

Guide

to

U.S. Department of
Education Programs

Guide

to

U.S. Department of Education Programs

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Secretary of Education

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Director

EDITORIAL POLICY, PUBLICATIONS AND PRINTING BRANCH

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Chief

AUGUST 2003

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A Message from the Secretary

This reference guide is designed to explain the U.S. Department of Education's programs and resources for fiscal year 2003. You will find information on financial assistance offered to state and local education agencies, institutions of higher education, postsecondary and vocational institutions, public and private nonprofit organizations and individuals. There is information here for students, teachers, administrators, researchers and policymakers.

President George W. Bush made education reform one of his first priorities, and we at the U.S. Department of Education are helping to make sure that no child is left behind in these efforts. We are working with members of Congress, state and local leaders, teachers and administrators to empower states, school districts, schools and parents to best meet the needs of our students.

Accountability, local control and flexibility, new options for parents, and record funding for what works are now the cornerstones of our education system. If your child isn't learning, you'll know why. If your school isn't performing, you'll have new options and the school will receive additional help. Our commitment to you, and to all Americans, is to see every child in America—regardless of ethnicity, income or background—meet high standards.

I hope that the information presented here will help you understand this Department and how its programs, services, and resources support our goal of providing every child in this country with access to a quality education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Paige". The signature is stylized and appears to be written on a light-colored background with some faint speckling.

Rod Paige

Secretary of Education

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Acknowledgments

What a task it is to compile current, accurate descriptions of the Department of Education's programs, and this *Guide* represents a team effort by hundreds of employees from all the principal offices of the Department. Thanks to our contributing editors for fiscal year 2003, who were: Jacquelyn Butler, Anthony Jones, and Tamela Terry, Federal Student Aid; Tom Brown, Institute of Education Sciences; Edna Carter, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; Francine Luckey-West, Office of English Language Acquisition; Liza Araujo, Office of Innovation and Improvement; Dolly Stevenson, Office of Postsecondary Education; Bryan Williams, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools; Elizabeth McCulley, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; and Carolyn Lee and Rebecca Moak, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. Thanks to reviewers Kamina Pinder and Patricia Belton, Office of the General Counsel; Elnora Walker, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs; and Jan Solomon, Budget Service, Office of the Deputy Secretary. Thanks once again for excellent technical support from: Steven Corey-Bey, Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), and Lin Wallberg, Lotus Notes expert and contractor, OCIO. Finally, thanks to my branch chief, Beverley Blondell, Office of Public Affairs, for organizing our team and making sure that this project succeeded.

Edward Ohnemus
Team Leader, Office of Public Affairs

Introduction

The *Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs and Resources*, commonly referred to as the *Guide to ED Programs*, describes programs authorized and funded under federal law as well as any applicable competitions made possible by these programs. It includes information on funding for laboratories, centers and other facilities that provide important resources for education.

Nine principal offices in the Department are responsible for program administration. Each office is responsible for overseeing a portion of the programs established by Congress and administered by the Department. These principal offices are:

- Federal Student Aid (FSA).
- Institute of Education Sciences (IES).
- Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE).
- Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA).
- Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII).
- Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE).
- Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS).
- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).
- Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE).

Printed copies of the *Guide to ED Programs* are companions to the Department's Web site (<http://web99.ed.gov/GTEP/Program2.nsf>), which is updated regularly by ED employees. The *Guide's* Web site allows you to perform searches by key words, administering office, *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* (CFDA) number, education level, subject index terms, topical headings, type of assistance, and type of applicant ("Who May Apply").

Most of the programs in the *Guide* received FY 2003 appropriations. Some of the programs listed here have no new competitions but are still disbursing continuation funds from previous years. In addition, the *Guide's* Web site contains an archive of past programs that have not been funded for three years or more by the Department.

The *Guide's* Web page resides within the larger Department of Education Web site, which may be found at: www.ed.gov. These sites are accessible to computer users with disabilities.

Entries in the *Guide*

Each entry in this guide is listed under a broad topical heading, which is keyed to the table of contents found on page vii of the 2003 printed *Guide*. The Department's administering office comes next, along with the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* (CFDA) number assigned to the program by the U.S. General Services Administration—see the CFDA Web site at: <http://www.cfda.gov/>. Most Education Department programs begin with the number "84." CFDA numbers that begin with other prefixes usually refer to programs in which two or more federal agencies are involved. Programs in this guide, which do not have CFDA numbers assigned to them, are listed as "No CFDA."

After the program title, information is provided about which applicants are eligible to apply to each program. Next comes information on current competitions and the types of assistance available. Funding levels for FY 2003 and the previous two fiscal years follow next, along with information about new awards in FY 2003.

The next section gives detailed information on each program, including the program's legislative citation and program regulations. For major pieces of legislation, unless otherwise noted, the words "*as amended*" in italics refer to the most recent reauthorization of the law for the relevant citation. For example, the most recent amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, is the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001, so when the *Guide* simply uses the words "*as*

amended,” it refers to NCLB. In cases where a program is authorized by a previous amendment, the citation will specify. For example, for an ESEA program authorized by the Improving America Schools Act of 1994 (IASA), the citation reads “*as amended* by the IASA.” Other major pieces of legislation and their most recent amendments include: the Higher Education Act of 1965, most recently amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1998; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA, most recently amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997; and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, most recently amended by Title IV of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The Department’s general administrative regulations, referred to as “EDGAR,” generally apply to discretionary and competitive grants whether or not EDGAR is indicated in the program regulations field. The same is true for the government-wide Federal Acquisition Regulation, FAR, for contracts.

Under several education laws, states, school districts, and other educators now have greater flexibility in how they may use federal program funds to support state and local school improvement efforts. Flexibility initiatives, such as Ed-Flex, waivers, and other forms of flexibility including schoolwide programs, and certain provisions in ESEA’s Title IX as reauthorized by NCLB, offer states, school districts, and others an opportunity to adapt federal programs in ways that best educate children and improve teaching and learning. Please visit: www.ed.gov/flexibility for more information on flexibility and waivers.

The next section of each entry gives a brief description of the program’s purpose and information about the types of projects supported by it. Education levels are specified for programs as are subject index terms. These latter terms are explained more in the subject index at the back of the book. Finally, at the end of each entry, the Department has provided the most up-to-date contact information for each program, along with a list of related Web sites.

Other Notice of Grants and Contracts

Notices of all competitions for Education Department discretionary and competitive grants are published in the *Federal Register*, which is published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration (see: www.archives.gov/federal_register/). You also may access *Federal Register* documents specific only to the Education Department at <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister>. Readers interested in the Department’s discretionary grants should refer frequently to the “Forecast of Funding Opportunities under ED’s Discretionary Grant Programs” at: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCFO/grants/forecast.html>.

Information on Education Department contracts may be found on the ED Web site at: www.ed.gov/offices/OCFO/contracts.html. As of Jan. 2, 2002, requests for proposals (RFPs) for ED procurement opportunities exceeding \$25,000, which were previously announced in the *Commerce Business Daily*, are now advertised on the Federal Business Opportunities Web site at: www.fedbizopps.gov/. This Web publication was designated in the Federal Acquisition Regulation to provide universal public access on the Internet to government-wide federal procurement opportunities (see 66 *Federal Register* 27407, May 16, 2001).

Guide to ED Programs Web Site
<http://web99.ed.gov/GTEP/Program2.nsf>

Please Note: The programs listed in this guide were accurate as of the publication date; however, the Department of Education’s program data and contact information are periodically updated. Please refer to the *Guide’s* Web site for the most up-to-date information.

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