The President's National Security Language Initiative

U.S. Department of Education



The National Security Language Initiative

- Under the direction of President Bush, the Secretaries of State, Education, and Defense and the Director of National Intelligence developed this comprehensive plan to expand foreign language education, especially in critical need languages.
- This initiative includes \$114 million in the FY 2007 budget proposal.

The National Security Language Initiative

The National Security Language Initiative has three goals:

- Increase the number of Americans mastering critical need languages
- Increase the number of advanced-level speakers of foreign languages, with an emphasis on critical need languages
- Increase the number of teachers of critical need languages and provide resources for them



The Department of Education's FY 2007 budget proposal will include a total of \$57 million for The National Security Language Initiative.

 This is a \$35 million increase over FY 2006 funding (in FY 2006, \$22 million was provided for the Foreign Language Assistance Program).



Components of the proposal include:



\$24 million to create incentives to teach and study critical need languages in K-12 by refocusing the Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) grants.



- Building off the Department of Defense's pilot program, \$24 million for Advancing America Trough Foreign Language Partnerships – Enabling up to twenty-four school districts in partnership with colleges and universities to create programs in critical need languages in 2007.
 - This program will likely expand to additional schools in future years to ultimately build continuous programs of study from kindergarten through university.



\$5 million to create a Language Teacher Corps, as part of the National Language Service Corps, with the goal of having 1,000 new foreign language teachers in our schools before the end of the decade.



\$1 million to create a nationwide E-Learning Language Clearinghouse to deliver foreign language education resources to teachers and students across the country.



\$3 million to expand Teacher-to-Teacher seminars to reach thousands of foreign language teachers in 2007.

