

Title I and IDEA Special Education Would Receive Funding Increases in FY 2008, if the President Signs the Current Omnibus Bill

A Technology Monitoring and Information Service (TechMIS)
SPECIAL REPORT

Prepared by:
Education TURNKEY Systems, Inc.
256 North Washington Street
Falls Church, Virginia 22046-4549
(703) 536-2310 / (703) 536-3225 FAX

December 20, 2007

As we suggested in our November 13th Special Report, Title I would receive the largest increase in FY 2008 funding, followed by a moderate increase in IDEA funding if the President signs the current FY 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. Slightly over \$1.2 billion would be allocated under the “targeted” and “incentive” components of the Title I formula which will benefit mostly large and urban districts with the largest numbers and percentages of poverty students. The new (in 2007) school improvement grants would increase from \$125 million to almost \$500 million which would be provided to SEAs for reallocation to districts which have large numbers of schools in “corrective action” or “restructuring.” IDEA would receive an additional \$250 million with an increasing percentage of IDEA funds being used by districts to provide early intervening services/response-to-intervention services for students at risk of failing or of being inappropriately placed in special education programs. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers after-school program would receive an additional \$100 million; 40 percent of any district’s increase would be used to provide services in middle and high schools.

The President’s flagship program, Reading First, funded at over \$1 billion this year, would be cut to slightly under \$400 million because of USED mismanagement and other issues not related to the apparent success of the program in improving student reading scores. Such a serious cut would reduce purchases by Reading First programs. However, the large increase in Title I funding could accelerate the adoption of Reading First approaches, supplemental interventions, and diagnostic assessments by non-Reading First schools and districts, a trend which, according to the recent Center on Education Policy report (see December Washington Update), has increased over the last year.

While none of the new initiatives proposed by the White House -- including Math Now -- received any funding, , most of the other programs such as State Technology Grants (Title IID), English Language Acquisition (Title III), or Smaller Learning Communities received slight increases or reductions. At this writing, the House has passed the Omnibus bill and certain amendments are likely to pass in the Senate before they are sent to the President to either sign or veto. Not only should the above numbers be considered very preliminary, but also the language in the Omnibus Bill, which will likely be

modified throughout the passage process, has to be analyzed to understand Congressional intent. Once final action occurs, likely to occur shortly after the first of the year, we will provide an update.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FUNDS AVAILABLE TO
PURCHASE TECHNOLOGY-BASED
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

(millions of dollars)

	FY2006	FY2007 Joint Resolution	FY2008 Omnibus Bill
Title I (Total)	14,481	14,726	15,618
Total LEA Grants (Part A)	12,713	12,838	14,028
Basic	6,808	6,808	6,727
Concentration	1,365	1,365	1,365
Targeted Grants	2,270	2,332	2,968
Finance Incentive Grants	2,270	2,332	2,968
Migrant	387	387	380
Even Start	99	82	66
Reading First/Early Reading First	1,132	1,029	506
Striving Readers	30	32	35
School Improvement Grants	--	125	491
State Innovation Grants(Title V A)	99	99	---
Improving Teacher Quality(Title II A)	2,887	2,887	2,960
English Acquisition	669	669	700
Math Science Partnerships	182	182	179
Advanced Placement	32	37	44
Teacher Incentive Fund	99	*	97
Technology State Grants(Title II D)	272	272	267
Special Education (EHA/IDEA)	10,600	10,783	11,042
Adult Education	580	564	554
Vocational/Technical	1,296	1,182	1,175
Safe & Drug-Free Schools and Communities State Grants	347	347	295
21st Century Community Learning Centers	981	981	1,081
College Mentoring (GEAR-UP)	303	303	303
HEA TRIO Program	828	828	828

* reduced to \$200,000 in FY 2007

© Education TURNKEY Systems, Inc., 2007. Reproduction in whole or in part in any form is prohibited without credit to Education TURNKEY Systems, Inc.