

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Funding Highlights:

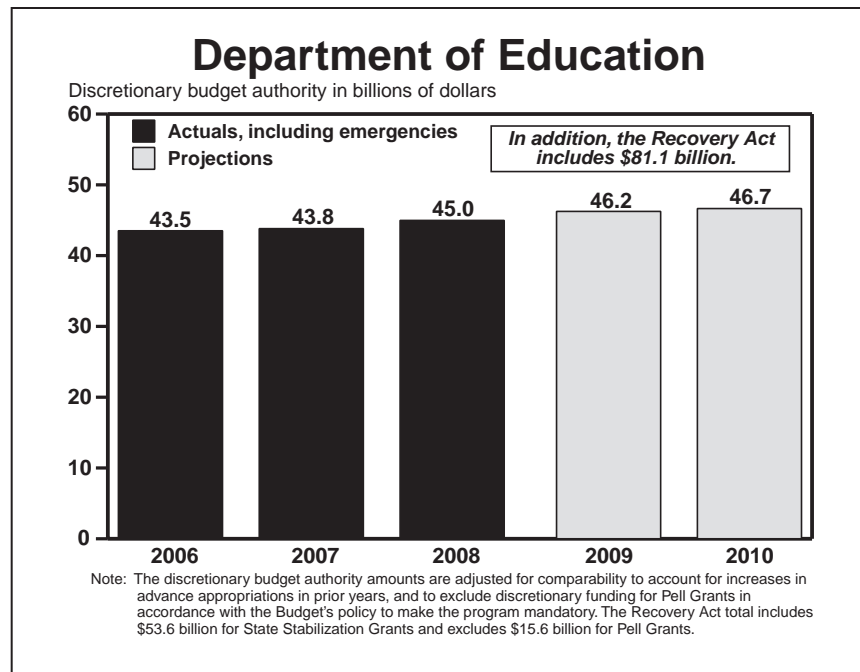
- Creates incentives and supports for States to build comprehensive, coordinated, high-quality early childhood “Zero to Five” systems, building on the early childhood investments in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- Strengthens and reforms public schools to meet the needs of all students, by helping States to develop high quality, rigorous standards and assessments, vigorously supporting and rewarding effective teaching, and investing in and widely disseminating effective approaches to improving student achievement to help all students make progress toward high standards.
- Expands opportunities for students to go to college and graduate by expanding student aid, shifting resources from banks and middlemen toward students, creating new incentives for colleges to focus on student completion, and expanding access to low-cost Federal student loans.

**Expands Access to High-Quality Early Childhood Education.** Decades of rigorous research demonstrates that high-quality early childhood education programs help children succeed in school and throughout their lives. Building on strong investments in the Recovery Act, the President’s Budget also includes new initiatives aimed at ensuring that early childhood programs yield strong results for children. The Budget invests additional resources to encourage State and local investment in early childhood education; support coordination among local, State, and Federal partners and a seamless delivery of services; and provide better information to parents about program options and quality.

**Supports High Standards and Rigorous Assessments Aligned with the Demands of the Global Economy.** Students must achieve to high standards in order to be successful in the global economy. Assessments must accu-

rately measure students’ knowledge and skills, including critical thinking skills. Building on the Recovery Act, the new Administration will help States increase the rigor of their standards so they prepare students for success in college and a career. Resources will also be available to improve the quality of assessments, including assessments for students with disabilities and English language learners. Such reforms will lay the groundwork for reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

**Prepares and Rewards Effective Teachers and Principals.** The Budget builds on the investments funded under the Recovery Act designed to significantly upgrade the skills and effectiveness of the education workforce. The Administration will invest in efforts to strengthen and increase transparency around results for teacher and principal preparation programs, including programs in schools of education, alternative certification programs,



and teacher and principal residency programs. The Budget supports additional investments in State and local efforts, developed in consultation with teachers and other stakeholders, to implement systems that reward strong teacher performance and help less effective teachers improve or, if they do not improve, exit the classroom. Resources are also included to develop better systems and strategies for recruiting, evaluating, and supporting teachers and other educators to provide a better supply and distribution of well-prepared and effective education workforce.

**Supports Innovative and Effective Strategies to Improve Achievement.** Through the Innovation Fund, the Administration will invest in school systems and non-profit organizations with demonstrated track records of success in raising student achievement to expand their work or implement new innovative approaches. The President's Budget also provides funds to support Promise Neighborhoods, a new effort to test innovative strategies to improve academic achievement and life outcomes in high-poverty areas. The program will be modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone, which aims to improve college-going rates by combining a rigorous K-12 education with a full network of support-

ive services—from early childhood education to after-school activities to college counseling—in an entire neighborhood from birth to college.

**Funds Education Research to Ensure that Teachers and School Leaders Have the Tools and Information They Need to Prepare Students for the Global Economy.** The Budget includes funds to carefully study, improve, and scale up promising educational innovations that focus on improving student learning and achievement. The additional funds will also be used to rigorously evaluate Federal education programs so that Federal investments are preparing students for success in college and the workforce.

**Promotes Successful Models for Turning Around Low-Achieving Schools.** The Budget builds on the Recovery Act's focus on strategic investments in scaling up educational practices that show results and cultivating promising new practices. The President's Budget commits resources to turn around high-need, low-performing schools with strong supports, not just sanctions. The Administration's new strategy will support State efforts to diagnose and address the root causes of schools' low performance. In addition, the Budget increases funding for the

Charter School program to support the expansion of successful charter school models, while increasing State oversight to monitor and shut down low-performing charter schools.

**Expands Pell Grants and Puts the Program on Sure Footing.** Because the Administration is committed to making college affordable for all Americans, the 2010 Budget builds on the Recovery Act by supporting a \$5,550 Pell Grant maximum award in the 2010-2011 school year. But it is not enough just to make Pell Grants more generous and to put on a short-term patch. Fourteen times since 1973, the maximum Pell Grant has failed to increase even in nominal dollars. To make sure that we have a highly-educated workforce and that the opportunity to go to college is not determined by how much money you have, we need to put the Pell Grant program on sure footing. The Administration will index Pell grants to the Consumer Price Index plus 1 percent in order to address inflation. In addition, the Administration proposes to make the Pell Grant program mandatory to ensure a regular stream of funding and eliminate the practice of “backfilling” billions of dollars in Pell shortfalls each year. Finally, while expanding student aid, the Administration will also simplify the student aid application process.

**Stabilizes the Student Loan Program for Students and Saves Billions of Dollars for Taxpayers.** Right now, the subsidies in the Government-guaranteed student loan

program are set by the Congress through the political process. That program has not only needlessly cost taxpayers billions of dollars, but has also subjected students to uncertainty because of turmoil in the financial markets. The President’s Budget asks the Congress to end the entitlements for financial institutions that lend to students. The Administration will instead take advantage of low-cost and stable sources of capital so students are ensured access to loans, while providing high-quality services for students by using competitive, private providers to service loans. The approach in the Budget, originating all new loans in the direct lending program, saves more than \$4 billion a year that is reinvested in aid to students. The Budget also makes campus-based, low-interest loans more widely available through a new modernized Perkins Loan program, overhauling the inefficient and inequitable current Perkins program.

**Focuses on College Completion.** It is not enough for the Nation to enroll more students in college; we also need to graduate more students from college. A few States and institutions have begun to experiment with these approaches, but there is much more they can do. The Budget includes a new five-year, \$2.5 billion Access and Completion Incentive Fund to support innovative State efforts to help low-income students succeed and complete their college education. The program will include a rigorous evaluation component to ensure that we learn from what works.