

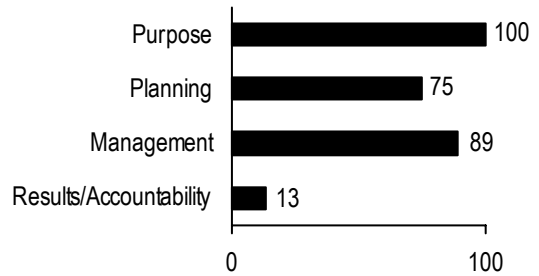
PART Analysis for Programs Reviewed for the FY 2005 Budget

Program: 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Year of Rating: For FY 2005 Budget

Rating: Adequate

Program Type: Block/Formula Grants

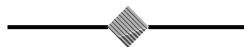


Recommended Follow-up Actions

- Ensure that the program has a data collection and evaluation system that will allow the Department to analyze whether state and school district performance goals are being met.
- Hold states accountable for meeting program performance goals.
- Implement a technical assistance strategy to identify and disseminate promising and proven instructional practices in academic areas.

Update on Follow-up Actions

Action steps the Department has taken to promote accountability include a monitoring system and an online data collection system. The Department developed an online evaluation/assessment system to collect data on academic achievement and behavioral outcomes. In September 2003, the Department began a rigorous four-year evaluation of two academic interventions for after-school programs, one for math and one for reading. The Department provides technical assistance on improving academic achievement through after-school programs, its annual summer institutes, and a project to identify and disseminate information on high-quality after-school programs in reading, mathematics, science, and the arts.

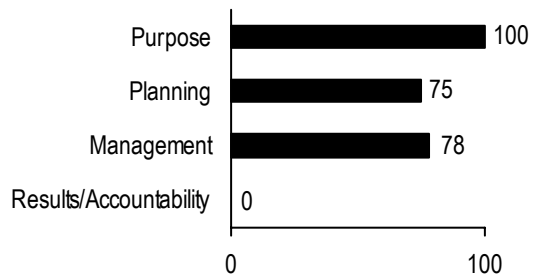


Program: Improving Teacher Quality State Grants

Year of Rating: For FY 2005 Budget

Rating: Results Not Demonstrated

Program Type: Block/Formula Grants



Recommended Follow-up Actions

- Continue to collect baseline information on program participants and set targets for its annual measures.
- Develop a meaningful efficiency measure.

Update on Follow-up Actions

The Department has collected two years of performance information for this program after the initial PART assessment. Using these data, the Department has established baselines for its performance measures and established targets for the program's annual measures.

The Department has drafted an efficiency measure for this program and will be working with the Office of Management and Budget to finalize it.



Program: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

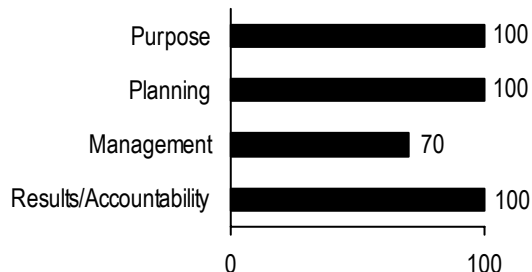
Year of Rating: For FY 2005 Budget

Rating: *Effective*

Program Type: Research and Development

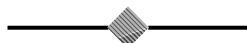
Recommended Follow-up Actions

- Focus on the timeliness of National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) products and services, which include National Assessment activities.



Update on Follow-up Actions

The 2005 PART assessment found a weakness in the timeliness of NCES products. The Department responded to this finding by articulating specific goals for the release of data. In 2006, the initial release of data for 90 percent of NCES products will occur (a) within 18 months of the end of data collection, or (b) with an improvement of 2 months over the previous time for the initial release of data if the 18-month deadline is not attainable. NCES will reduce the deadline by 2 months each year from 2007 to 2010, until the final goal of 12 months is reached. The Department continues to strive to meet its goal of releasing NAEP reading and mathematics assessments data in 6 months. In 2003, the actual time to release was 8 months.



Program: Special Education Personnel Preparation

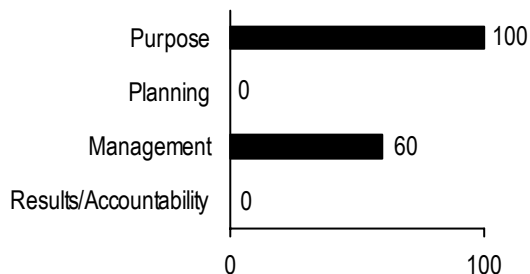
Year of Rating: For FY 2005 Budget

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Competitive Grant*

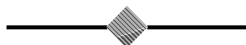
Recommended Follow-up Actions

- Develop a schedule for independent evaluations by 2004.
- Institute a new performance system for grantees by 2004 and make the information available to the public in a transparent and meaningful manner.
- Work with the Department of Education's other teacher programs to review and compare common performance indicators on an annual basis.
- Develop performance measures and goals that appropriately reflect the impact of the federal government's investment in increasing the supply and/or quality of special education personnel.
- Develop program efficiency measures.



Update on Follow-up Actions

The Department has developed new annual and long-term performance indicators for the Personnel Preparation program to assess its impact and effectiveness. These measures focus on use of research-based curriculum by institutions of higher education (program grantees) as well as the employment of special education teachers trained by grantees in schools. Data for these measures will be collected starting in FY 2006. In addition, the Department is working to develop efficiency measures for this program. The Department is also planning to undertake a rigorous evaluation of the Personnel Preparation program.



Program: Teacher Quality Enhancement

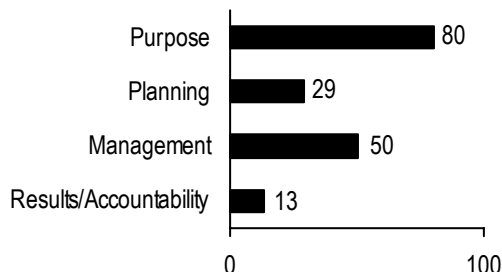
Year of Rating: For FY 2005 Budget

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Competitive Grant*

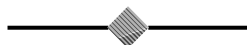
Recommended Follow-up Actions

- Begin to collect baseline data to set targets for the program’s new measures.
- Develop the necessary long-term, annual, and efficiency measures.
- Implement its plan to ensure adequate grantee oversight.
- Consider reforms that would enable the Department to use all available Teacher Quality Enhancement funding to support the highest-quality grant applications.



Update on Follow-up Actions

The Department has developed annual, long-term, and efficiency measures for this program and has collected baseline data for all of the measures. The Department has also developed a plan to ensure better oversight of grantees. Supported by its new e-monitoring system, the Office of Postsecondary Education plans to conduct annual project directors’ meetings, regular site visits, and increased scrutiny of performance data. The Department has also sought and obtained appropriations language overriding the statutory funding set-asides, which has allowed the Department to fund the highest quality grant applications.



Program: Troops-to-Teachers

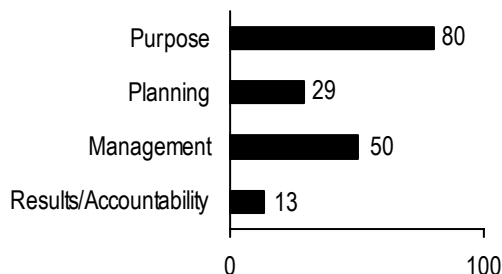
Year of Rating: For FY 2005 Budget

Rating: *Adequate*

Program Type: *Competitive Grant*

Recommended Follow-up Actions

- Strengthen program performance data collection and make it publicly accessible.
- Begin to collect baseline information on program participants and set targets for its new measures.
- Develop a meaningful efficiency measure.



Update on Follow-up Actions

In collaboration with the Department of Defense, the agency that administers the Troops-to-Teachers program, the Department has made substantial progress in meeting the performance information requirements identified in its PART assessment. The Department created an efficiency measure for the program that will examine the recruitment cost per teacher of record. Baseline information for this measure will be available in fall 2005. Baseline data were collected in FY 2003 and targets were set for all program performance measures, and the Department has posted program performance information on our Troops-to-Teachers Web page.

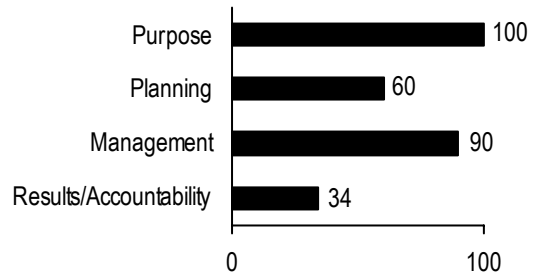
PART Analysis for Programs Reviewed for the FY 2005 Budget

Program: National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)

Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Research and Development*

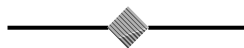


Recommended Follow-up Action

- Develop strategies to have smaller grant portfolios, such as field-initiated research, reviewed by expert panels starting in 2004.
- Examine its portfolio, using its Long-Range Plan as a guide, to determine whether targeting funds on a smaller number of research priorities would improve the institute’s ability to meet its long-term goals.
- Implement a regular schedule for review by an independent organization to assess overall program quality, coordinated with reauthorizations and the Long-Range Plan cycle.
- Articulate substantive long-term research goals that have measurable outcomes as part of its 2004 update of the 2004 to 2008 Long-Range Plan.

Update on Follow-up Action

NIDRR has established long-term goals, with associated performance measures and targets, in response to PART findings and has established procedures for obtaining data to measure progress towards the goals. NIDRR also plans to conduct reviews of additional grant portfolios so that it will have performance data on a larger portion of its grants; the first reviews were held in the fall of 2005. The draft Long-Range Plan for 2005–2009 was published in the *Federal Register* on July 27, 2005. NIDRR is working with other agencies to begin a new independent study by the Institute of Medicine. Another PART is being conducted on NIDRR in 2005 for the 2007 budget.

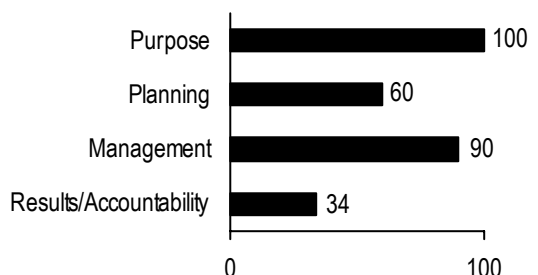


Program: Research in Special Education

Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Research and Development*



Recommended Follow-up Action

- Implement a regular schedule for review by an independent organization to assess overall program quality, coordinated with the reauthorization cycle.
- Promote better coordination between the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services and the Institute of Education Sciences in the development and

implementation of education research priorities aimed at improving education results for children with disabilities, consistent with the proposed transfer of special education research to the institute in 2005.

- Articulate substantive long-term research objectives that have measurable outcomes and goals by 2005.
- Collect grantee performance data and make them available to the public in a transparent and meaningful manner.

Update on Follow-up Action

This program has been transferred to the newly established National Center for Special Education Research in the Institute of Education Sciences, pursuant to amendments made by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004. The Department will consider the best way to conduct an independent evaluation of all education research supported by the Department. The Director of the Institute for Education Sciences recently published a notice in the Federal Register inviting public comments on proposed research priorities, and the institute is working to develop appropriate long-term measures for all of its research programs. New annual measures have been established for the National Center for Special Education Research, and data for these measures will be collected for the first time in 2006.



Program: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

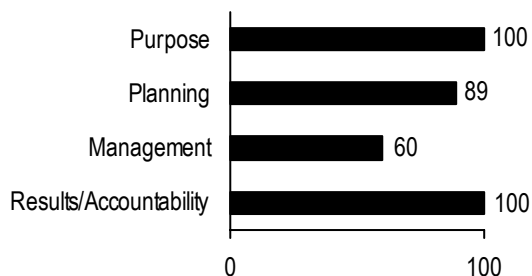
Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Effective*

Program Type: *Research and Development*

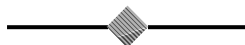
Recommended Follow-up Action

- The Department of Education will focus on improving the timeliness of NCES products and services.



Update on Follow-up Action

The 2005 PART assessment found a weakness in the timeliness of NCES products. In 2005, the Department responded by articulating specific goals for the release of data: in 2006, 90 percent of initial releases of data will occur (a) within 18 months of the end of data collection or (b) with an improvement of two months over the previous time of initial release of data from that survey program if the 18-month deadline is not attainable in 2006. In 2007 through 2010, NCES will reduce by two months each year the deadline for initial release, until the final goal of 12 months is reached.



PART Analysis for Programs Reviewed for the FY 2005 Budget

Program: Federal Direct Student Loans

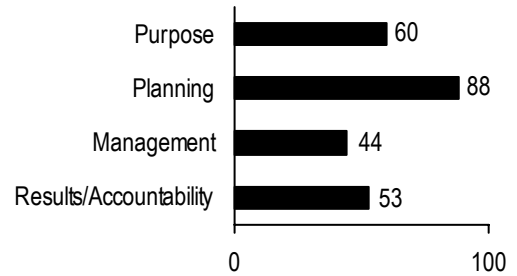
Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget (Initial)*
For FY 2006 (Revised)

Rating: *Adequate*

Program Type: *Credit*

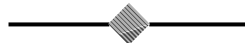
Recommended Follow-up Action

- Seek legislation to direct a greater share of borrower benefits to students in school instead of those who have graduated.
- Maintain variable interest rate structure for borrowers who later consolidate their loans, and provide for an increase in loan limits.



Update on Follow-up Action

The President’s FY 2006 Budget included a comprehensive set of loan reform proposals that address concerns raised through the PART process. The Administration is working with the Congress on these proposals as part of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization process.



Program: Federal Family Education Loan Program

Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget (Initial)*
For FY 2006 (Revised)

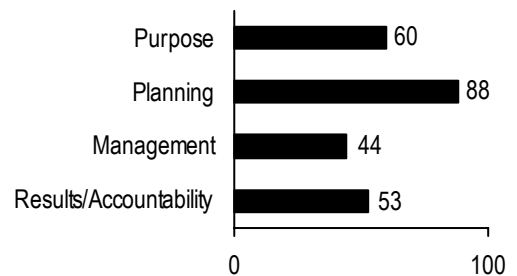
Rating: *Adequate*

Program Type: *Credit*

Recommended Follow-up Action

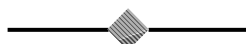
Seek legislation to accomplish the following:

- Reduce unnecessary subsidies to lenders and other Federal Family Education Loan program participants.
- Direct a greater share of borrower benefits to students in school instead of those who have graduated. Notably, the Administration proposes to maintain variable interest rates beyond 2006 for students in school, to adopt the same variable interest rate structure for borrowers who later consolidate their loans, and to provide for an increase in loan limits. Note: Due to the uncertainty that goes into predicting economic trends and student-borrower behavior, these re-estimates often produce significant annual fluctuations in subsidy costs and program funding levels.



Update on Follow-up Action

The President’s FY 2006 Budget included a comprehensive set of loan reform proposals that address concerns raised through the PART process. The Administration is working with the Congress on these proposals as part of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization process.



Program: Federal Pell Grants

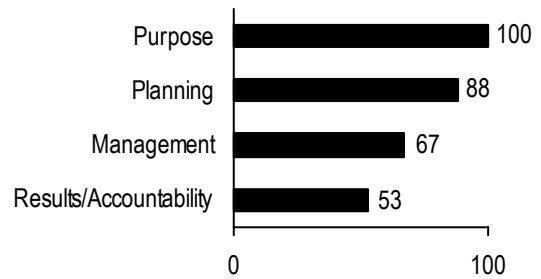
Year of Rating: *For FY 2004 Budget (Initial)*
For FY 2005 (Revised)

Rating: *Adequate*

Program Type: *Block/Formula Grant*

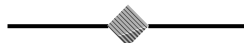
Recommended Follow-up Action

- Develop legislative and administrative strategies to improve performance on the program’s annual and long-term measures. Work with the Congress on enacting the legislative strategies as part of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization.
- In the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization, work with the Congress on proposals to better target Pell funding to the neediest students.
- Re-propose to amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow the Internal Revenue Service to match student aid data and tax data to prevent over-awards (and under-awards) in Pell and other student aid programs.



Update on Follow-up Action

The PART findings for the Pell Grant program primarily required legislative action through the reauthorization of the *Higher Education Act* and amendments to the tax code. The President’s FY 2006 Budget reflects the Administration’s *Higher Education Act* proposal, including changes to target Pell aid to the neediest students. The Administration proposes to increase the \$4,050 Pell maximum award by \$100 in FY 2006 and \$500 over five years. The Administration also proposes to better target Pell funding by indexing future maximum award increases with corresponding minimum award increases. The Administration is working with the Congress on these proposals as part of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization process.



Program: Federal Perkins Loan Capital Contributions

Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

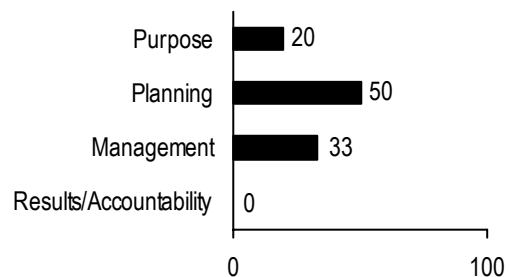
Rating: *Ineffective*

Program Type: *Credit*

Recommended Follow-up Action

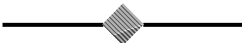
In response to these findings, the Administration will take the following actions:

- Propose to eliminate the funding for this program and redirect funds to more effective student aid programs, such as the Pell Grants program.
- As long as the program exists, implement a new performance measurement approach that tracks program success on student persistence (i.e., staying in school) and graduation. This includes collecting improved program and financial data and developing meaningful efficiency measures.



Update on Follow-up Action

The President’s FY 2006 Budget proposed to eliminate the Perkins Loan program. The Administration is working with the Congress on this proposal as part of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization process. Draft efficiency measures based on the efficiency of program administrative processes were submitted to the Office of Management and Budget in July 2005.



Program: Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants

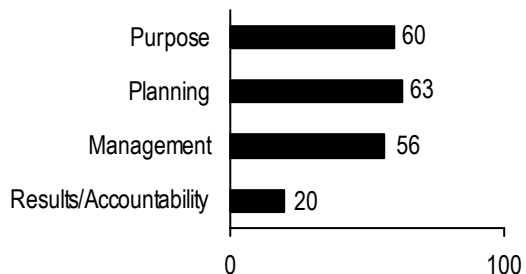
Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Block/Formula Grant*

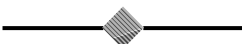
Recommended Follow-up Action

- Correct the funding allocation formula as part of the reauthorization of the *Higher Education Act* by ensuring that funds reach postsecondary institutions with the highest proportion of needy students.
- Begin to collect data for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program that are sufficient to measure program performance and reconcile financial data. These data should support the Department's new performance measurement approach that tracks program success by improving student persistence and graduation.
- Develop meaningful efficiency measures for this program.



Update on Follow-up Action

The Congress has not yet acted on the reauthorization of the *Higher Education Act*. The President’s FY 2006 Budget reflects the Administration's *Higher Education Act* proposal, which includes the above action. In fall 2003, the Department began to examine whether National Student Clearinghouse data could be used to measure student persistence and graduation. Because the Department found problems with this approach, other options are being considered, including a single "unit record" reporting system. The Department has also begun to work on reconciling program financial data. Draft efficiency measures based on the efficiency of program administrative processes were submitted to the Office of Management and Budget in July 2005.



Program: Federal Work-Study

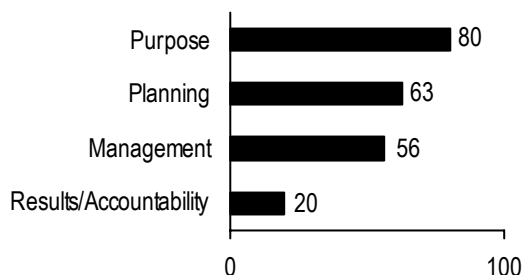
Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Block/Formula Grant*

Recommended Follow-up Action

- Begin to collect data for the Work-Study program that are sufficient to measure program performance and reconcile financial



data. These data should support the Department's new performance measurement approach that tracks program success by improving student persistence and graduation.

- Develop meaningful efficiency measures for this program.
- In the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization, propose to replace the 7 percent community service requirement with a separate set-aside for community service, equal to 20 percent of the Work-Study appropriation. Schools would apply for these community service funds separate from their regular allocation.
- Propose to correct the funding allocation formula as part of the reauthorization of the *Higher Education Act* by ensuring that funds reach postsecondary institutions with the highest proportion of needy students.

Update on Follow-up Action

In fall 2003, the Department began to examine whether it could use National Student Clearinghouse data to measure student persistence and graduation. Because the Department found problems with this approach, it is exploring other options. The Department has also begun to work on reconciling program financial data. Draft efficiency measures based on the efficiency of program administrative processes were submitted to the Office of Management and Budget in July 2005. The Congress has not yet acted on the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization. The President’s FY 2006 Budget reflects the Administration's proposal for the reauthorization of the *Higher Education Act*, which includes the above follow-up actions.

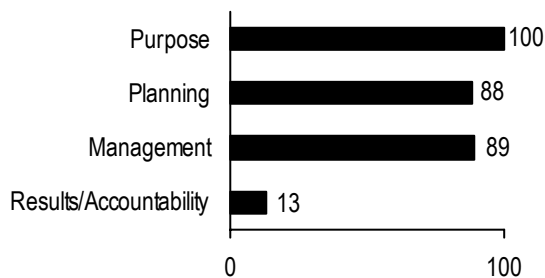


Program: Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP)

Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Adequate*

Program Type: *Competitive Grant*



Recommended Follow-up Action

- Collect baseline data for annual measures and work to ensure that appropriate data collection strategies are in place for the program’s long-term measures.
- Implement the program’s plan for responding to the Office of Inspector General concerns for monitoring program expenditures.
- Develop a meaningful efficiency measure.

Update on Follow-up Action

Since 2003, the Department has made significant progress in measuring GEAR-UP performance. The Department has collected and reported at least two years of data for each annual performance measure, developed a final project performance report, developed an efficiency measure to track the average cost for each GEAR-UP student who successfully enrolls in college immediately after high school, and awarded a contract to assist with data

collection and increase the timeliness of data reporting. In response to audit findings, the Department implemented a strategic monitoring plan for GEAR-UP that included more site visits and staff training in project oversight. Additionally, the Department reprogrammed the Grants and Payments System so that important GEAR-UP budget information on project matching contributions can be appropriately monitored.

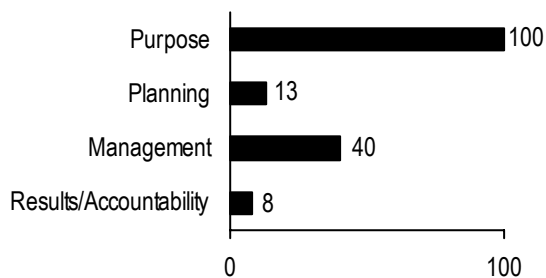


Program: Independent Living State Grants and Centers

Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Competitive Grant*



Recommended Follow-up Action

- Devise and implement an improved audit and site visit system to ensure that the Department fulfills statutory oversight requirements.
- Conduct periodic and high-quality evaluations of each of the Independent Living programs.
- Develop at least one efficiency measure for each of the Independent Living programs.
- Develop long-term performance goals and measures that reflect the four core areas of services and the standards and assurances for the Independent Living State Grants and Centers programs.
- Reduce the time needed to collect and analyze grantee performance reports and make the aggregate data available to the public on the Department's Web site in an accessible format.

Update on Follow-up Action

The Department has made progress in addressing the management and program deficiencies identified in the PART assessment of the Independent Living programs. The Department has developed a schedule to ensure the timely posting of performance data, an efficiency measure that is based on cost per successful outcome, and annual and long-term performance measures that capture program objectives. Due to delays in revising the programs' data collection instrument, data will not be available until 2006. The Department has made limited progress in addressing the requirements for a site visit system and in developing a plan for conducting high-quality evaluations; the Department intends to give more attention to these efforts.



Program: TRIO Talent Search

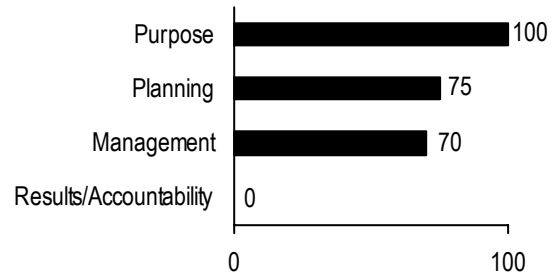
Year of Rating: *For FY 2005 Budget*

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Competitive Grant*

Recommended Follow-up Action

- Complete program evaluation currently in progress and use its findings to improve program performance.
- Develop a meaningful efficiency measure.
- Explore policies that would open up the Talent Search application process to include more worthy new applicants, while still rewarding high-performing prior grantees.



Update on Follow-up Action

The Department has taken significant steps in response to the Talent Search PART recommendations and, as a result, has reassessed Talent Search in 2005 using the PART. First, the Department completed data collection and analysis for the program evaluation. The Department is reviewing the final evaluation report and plans to use the findings to inform the FY 2006 competition. Second, the Department developed and began implementing an efficiency measure to examine the average annual cost per successful annual outcome—defined as a student who persists toward high school completion or who completes school and enrolls in college. Third, the Department tightened the process for awarding prior experience points to ensure that the competitive preference given to existing grantees is based on demonstrated performance. As part of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization, the Department continues to examine ways to better link prior experience points to achievement of the key program outcomes.

