



Supplemental FY19 President's Budget Request Information

Department of Education

Title II

The budget proposes eliminating large elementary and secondary education programs and would make deep cuts to K-12 programs that support teaching in public schools, including Title II (supporting effective instruction state grants), currently funded at \$2.0 billion.

Institute of Education Sciences

The budget proposes \$521.56 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), which is \$83.7 million, or 14 percent below FY17.

The Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Grant Program, which supports states trying to develop data systems that track student achievement from kindergarten or preschool through high school graduation and into the workforce, would be eliminated. In addition, the budget proposes eliminating the Regional Education Laboratory Program, a network of 10 regional offices that partner with school districts and state education agencies to do research and offer technical assistance.

IES also houses the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The budget proposes to cut \$1 million from the board's budget, and \$3 million from the budget reserved for the administration of NAEP.

Risk-Sharing

The budget endorses the idea of evaluating colleges based on the rate at which their students repay their federal loans. The budget says that "some institutions consistently fail to deliver a quality education that enables students to successfully repay Federal student loans" and proposes requiring colleges to "share a portion of the financial risk associated with student loans" that's tied to loan repayment rates.

Pell for Short-Term Programs

The budget calls for expanding Pell "eligibility to high-quality short-term programs that provide students with a credential, certification, or license in an in-demand field, with sufficient guardrails in place to balance students' needs with protecting taxpayers' interests." The broadening of Pell, the budget projects, would cost \$401 million over 10 years, and the administration proposes to pay for it through a reallocation of mandatory spending on the program.

GEAR-UP and TRIO Programs

The budget proposes eliminating GEAR Up and would freeze TRIO funding but also transform the program from six competitive grant programs into one formula grant program. At the briefing on the budget, Department of Education staff said they will release legislative proposals for the changes sometime this spring, but they do not yet have it.

Title VI

The budget requests no funding for the Title VI Domestic Programs. This request reflects the Secretary's interest in refocusing the Department's role in supporting States and school districts while reducing or eliminating funding for programs that are duplicative, ineffective, or more appropriately supported with State, local, or private funds. The administration believes Federal agencies whose primary mission is national security are more appropriately equipped to support these activities, and as such proposes to eliminate these Title VI programs since it duplicates such efforts. However, under this request, the Department would phase out existing Domestic Program grantees over a period of time.

A number of Federal agencies offer programs that are similar and potentially duplicative of the Department's Title VI programs. These include:

- Department of Defense: *National Security Education Program (NSEP)* provides funds for undergraduate and graduate student study abroad in areas less commonly visited by U.S. students. *Language Flagship Grants* to Institutions of Higher Education and *Language Flagship Fellowships* supports undergraduate language flagship programs at Flagship Centers enabling students from all majors to work towards professional-level language proficiency in foreign languages.
- Central Intelligence Agency: *Undergraduate Scholarship Program* offers major-related career experience for undergraduate students, including foreign language majors. *Undergraduate/Graduate Co-Op Program* for undergraduate students pursuing degrees in a variety of liberal arts degree programs to work as Open Source Officers (OSO).

- United States Agency for International Development (USAID) supports academic involvement in international development projects, training in the U.S. for technical and professional personnel from developing countries, and linkages with universities in developing nations. There is also a significant private market presence for language learning programs, online tools, and integration programs.

Office for Civil Rights

The budget proposes funding the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at \$107.4 million, reflecting a decrease of \$1.4 million from FY17. Within OCR, it calls for funding 529 full time employees, a decrease of 40 employees or 8.6 percent, which the administration says it would cut through attrition. The office had 579 employees in September 2017 and 16 employees took buyout offers in 2017.

The buyouts were aimed at cutting outdated positions or those "for which certain skills were no longer utilized or required" and will help slash 40 spots in the office. The budget also says the administration plans to add 11 investigators by converting non-investigative positions "to ensure an appropriate balance of cases per staff." The administration projects investigators to handle 39 cases each.

The administration has also revised the manual for processing civil rights investigations to allow staff to move through them more quickly. As of March 31, 2017, the office had 3,696 cases pending more than 180 days, according to budget documents. With the revised manual in place, the administration expects that number to drop.

Workforce Reductions

The Trump administration proposes to reduce the number of political appointees in the Education Department from 150 to 100 to comply with the president's March 2017, executive order calling for a reorganization of the federal workforce.

Separately, a budget document noted that 69 employees in recent months accepted early buyout incentives. It said some of these employees may be replaced "but generally at lower grades and after a time lag to allow for fiscal year 2018 salary savings to materialize." Despite the cost reductions, the document cautions that "any additional workforce reductions must be considered carefully to ensure that effectiveness will not be compromised."

In FY16, during the Obama administration, there were 150 political appointee positions at the Department of Education. The Trump administration proposes to reduce that number by 50.