

# Archived Information

## GRADUATE ASSISTANCE IN AREAS OF NATIONAL NEED (GAANN) AND JAVITS FELLOWSHIPS

**Goal: To increase the number of persons trained at the highest academic level.**

**Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives:** GAANN and Javits support Objective 3.2 (postsecondary students receive support for high-quality education) by providing grants to institutions to support high-quality graduate students studying in areas of national need and by providing grants to students who show exceptional promise.

FY 2000—\$51,000,000\*

FY 2001—\$41,000,000 (Requested budget)

\* The additional \$10 million in FY 2000 covers an additional year of funding for Javits Fellowships to begin providing funding for the program a year in advance rather than a change in funding of the program.

OBJECTIVE 1: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF GRADUATE STUDENTS IN AREAS OF NATIONAL NEED, INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS.

**Indicator 1.1 Graduate school completion: There will be an increase in the number of U.S. citizens and permanent residents who receive a GAANN fellowship and obtain a doctorate in an area of national need.**

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<b>Status:</b> No 1999 data; progress toward target is difficult to judge.  <b>Explanation:</b> A survey is currently being conducted by the Office of Program Monitoring and Information Technology to determine (retroactively) the number of GAANN fellows who have obtained doctorate degrees.	<b>Source:</b> Program Monitoring and Information Technology Survey; annual program performance reports. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> 2000.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data collected before ED <a href="#">Standards for Evaluating Program Performance Data</a> were developed.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Subsequent performance data will be a required element in the annual performance report submitted by grantees.
1999:	No data available	No target set		
2000:		Baseline		
2001:		Continuing increase		

**Indicator 1.2 Enrollment of targeted populations: The percentage of GAANN fellows from underrepresented groups will increase over time.**

Targets and Performance Data						Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality	
<i>Percentage of fellows from traditionally underrepresented groups by grantee cohort</i>							<b>Status:</b> No 1999 data are available; progress toward target is unlikely.  <b>Explanation:</b> The authorizing statute recommends, but does not mandate, that grantees seek individuals from traditionally underrepresented groups when awarding fellowships. However, in addressing the selection criteria, grantees pledge to include students from underrepresented groups.	<b>Source:</b> Annual Performance Reports. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> 2000.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data collected before ED <a href="#">Standards for Evaluating Program Performance Data</a> were developed.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Data are based on a subset
Year	Actual Performance					Performance Targets		
	Alaskan/ Native American Indians	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black, Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	Women			
1994:	1%	6%	10%	4%	38%			
1995:	1%	9%	7%	3%	36%			
1997:	2%	10%	7%	10%	39%			

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		(80 percent) of the grantees. Steps have been taken to ensure completeness of data for future years.
1999:	Data not yet available	Continuing improvement		
2000:		Continuing improvement		
2001:		Continuing improvement		

OBJECTIVE 2: TO ENABLE STUDENTS OF SUPERIOR ABILITY IN THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES TO COMPLETE THEIR TERMINAL DEGREE.

<b>Indicator 2.1 Graduate school completion: The percentage of Javits fellows who complete a terminal degree within 7 years will increase over time.</b>				
Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Rates of doctorate attainment by Javits fellows 7 years from enrollment</i>				
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p><b>Status:</b> No 1999 data are available; progress toward target is difficult to judge until we get more data points.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> The <u>Survey of Earned Doctorates</u> collects only information on attainment of a doctorate degree. Some Javits fellows pursue programs in fields for which the terminal degree is below the doctorate level.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> Program performance reports; Survey of Earned Doctorates, 1999. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> 2000.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> No formal verification procedure applied.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> The new Annual Performance Report will require grantees to report completion data on those fellows in programs where the Master of Fine Arts is the terminal degree.</p>
1998:	30%			
1999:	Data not yet available	Continuing improvement		
2000:		Continuing improvement		
2001:		Continuing improvement		

#### KEY STRATEGIES

##### Strategies Continued from 1999

- ❖ To capture degree attainment for those Javits fellows who pursue the field of Fine Arts (where the terminal degree is a master's degree), ED will collect completion data in the program performance reports. The new performance report form is currently in the clearance process.
- ❖ To increase the recruitment of graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds, ED sponsored two graduate education conferences that focused on diversity in graduate education.

##### New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ To address the goal of supporting individuals from underrepresented backgrounds, ED will emphasize the importance of this criterion in planned technical assistance workshops and presentations at national conferences. In addition, institutions will be asked to report in their annual performance reports the ethnicity of students they have recruited.
- ❖ To obtain information regarding the progress of students toward their degree completion, ED will continue our monitoring procedures.

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

- ❖ The authorizing statute requires the Department to consult with other Federal agencies prior to the designation of the areas of national need. Some of the agencies the Department consults with are the National Academy of Sciences, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the Department of Labor, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Representatives from higher education associations also participate in the discussion. They offer insight and data regarding the academic discipline enrollment trends within U.S. institutions of higher education. From the 1998 consultation meeting, the Department learned of increasing interest by graduate students and universities in interdisciplinary programs. As a result, the Department extended an invitational priority to universities to submit interdisciplinary applications for the FY 2000 panel review competition. The Department of Labor provided data regarding 5-year projections for the workforce based on the academic field of study. ED staff participate in an annual roundtable discussion sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences, where representatives from various Federal agencies come together to discuss their graduate programs. Staff also participate in a similar annual meeting at the National Science Foundation.

### CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL

- ❖ While the graduate assistance in areas of national need and Javits programs help with the financial aspects of attending postbaccalaureate studies, a number of other factors beyond the control of the programs affect graduate participation and completion to degree. The state of the economy and funding decisions made by postsecondary institutions and state governments are just two examples of factors that play an important role in determining whether the program goals are achieved.

### INDICATOR CHANGES

#### From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)

Adjusted—None.

Dropped

- ❖ Old Javits Objectives 1, 2, and 3 and old Javits Indicators 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 3.1 were dropped because there was no data collection plan in place to obtain the needed information and were replaced by new Objective 2 and new Indicator 2.1 to reflect current data collection efforts.
- ❖ Old GAANN (formerly National Need Graduate Fellowship Program, NNGFP) Indicators 1.2, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 3.1, 7.1, 8.1, 9.1, 10.1, 10.2, and 11.1 were dropped because there was no data collection plan in place to obtain the needed information.

#### From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)

Adjusted

- ❖ Objective 1 was reworded for clarity. The goal is to increase the *number* of doctoral graduates in areas of national need. Increasing the graduation rate would not necessarily meet this goal if the number of those pursuing graduate degrees decreased.
- ❖ Indicator 1.1 was reworded to be consistent with the new wording of Objective 1.
- ❖ For graduate students, the term *financially needy* is difficult to make meaningful in the traditional sense. Because of this ambiguity, this aspect of the indicator was eliminated.
- ❖ Objective 2 was changed to the *completion rate* from the *time to completion* to reflect data collected capabilities.
- ❖ Indicator 2.1 was adjusted to align with the modified Objective 2.

Dropped—None.

New

- ❖ The goal of the program was changed to more closely reflect the “intent” of the GAANN and Javits programs.