



DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

The Budget puts the Department of Education (ED), which has failed the Nation's children, teachers, and families, on a path to elimination. Nationally, approximately 70 percent of eighth-graders are below proficient in reading and math. These abysmal results demonstrate that Federal control of education is not working. America's future relies on empowered families and excellent educational opportunities for every child. To support this vision, the Budget consolidates and eliminates dozens of programs and focuses on improving academic achievement instead of promoting the divisive ideologies of Washington bureaucrats. The Budget advances efforts underway to dismantle the Federal education bureaucracy, including reducing ED's staff and transferring programs to other agencies that can deliver better results.

Thanks to the Working Families Tax Cut Act (WFTC), the Budget supports the American worker with the creation of Workforce Pell, an expansion of the Pell program, and lowers the cost of higher education. The Budget sends the Career and Technical Education programs to the Department of Labor (DOL) to better prepare workers for high-skill, in-demand jobs. The Budget also helps borrowers access new loan repayment options in the WFTC, providing a fair deal for taxpayers and stopping the abuses of colleges, which have used excess taxpayer funds to pay legions of radical administrators to stifle free speech, saddle students with untenable debt, enable antisemitism, and endanger female athletes.

The Budget requests \$76.5 billion in discretionary budget authority for ED for 2027, a \$2.3 billion or 2.9-percent decrease from the 2026 enacted level.

THE PRESIDENT'S 2027 BUDGET:

Investments

- **Title I and Make Education Great Again (MEGA) Grants.** The Budget provides \$18.4 billion for the existing Title I program, which targets Federal support to disadvantaged schools, and \$2 billion for a new program, MEGA grants, which supports the consolidation of the majority of the Department's elementary and secondary education grant programs. This amount maintains full support for Title I, which directs virtually all of its flexible funding to States and school districts for K-12 education and empowers them to make spending decisions based on the needs of the 26 million students they serve. The Budget's \$2 billion MEGA grants provide every State with additional funding to pursue locally-driven improvements in math and reading, and supports elementary and secondary education grant programs in accordance with its unique needs. This overhaul of grant-making eliminates the Department's ability to micromanage Federal

funds intended for local communities, improves efficiency, cuts red tape for school districts, and reduces the Federal footprint.

- **Special Education (+\$539 million).** The Budget provides nearly \$16 billion for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) programs that serve over eight million children with disabilities, including the unborn. The Budget proposes a \$489 million increase for the IDEA State Grants program, which maintains the 2026 Budget proposal to incorporate six smaller IDEA programs, reducing the administrative burden on States so more dollars go to students instead of bureaucrats. The Budget also reduces paperwork burdens on special educators so they can focus their time on serving students, while maintaining students' and parents' rights under IDEA. The Budget provides a \$50 million increase to the IDEA Grants for Infants and Families program to ensure young children with developmental delays receive the support they need to thrive as early as possible and that expectant parents understand the range of services available to support them and their unborn children. In addition, the Budget proposes increased flexibility for States to streamline the enrollment process for expectant parents who are likely to have a child with a disability.
- **Education Freedom for Parents and Students.** Parents should be empowered to choose the school setting that is best for their children. The WFTC established a new tax credit that States can use to expand educational options for millions of children nationwide. The Budget promotes even more high-quality school choice options by investing \$500 million to expand the number of charter schools, which have a proven track record of improving students' academic achievement.
- **Workforce Pell.** The WFTC made historic changes to the Federal Pell Grant program to expand eligibility to high-quality, short-term programs that prepare students for in-demand jobs more quickly and cheaply than traditional college degrees. In addition, the Administration will continue to partner with employers to ensure that Workforce Pell and post-secondary education funding provides students with the skills needed by American businesses by sending the Career and Technical Education program to DOL.
- **Federal Pell Grants (+\$10.5 billion).** The Budget provides \$33 billion for Federal Pell Grants, which provide grants to low-income students to obtain a post-secondary education. This increase addresses the congressionally-created funding shortfall while maintaining the discretionary maximum award of \$6,335.

Program Cuts and Eliminations

- **K-12 Program Eliminations and Consolidations (-\$8.5 billion).** Despite the billions of dollars that the Federal Government invests in K-12 education annually, America's education system continues to fail students. Similar to the 2026 Budget, the Budget takes action to address the alarming decline in student proficiency rates by eliminating bureaucratic interference from the Department and returning education authority to the States with the consolidation or elimination of over two dozen elementary and secondary education grant programs. Seventeen programs, totaling \$6.5 billion, are consolidated into the MEGA grants program, allowing States to fund those activities based on their needs without Federal prescription. Twelve other programs, totaling \$2.1 billion, are eliminated to reduce the Federal role in education and curb unnecessary or ineffective investments, including:
 - *Teacher Quality Partnership (-\$70 million)*, which the Budget proposes to eliminate for the sixth time as past grantees have spent taxpayer funds to train teachers and education agencies on divisive ideologies. Examples include:
 - Training materials covering inappropriate and divisive topics such as Critical Race Theory, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), social justice activism, and "anti-racism";

- Teacher and staff recruiting strategies implicitly and explicitly based on race; and
- Requirements for educators to acknowledge and take personal responsibility for racism.
- *Training and Advisory Services—Equity Assistance Centers* (–\$7 million), since funds in the past have been weaponized to force local districts to implement Washington-directed DEI practices against their will. Examples of weaponized grant programming include:
 - Equity audits for districts to assess racism and bias;
 - Training materials for educators on white supremacy; and
 - “Anti-Racism Committee” groups for districts.
- *Comprehensive Centers* (–\$50 million), since previous grants purported to provide technical assistance but instead forced radical agendas onto States, including race-based discrimination and gender identity ideology. Examples include:
 - Training videos for teachers to resist the “settler patriarchy”; and
 - Research papers claiming that there are too many white students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- *Migrant Education and Special Programs for Migrant Students* (–\$428 million), which have subsidized the open border crises by incentivizing more aliens to come here, at the expense of American children and workers. Funds have also supported woke activities, including:
 - An LGBT youth summit for migrant students;
 - Initiatives such as “We Glimmer” for LGBTQ+ aliens, and “Therapy for Latinx”; and
 - “Coping with DACA-related Stress,” which encouraged aliens to avoid encounters with law enforcement.
- *English Language Acquisition* (–\$890 million). To end overreach from Washington and restore the rightful role of State oversight in education, the Budget proposes to eliminate the misnamed English Language Acquisition program, which actually deemphasizes English primacy by funding non-governmental organizations and States to encourage bilingualism. The historically low reading scores for all students mean States and communities need to unite—not divide—classrooms using evidence-based literacy instruction materials to improve outcomes for all students. Examples of waste include:
 - The Biden Administration used the program to fund educating illegal aliens and promote divisive ideological indoctrination in the classroom;
 - A “newcomer toolkit” that describes illegal immigration as a “healthy contribution to democracy” was shared with school districts for illegal students entering schools; and
 - New York Public Schools used these funds to promote illegal immigrant advocacy organizations.
- **Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) (–\$1.5 billion).** The Budget builds off of the success of the previously implemented partnership between ED and DOL and transfers career and technical education to DOL while also eliminating Adult Education, which has inappropriately incentivized illegal immigration. Through the partnership, DOL would take the lead on workforce development programs and States would no longer need to consult multiple agencies to effectively manage their programs. Transferring OCTAE to DOL helps fulfill the President’s promise to return education to the States, breaks up Federal bureaucracy, and reduces administrative burden on States and the workforce development system so they can focus on helping Americans enter the workforce.

- **Higher Education Program Eliminations (-\$2.7 billion).** ED spends billions of dollars annually on programs at colleges and universities that do not benefit students or taxpayers. The Budget builds on previous budget requests and actions taken in 2025 to restore the responsibility of students to choose their own path toward a postsecondary credential, restores the rightful role and responsibility of State oversight in and support of higher education, and eliminates unconstitutional programs. Examples include:
 - *Minority-Serving Institutions Programs (-\$354 million)*, which the Department of Justice declined to defend in a recent lawsuit, and determined on December 2, 2025, are unconstitutional, because these programs discriminate by conferring Government benefits exclusively to institutions that meet racial or ethnic quotas. This builds on ED's actions in 2025 to reprogram funding for these programs into institutions of higher education that have a demonstrated record of expanding higher education access such as Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Tribally-Controlled Colleges and Universities.
 - *Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) (-\$136 million)*. States and institutions of higher education should be responsible for funding innovations in higher education, not the Federal Government. Further, the Congress has abused these funds by directing them to fund initiatives unrelated to students or institutional reforms, including:
 - Earmarking \$1.2 million for San Diego Community College's LGBTQIA+ Pride Center staffing; and
 - Earmarking \$30 million for the University of Vermont's Honor College Endowment.
 - *International and Foreign Language Education (-\$81 million)*, which builds on 2025 action to reprogram this funding to other activities. These programs have funded woke and wasteful projects, including:
 - A dissertation to research transgender surgeries in Taiwan; and
 - A dissertation on Queer and Transgender Community Building in Czechia and Slovakia. 🦅