

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

Resource Summary

	Budget Authority (in Millions)		
	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
	Final	Enacted	Request
Drug Resources by Function			
Prevention	\$429.840	\$431.744	\$238.608
Total Drug Resources by Function	\$429.840	\$431.744	\$238.608
Drug Resources by Decision Unit			
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities			
National Programs	\$135.081	\$136.985	\$238.608
<i>Changing School Culture and Climate (non-add)</i>	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$100.000
<i>Safe Schools/Healthy Students (non-add)</i>	\$77.556	\$77.816	\$77.816
<i>Alcohol Abuse Reduction (non-add)</i>	\$32.423	\$32.712	\$32.712
State Grant Program	294.759	294.759	0.000
Total Drug Resources by Decision Unit	\$429.840	\$431.744	\$238.608

Drug Resources Personnel Summary			
Total FTEs (direct only)	0	0	0
Drug Resources as a Percent of Budget			
Total Agency Budget (in billions)	\$59.2	\$62.6	\$46.7
Drug Resources Percentage	0.73%	0.69%	0.51%

Program Summary

Mission

The Department of Education (Education) administers programs to help ensure that all students can meet challenging standards and to improve elementary and secondary education; special education and early intervention programs for children with disabilities; English language acquisition for limited English proficient and immigrant children; career, technical, and adult education; and higher education. In addition,

Education carries out research, data collection, and civil rights enforcement activities. The programs funded under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) Act comprise the only Education operations included in the drug control budget.

The SDFSC program provides funding for programs and strategies to prevent drug use and violence and to promote the health and well being of students in elementary and secondary schools and in institutions of higher education

(IHEs). The program supports the Administration's prevention efforts.

Budget

In FY 2010, Education requests \$238.608 million for drug control activities, which is a decrease of \$191.856 million from the FY 2009 level.

National Programs

Total FY 2010 Request: \$238.6 million

(Reflects \$101.6 million increase from FY 2009)

SDFSC National Programs fund a variety of drug and violence prevention activities, primarily through grants to local educational agencies (LEAs), to help support schools in fostering safe, secure, and drug-free learning environments for students. Examples include approaches designed to change school culture and climate and thereby improve character and discipline and reduce drug use, crime, and violence; comprehensive, community-wide "Safe Schools/Healthy Students" drug and violence prevention projects; and projects in secondary schools to prevent under-age drinking. These are explained more fully below. SDFSC National Programs also authorizes (1) mentoring programs; (2) Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence), a crisis response program that provides education-related services to LEAs and IHEs in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis; and (3) school emergency preparedness initiatives. However, since these programs have no clear drug control nexus, funds for these three activities are not included in the drug control budget.

Improving School Culture and Climate

FY 2010 Request: \$100.0 million

(Reflects \$100.0 million increase from FY 2009)

The FY 2010 request for SDFSC National Programs includes \$100.0 million for a major new initiative to support new approaches to assisting schools in fostering a safe, secure, and drug-free learning environment, particularly by using approaches designed to change school culture and climate. Under this initiative the Department would hold a grant competition with two separate funding

priorities.

Eligible applicants for the first priority would be (1) LEAs, or (2) IHEs, community-based organizations, or other private non-profit entities, in partnership with LEAs. Applicants for this priority could propose a range of activities, including new and innovative ways for dealing with truants or with other problem behaviors, including alcohol and other drug use; training teachers to deal more effectively with disruptive behavior at the classroom level; and forging partnerships between schools, law enforcement, juvenile justice, community colleges, and community-based groups (including faith-based organizations) to provide a comprehensive, cross-system approach to addressing these problems.

Eligible applicants for the second priority would be LEAs. Applicants for this priority could also propose a range of activities, including developing and participating in community-wide partnerships or task forces with law enforcement, juvenile justice, or other agencies that focus on preventing serious violent crime (including gang activity and drug-related crime); and implementing prevention and early intervention programs that target serious violent crime, including the sale and distribution of illicit substances.

FY 2010 Total Changes (+\$100.0 million):

The President's Budget proposes an increase of \$100.0 million to launch this program. The amount requested will support an estimated 400 grant awards.

Safe Schools/Healthy Students

FY 2010 Request: \$77.8 million
(Reflects no change from FY 2009)

The FY 2009 resources of \$77.8 million will allow the Safe Schools/Healthy Students program to continue to support LEAs and communities in developing and implementing a comprehensive set of programs and services designed to prevent youth drug use and violence, support early childhood development activities, and provide needed student mental health services. Education funds this initiative jointly with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and administers it in collaboration with both HHS and the Department of Justice.

To be eligible for Safe Schools/Healthy Students funding, an LEA must demonstrate agreement in the form of a partnership among the major community systems serving students – schools, the local public mental health authority, law enforcement, and juvenile justice – to work collaboratively in assessing needs and providing programs and services in the following five areas: (1) safe school environments and violence prevention; (2) alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention; (3) student behavioral, social, and emotional supports; (4) mental health services; and (5) early childhood social and emotional learning programs.

The President's Budget does not propose any changes for this program. The FY 2010 request will support continuation grant awards to an estimated 115 grantees.

Alcohol Abuse Reduction

FY 2010 Request: \$32.7 million
(Reflects no change from FY 2009)

Under this program, the Department, in consultation with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in HHS, awards competitive grants to LEAs to develop and implement innovative and effective programs to reduce alcohol abuse in secondary schools. The Department may reserve up to 20 percent of the appropriation to enable SAMHSA to provide alcohol

abuse resources and start-up assistance to the LEAs receiving these grants. The Department may also reserve up to 25 percent of the funds to award program grants to low-income and rural LEAs. As a condition of funding, all grantees are required to implement one or more strategies for reducing under-age alcohol abuse that SAMHSA has determined are effective.

The President's Budget does not propose any changes for this program. The FY 2010 request will support new and continuation grant awards, along with technical assistance from SAMHSA, to assist approximately 95 LEAs in developing and implementing innovative and effective programs to reduce alcohol abuse in secondary schools.

Other Activities

FY 2010 Request: \$28.1 million
(Reflects \$1.6 million increase from FY 2009)

FY 2009 funding of \$26.4 million includes: \$7.9 million for school-based drug testing programs for students, \$2.5 million for Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking ("STOP") grants to support statewide coalitions and other activities designed to prevent and reduce the rate of under-age alcohol consumption (including binge drinking) among students at IHEs; \$6.0 million for additional financial and technical assistance to IHEs for drug prevention and campus safety programs; and \$10 million for other activities that support and improve drug and violence prevention efforts, such as evaluation, data collection and analysis, development and dissemination of materials and information, and other forms of technical assistance.

FY 2010 Total Changes (+\$1.6 million): A \$0.5 million decrease reflects the final year of continuation costs for student drug testing projects. No funds are requested for STOP grants (a \$2.5 million reduction), but a \$2 million increase is proposed for campus-based drug and violence prevention programs serving

students at IHEs, including grants to reduce high-risk drinking among that population. A \$2.2 million increase is provided for other activities.

State Grant Programs

Total FY 2010 Request: \$0 million

(Reflects \$294.8 million decrease from FY 2009)

SDFSC State Grants program funds are allocated by formula to states and territories, half on the basis of school-aged population and half on the basis of each state's share of the prior-year's federal funding for "Concentration Grants to LEAs for improving the academic achievement of disadvantaged students" under section 1124A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Generally, Governors receive 20 percent and State Educational Agencies (SEAs) 80 percent of each state's allocation. Governors may use funds to award competitive grants and contracts to LEAs, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations for activities to provide safe, orderly, and drug-free schools and communities through programs and activities that complement and support activities of LEAs. SEAs are required to sub grant at least 93 percent of allocations to LEAs – sub grants are based 60 percent on LEA shares of prior-year funding under Part A, of Title I of the ESEA and 40 percent on enrollment. LEAs may use SDFSC State Grants funds for a variety of activities that seek to prevent or reduce violence and delinquency and the use, possession, and distribution of illegal drugs in schools. The FY 2009 appropriation for SDFSC State Grants is \$294.8 million.

FY 2010 Total Changes (-\$294.8 million): The President's FY 2010 Budget proposes to terminate funding for SDFSC State Grants because the program has not demonstrated effectiveness and grant funds are spread too thinly to support quality interventions. The Administration proposes instead to redirect some of the program's funds to provide an increase for SDFSC National Programs to promote positive and safe learning environments by providing direct support, in amounts sufficient to make a

real difference, for targeted school safety and drug prevention and education activities that are structured in a manner that permits grantees and independent evaluators to measure progress and add to the national knowledge base on program effectiveness and best practices.

Performance

Introduction

This section on the FY 2008 performance of the SDFSC program is based largely on agency GPRA documents and the OMB review. The table includes performance measures, targets, and achievements for the latest year for which data are available. The 2006 OMB program assessment rated the State Grants program as "Results not Demonstrated."

For the SDFSC National Programs grant competitions, the Department has identified outcome measures and targets; however, 2008 grantee data have not yet been compiled for all of the measures.

Department of Education			
Selected Measures of Performance (State Grants)		FY 2007 Target	FY 2007 Achieved
» Percent student offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during past 12 months*		27.0	22.3
» Percent students who used marijuana one or more times during past 30 days*		19.0	19.7
» Percent students in grades 9-12 who had five or more alcoholic drinks in a row (within a couple of hours) one or more times during past 30		26.0	26.0
		FY 2005 Target	FY 2005 Achieved
» Percent drug and violence prevention programs/practices supported with SDFSC State Grant funds, that are research-based†		‡	7.8
» Percentage of SDFSC-funded research-based drug and violence prevention curriculum programs, implemented with fidelity†		‡	44.3
Selected Measures of Performance (National Grants)		FY 2008 Target	FY 2008 Achieved
» Percent Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees whose target students show measurable decrease in binge	2005 cohort	75	¥
	2007 cohort	◆	61.5
» Percent Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees showing measurable increase in percent of target students who believe alcohol abuse is harmful to their health	2005 cohort	80	¥
	2007 cohort	◆	69.2
» Percent Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees that show measurable increase in percent of target students who disapprove of alcohol abuse	2005 cohort	87	¥
	2007 cohort	◆	69.2
» Percent of Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant sites that experience decrease in substance use during the 3-year grant period	2004 cohort	90	§
	2005 cohort	86.25	◆
	2006 cohort	◆	66.7
» Percent of Student Drug Testing grantees experiencing 5% annual reduction in <i>past-month</i> drug use by students in target population served by grants	2005 cohort	50	¥
	2006 cohort	50	66.7
	2007 cohort	33	§
» Percent of Student Drug Testing grantees experiencing 5% annual reduction in <i>past-year</i> drug use by student in target population served by grants	2005 cohort	50	¥
	2006 cohort	50	55.5
	2007 cohort	33	§

* YBRS data available only biennially

† Data being collected periodically, next in 2009

‡ Target not established since measurement began in 2005

¥ 2008 data expected in 2010

◆ Target not established since two years of performance data are needed to establish the baseline for this cohort

§ 2008 data expected in 2009

Note: Measures for the SDFSC State Grant Program are largely based on national surveys. Measures for the SDFSC National Programs are based on analysis of grantee performance reports.

Discussion

The Safe Schools/Healthy Students initiative provides support to LEAs to implement a comprehensive plan to create safe, disciplined, and drug-free environments that provide needed mental health services and support healthy development. Grantees collect and report data concerning rates of student drug use as one of the initiative's GPRA measures. Nearly 80 percent of sites in the 2006 grant cohort reported 2008 data for this GPRA measure and of those, two-thirds reported a reduction in student drug use.

The first evaluation of this program focused on the fiscal year 1999, 2000, and 2001 cohorts supported under the initiative, a total of 97 sites. Data from this evaluation identify statistically significant improvements in student outcomes related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. For example, student self-report data for high school students reflected decreases in 30-day alcohol and tobacco use and cigarette sales on school property; it reflected increases in perceived disapproval of peer substance use. Current alcohol use was down 10 percent, and current tobacco use declined 13 percent. A second evaluation, focusing on fiscal year 2005, 2006, and 2007 cohorts, is expected to provide data later in 2009.

The School-Based Student Drug Testing program provides grants to local educational agencies and other entities to support development, implementation, or expansion of school-based student drug testing programs. The drug testing funded by these grants must be part of a comprehensive drug prevention program in the schools served by the grant and must provide for the referral to treatment or counseling of students identified as drug users. The projects supported must also be consistent with recent Supreme Court decisions regarding student drug testing and ensure the confidentiality of testing results. GPRA data for the 2006 cohort of grantees indicate that between 2007 and 2008, 67 percent of grantees achieved a reduction of at least 5

percent in past-month drug use by students and that, during this same period, more than half of grantees reported they achieved a reduction of at least 5 percent in past-year drug use by students.

The Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse program provides funds to LEAs to support the implementation of proven strategies designed to reduce the use and abuse of alcohol by secondary school students. Results for the 2007 cohort of grantees reported in 2008 annual performance reports reflect significant success. More than 60 percent of grantees cite measurable decreases in student binge drinking after just one year of project implementation. Also among the 2007 cohort, an increased number of students in nearly 70 percent of grant sites believed that alcohol abuse was harmful to their health, and disapproved of alcohol abuse.

While this cohort-level data reflects strong 2008 performance by 2007 grantees, individual sites also achieved meaningful improvements. For example, the Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative site reported a six percent decrease in students who reported binge drinking, as well as an increase of nine percent in the number of students who disapproved of alcohol abuse, and more than ten percent in the number of students who believed that alcohol abuse is harmful to their health.

The Grants to Prevent to High-Risk Drinking among College Students competition provides funds to institutions of higher education or other eligible entities to prevent binge drinking by college students. The Department established as the GPRA measure for these grants, the percentage of grantees operating for two years that report a 5 percent decrease in high-risk drinking among students served. Grantees from the FY 2005 cohort have completed their projects and reported baseline and project-end data to the Department indicating that 81 percent of grantees experienced a 5 percent decrease in high-risk drinking.