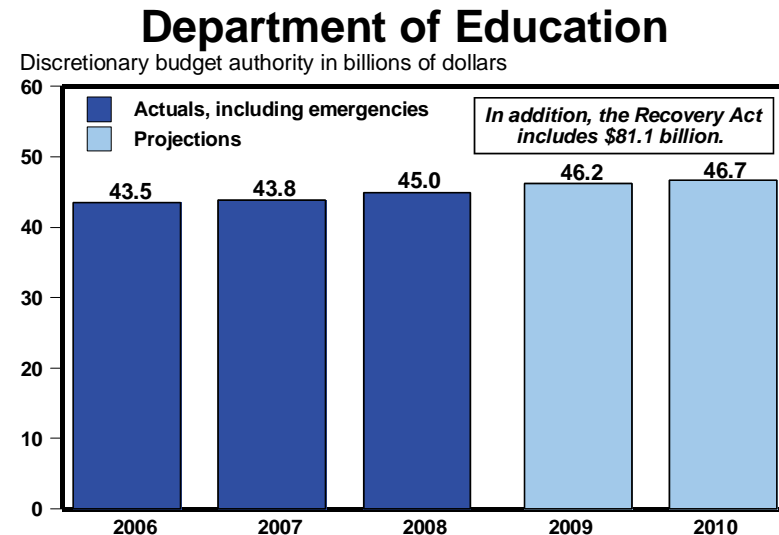
A NEW ERA OF RESPONSIBILITY: RENEWING AMERICA'S PROMISE

The U.S. Department of Education 2010 Budget

“The path to jobs and growth begins in America’s classrooms. The decisions we make about how to educate our children will shape our future for generations to come. They will determine not just whether our children have the chance to fulfill their God-given potential, or whether our workers have the chance to build a better life for their families, but whether we, as a nation, will remain in the 21st Century, the kind of global economic leader that we were in the twentieth. If we want to out-compete the world tomorrow, we must out-educate the world today.”

-- President Barack Obama

With a Fiscal Year 2010 Budget of \$46.7 billion for the Department of Education, the President is committed to educational excellence at all levels. Building on investments in the Recovery Act to bolster early childhood education, this Budget supports states’ “Zero to Five” systems. To strengthen and reform public schools and meet the needs of all students, the Administration will utilize programs funded by the Recovery Act and new Budget initiatives to work with states to develop rigorous standards and assessments, support and reward effective teaching, invest in best practices, and improve student achievement. Expanding opportunities for higher education is another priority of this Budget, which modernizes Federal student loans, builds on an increase in Pell awards that was included in the Recovery Act, and makes the new \$2,500 American Opportunity Tax Credit permanent. The Budget includes a new five-year, \$2.5 billion Access and Completion Incentive Fund to support innovative state efforts to help low-income students complete college.



Note: The discretionary budget authority amounts are adjusted for comparability to account for increases in advance appropriations in prior years, and to exclude discretionary funding for Pell Grants in accordance with the Budget's policy to make the program mandatory. The Recovery Act total includes \$53.6 billion for State Stabilization Grants and excludes \$15.6 billion for Pell Grants.

The U.S. Department of Education Budget Highlights

COMPREHENSIVE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Expands access to high-quality early childhood education. The Administration is proposing to help states strengthen their early education programs. The Administration will broaden the reach of these programs and boost their quality, encouraging new investment, a seamless delivery of services, and better information for parents about program options and quality. In addition, through funds from the recovery act and this budget, the President will double funding for the Early Head Start program and expand Head Start, both of which have proven to be successful with younger children. Finally, the Department of Health and Human Services will begin a major new effort to ramp up the Nurse-Home Visitation program. Rigorous research has shown that a well-structured program can have large and measurable impacts in helping at-risk expectant and new parents give their children a healthy start in life.

INNOVATIVE AND PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Supports innovative and effective strategies to improve achievement. The Budget invests in school systems and non-profit organizations with demonstrated track records of success in raising student achievement to expand their work or implement new innovative approaches through the “Innovation Fund.” Funds provided support “Promise Neighborhoods,” a new effort to test innovative strategies to improve academic achievement and life outcomes in high-poverty areas modeled after the Harlem Children’s Zone.

Funds education research. The Administration supports funding to ensure that teachers and school leaders have the tools and information they need to prepare students for the global economy. This includes funds to carefully study, improve, and scale up promising educational innovations that focus on improving student learning and achievement. Additional funds will also be used to rigorously evaluate federal education programs.

Promotes successful models for turning around low-achieving schools. The Budget scales up educational practices that show results, and cultivates promising new practices by committing resources to turn around high-need, low-performing schools with resources, not just sanctions. It supports state efforts to diagnose and address the root causes of schools’ low-performance, and increases funding for the Charter School program.

TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL EFFECTIVENESS

Prepares and rewards effective teachers and principals. The Budget invests in efforts to strengthen and increase transparency around results for teacher and principal preparation programs, including programs in schools of education, alternative certification programs, and teacher and principal residency programs. The Budget supports additional investments in state and local efforts, developed in consultation with teachers and other stakeholders, to implement systems that reward strong teacher performance and help less effective teachers improve or, if they do not, exit the classroom.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND COMPLETION

Increases maximum Pell Awards. The Budget builds on the Recovery Act by supporting a \$5,550 Pell Grant maximum award in the 2010-2011 school year. Shifts the Pell program to the mandatory side of the Budget and ties future increases in Pell awards to the Consumer Price Index plus 1-percent. Also makes permanent the new \$2,500 American Opportunity Tax Credit provided in the Recovery Act.

Modernizes Federal Student Loans. The Budget provides funds to modernize the federally subsidized student loan programs to guarantee student access to loans, protecting students from turmoil in the financial markets and ensuring high-quality services by competitive, private providers. Also it makes campus-based, low-interest loans more widely available through a new Perkins loan program, overhauling the inefficient and inequitable current Perkins program.

Focuses on college completion. The Administration supports \$2.5 billion for a new five-year Access and Completion Incentive Fund to support innovative state efforts to help low-income students succeed and complete their college education. The program will include a rigorous evaluation component to ensure that we learn from what works.