

# Archived Information

## BYRD HONORS SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

<b>Goal:</b> To promote student excellence and to recognize exceptionally able students who show promise of continued excellence.  <b>Legislation:</b> Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, Title IV, Part A, SubPart 6 as amended (20 U.S.C. 1070d-31- 1070d-41).	<b>Funding History</b> (\$ in millions)			
	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Appropriation</b>
	1985	\$0	2000	\$40
	1990	\$9	2001	\$41
	1995	\$29	2002 (Requested)	\$41

### Program Description

The Byrd Honors Scholarships program promotes academic excellence in secondary schools by providing incentives to high school students who excel in their studies. It recognizes and rewards high school achievement by providing scholars with immediate, tangible resources to enter college and complete an undergraduate education.

The Byrd Honors Scholarships program promotes academic excellence and achievement by awarding merit-based scholarships of \$1,500 per year for study at an institution of higher education to students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, and who show promise of continued academic excellence. Scholarships are awarded for a period of up to four years.

Program funds are allocated to states, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the insular areas based on the ratio of the state's school-aged population to the total school-aged population in all participating states. No state may receive less than \$15,000 for new scholarships except the Freely Associated States, which receive \$15,000 in the aggregate. The program is administered by state education agencies and the Pacific Regional Educational Laboratory, which establish specific scholar-selection criteria in consultation with school boards, teachers, counselors, and parents.

For more information, please visit the program Web site at: <http://ed.gov/offices/OPE/HEP/idues/byrd.html>

## Program Performance

OBJECTIVE 1: BYRD SCHOLARS WILL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT HIGH RATES.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Percentage of Byrd scholars graduating within 4 years or receiving a scholarship for 4 years</i>			<b>Status:</b> Target not met.	<b>Source:</b> Performance report. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next collection update:</i> 2001. <i>Date to be reported:</i> 2001.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Explanation:</b> States reported in 2000 that 88 percent of students receiving a Byrd scholarship in 1995-1996 either graduated or received four years of funding, indicating that they were on track to graduate.	<b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data supplied by states, which certify the accuracy of the data.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Data are based on grantee reports of varying quality and accuracy on the number of Byrd Scholars graduating and/or receiving four years of Byrd funding. Byrd Scholars may not have received four years of Byrd funding for a variety of reasons other than failure to complete an academic program, including early graduation or no unmet financial need.
1997:	85%			
1998:	90%			
1999:	94%*	90% or higher		
<b>2000:</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>90% or higher</b>		
2001:		90% or higher		
2002:		90% or higher		
*This number reflects the correct percentage. Last year's reported 96% was a miscalculation.				