

# Archived Information

## NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

**Goal: To provide deaf and hearing students in undergraduate programs and professional studies with state-of-the-art technical and professional education programs, undertake a program of applied research; share National Technical Institute for the Deaf expertise, and expand outside sources of revenue.**

**Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives:** The National Technical Institute for the Deaf programs support Objective 1.4 (talented and dedicated teachers in every classroom) through its hiring, retention, and continual development of its specialized faculty. It also supports Objectives 3.1 (secondary students get the information, skills, and support needed to prepare for postsecondary education), 3.2 (postsecondary students receive the financial aid and support services needed to enroll in and complete an educational program), and 3.4 (through lifelong learning, adults can enhance their skills and earning power) through its programs and services to prepare students to achieve their postsecondary educational objectives which will ultimately lead to meaningful employment.

FY 2000—\$48,151,000

FY 2001—\$51,786,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: PROVIDE DEAF AND HEARING STUDENTS IN UNDERGRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES WITH OUTSTANDING STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, COMPLEMENTED BY A STRONG ARTS AND SCIENCES CURRICULUM AND SUPPLEMENTED WITH APPROPRIATE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES.

**Indicator 1.1 Enrollment: Maintain a student body of at least 1,080 undergraduate students, 100 educational interpreter program students, and 50 graduate students.**

Targets and Performance Data							Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance			Performance Targets			<b>Status:</b> Undergraduate and Graduate enrollment targets met. Negative trend away from target in the Educational Interpreter Program enrollment.  <b>Explanation:</b> The numbers of undergraduates and graduates have increased beyond their target numbers. The Educational Interpreter Program enrollment fell short of its target because of some internal personnel resource problems within the program. These problems have been resolved and the Institute expects increased enrollment numbers next year.	<b>Source:</b> National Technical Institute for the Deaf Registrar Office records, FY 2000 as of October 1999. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> Fall 2000.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data supplied by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. No formal verification procedure applied.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> None.
	Under-graduate	Educational Interpreter	Grad/Masters In Special Ed.	Under-graduate	Educational Interpreters	Grad/Masters in Special Ed.		
FY 1995:	1,035	59	10					
FY 1996:	1,038	59	27					
FY 1997:	1,069	72	32					
FY 1998:	1,085	84	36					
<b>FY 1999:</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>		
FY 2000:	1,084	77	59	1,080	100	50		
FY 2001:				1,080	100	50		

OBJECTIVE 2: MAXIMIZE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING A PROGRAM OF STUDY.

**Indicator 2.1 Student retention rate: The first-year student overall retention rate will be maintained; sub-baccalaureate will increase; and baccalaureate will be maintained.**

Targets and Performance Data				Assessment of Progress			Sources and Data Quality
<i>Student retention rates</i>							
Year	Actual Performance			Performance Targets			
	Overall	Sub-Baccalaureate	Baccalaureate	Overall	Sub-Baccalaureate	Baccalaureate	
FY 1997:	76%	75%	84%				
FY 1998:	74%	73%	81%				
<b>FY 1999:</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>No target set</b>			
FY 2000:				74%	73%	84%	
FY 2001:				74%	74%	84%	

**Status:** In FY 1999, there was a negative trend away from prior years.

**Explanation:** Unable to judge against 1999 target because the Institute changed its methodology after the target was set. The first-year retention rate decreased slightly to 69 percent in the sub-baccalaureate category in 1999 from the 1998 level. During this year, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf pursued a more rigorous application of the host institution's (Rochester Institute of Technology) suspension and probation policies. The result was higher attrition in the short term, but the expectation is a better environment and better retention over the longer term.

**Source:** National Technical Institute for the Deaf Registrar Office records.  
*Frequency:* Annually.  
*Next Update:* Fall 2000.

**Validation Procedure:** Data supplied by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. No formal verification procedure applied.

**Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:** The National Technical Institute for the Deaf has identified several distinct cohorts of students and intends to measure retention rate by cohort and compare the results to the Rochester Institute of Technology and national data.

**Indicator 2.2 Graduation rate: The graduation rate for students in sub-baccalaureate and baccalaureate programs will be maintained or increase.**

Targets and Performance Data				Assessment of Progress			Sources and Data Quality
<i>Student graduation rates</i>							
Year	Actual Performance			Performance Targets			
	Overall	Sub-Baccalaureate	Baccalaureate	Overall	Sub-Baccalaureate	Baccalaureate	
FY 1997	50%	50%	51%				
FY 1998:	51%	50%	57%				
<b>FY 1999:</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>No target set</b>			
FY 2000:				53%	51%	61%	
FY 2001:				53%	51%	61%	

**Status:** Positive movement in performance from prior years.

**Explanation:** Unable to judge against 1999 target because the Institute changed its methodology after target was set. In FY 1999, the graduation rate for students in the sub-baccalaureate programs was maintained at 50 percent while the rate for students in the baccalaureate programs was increased to 61 percent providing an overall graduation rate of 53 percent. The Institute's goal is to increase the rate for students in sub-baccalaureate programs to 51 percent and maintain the rate for students in baccalaureate programs at 61 percent in FY 2001.

**Source:** National Technical Institute for the Deaf Registrar Office Records.  
*Frequency:* Annually.  
*Next Update:* Fall 2000.

**Validation Procedure:** Data supplied by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. No formal verification procedure applied.

**Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:** See information under 2.1.

OBJECTIVE 3: PREPARE GRADUATES TO FIND SATISFYING JOBS IN FIELDS COMMENSURATE WITH THEIR EDUCATION.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Placement rate</i>			<p><b>Status:</b> No 1999 data but progress toward target is likely.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> The actual rate for 1998 is equal to the projected target for 1999. The Institute believes that a 95 percent placement rate represents an appropriate ongoing target.</p> <p>The Placement rates are calculated as the percentage of graduates who are employed among those who want to be employed. Those individuals, who for whatever reason do not seek employment in the respective years, are not included. The Bureau of Labor Statistics uses this same methodology.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> National Technical Institute for the Deaf Placement Office Records. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next update:</i> Fall 2000.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data supplied by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. No formal verification procedure applied.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> None.</p>
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
FY 1995:	94%			
FY 1996:	96%			
FY 1997:	97%			
FY 1998:	95%			
<b>FY 1999:</b>	<b>No data available</b>	<b>95%</b>		
FY 2000:		95%		
FY 2001:		95%		

OBJECTIVE 4: CONDUCT A PROGRAM OF APPLIED RESEARCH TO PROVIDE INNOVATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESS FOR DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING INDIVIDUALS.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<p><b>Indicator 4.1 Public input satisfaction assessments: Conduct periodic assessments to determine whether the National Technical Institute for the Deaf is obtaining appropriate public input on all deafness-related research, development, and demonstration activities.</b></p>				
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p><b>Status:</b> Unable to judge at this time.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> The amendments to the Education of the Deaf Act (October 1998) included a new requirement for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf to seek public input on its deafness-related research priorities. The Institute is working on a mechanism to assess information gleaned from the field. Baseline information will be available in FY 2000 at which time a target will be established.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> National Technical Institute for the Deaf Research Report. <i>Frequency:</i> Periodically. <i>Next Update:</i> To be determined.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> To be determined.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> To be determined.</p>
<b>FY 1999:</b>	<b>Baseline to be determined in FY 2000</b>	<b>Target will be established upon receipt of baseline data</b>		
FY 2000:				
FY 2001:				

OBJECTIVE 5: CONDUCT OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR EXTERNAL AUDIENCES TO INCREASE THE KNOWLEDGE BASE AND IMPROVE PRACTICE IN THE FIELD.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Consumer rating</i>			<b>Status:</b> Target met.	<b>Source:</b> Summary of participant evaluations. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> FY 2000.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Explanation:</b> The 1999 review of participant evaluations revealed that the average of all participant ratings was "above average." This performance level will be maintained through 2001.	<b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data supplied by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. No formal verification procedure applied.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> None.
<b>FY 1999:</b>	<b>Above average</b>	<b>No target set</b>		
FY 2000:		Maintain an above-average rating		
FY 2001:		Maintain an above-average rating		

**KEY STRATEGIES**

Strategies Continued from 1999

- ❖ To address enrollment issues, the Institute will register 350 to 370 new students annually through a comprehensive marketing plan that targets minority students, women students, transfer students, international students, and cross-registered students.
- ❖ In an effort to continually attract students to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, the Institute plans to continually evaluate the need to revise existing curriculum and develop new majors to reflect the changing needs of students and industry.
- ❖ To address retention and graduation rates, the Institute continues to develop and implement new instructional practices to enable underprepared students to acquire the skills necessary to complete a postsecondary program of study, including continuing the Learning Community Pilot Project for students who enter underprepared in English and mathematics, strengthening the counseling program for first-year students, and improving support for students outside the classroom, especially in the dormitories.
- ❖ To further address the issues of retention, in 1998 the Institute established the Office of Associate Dean for Student Affairs to coordinate programming to improve student persistence. Through counseling and student life services, the office is developing a variety of new strategies to help students better cope with college life. These strategies include developing a formal retention plan that coordinates existing components, including the First-Year Experiences Program, Career Restoration Program, Career Exploration Program, Learning Community Pilot Project, Disability Services for Students with Secondary Disabilities Program, Dormitory Programming, Student Life Team, and Counseling Services.
- ❖ In an effort to further improve retention, a research team has been formed to evaluate and report annually on the impact of academic and nonacademic retention strategies. The research team also will report annually on the impact of admissions policies on student retention. In addition, the Institute is conducting a research study to identify special educational needs of students who are (a) undecided on a major and underprepared; (b) decided on a major, but underprepared; or (c) academically prepared, but undecided on a major.
- ❖ The Institute will expand and enhance career opportunities for students by responding to changes in the field.
- ❖ The Institute will continue to explore new technical career areas that will ensure student's access to emerging careers that can enhance their earning potential.
- ❖ The Institute will develop a strategy for determining field satisfaction related to its mechanisms for obtaining public input on research, development, and demonstration activities.
- ❖ The Institute will conduct research that advances our knowledge of educational challenges (e.g., reading college-level materials, transfer of skills across domains, matching educational interpreting to student needs) and understanding of the academic potential of deaf and hard-of-hearing students, including students with special needs, in order to optimize their academic success.

New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ To address retention issues, the Institute plans to conduct a study on quality of life for students (residential and nonresidential) and intends to investigate use of students as paraprofessional service providers in the dormitories.
- ❖ The Institute will implement a plan for student outcomes assessment response to the Middle States Association recommendations.
- ❖ The Institute plans to develop a process to routinely conduct Market Place Scan.
- ❖ In an effort to enhance career choices, the Institute plans to submit a proposal to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf Curriculum Committee for Robotics Technology (conceptual development).
- ❖ To attract students to the National Technical Institute Program, the Institute plans to expand the Career Awareness Program "on the road."
- ❖ To address retention, the Institute plans to determine a Profile of Student characteristics and success for associate degree programs.
- ❖ The Institute plans to develop an interim policy on the use of the American College Test (ACT).
- ❖ To address placement issues, the Institute plans to expand support to business and industry in accommodating and supporting deaf and hard-of-hearing professionals.
- ❖ Enhance the Institute's image by increasing by private and public funding sources' awareness of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf to maintain and strengthen fiscal viability.

**HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

- ❖ The Vice President for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf serves on the Advisory Board of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders of the NIH.
- ❖ The National Technical Institute for the Deaf collaborates with the IRS and the Social Security Administration to conduct periodic cooperative research studies of the Institute's graduates.
- ❖ The National Technical Institute for the Deaf is the recipient of a \$5 million Department of Education (Office of Special Education Program) award to provide technical assistance and outreach to institutions of higher education that serve students who are deaf and hard of hearing.

**CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL**

None.

**INDICATOR CHANGES****From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)**Adjusted

- ❖ Indicator 1.1 was expanded to include specific enrollment measures in each of the Instructional Program Areas: Undergraduate Program, Educational Interpreter Program, and Graduate Program.

Dropped

- ❖ Indicators 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, and 6.1 have been retained for internal management purposes and are no longer a part of this report.

**From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)**Adjusted—None.Dropped—None.New

- ❖ Indicator 4.1 added as result of amendment to the 1998 Reauthorization of the Education of the Deaf Act.