

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS SUPPORT A ROBUST FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION



#PrincipalsAdvocate

There should be no room for debate when it comes to investing in our children and supporting the nation's teachers and school leaders. When surveyed in February 2013 by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 90 percent of the national public stated that they oppose decreased funding for education programs, while 60 percent want to increase spending. Increased funding for education has more support from the American people than increased funding for 18 other areas of the federal budget, including defense, Medicare, health programs, Social Security, and veterans' benefits.

PROGRAMS UNDER THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

TITLE I GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES:

- Provide formula grants to states and, in turn, to districts to help disadvantaged children achieve proficiency on challenging academic standards.
- Received \$15.76 billion in FY 2018, but Title I grants have been reduced since FY 2012, hurting the neediest students and school districts.

The Trump administration's budget for FY 2019 proposes flat funding Title I at \$15.46 billion, but also encourages districts to make the funding "portable" and follow the child to the public school of his or her choice. This would have drastic, negative impacts on public schools that educate low-income students.

NASSP urges Congress to prioritize Title I formula grants for increases in FY 2019 over competitive grant programs and to reject all Title I portability proposals.

TITLE II, PART A:

- Provides formula grants to states to increase academic achievement by improving teacher and principal quality.
- Helps districts and schools invest in principal residencies, job-embedded and cohort-based professional learning, and mentorship opportunities for aspiring principals.
- Was funded at \$2.1 billion for FY 2018, the same amount it received in FY 2017.

There is a growing need for professional development for principals, assistant principals, and other school leaders to build their capacity to implement a wave of new initiatives aimed at school improvement. President Trump has proposed eliminating funding for Title II, Part A in his FY 2019 budget.

NASSP urges Congress to fund Title II, Part A, at no less than the ESSA authorized level of \$2.295 billion for FY 2019.

THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT AND SUPPORT PROGRAM (FOUND IN TITLE II, PART B):

- Was previously known as the School Leadership Program, which NASSP worked with Congress to create in 2001.
- Focuses on recruiting, mentoring, and training principals and assistant principals to serve in high-need schools.
- Funding for this program was eliminated in both the House and Senate FY 2018 budgets.

Research has shown that effective school leadership is one of the most important influences on student achievement, second only to instruction.

NASSP calls on Congress to recognize the important role of school leaders in student achievement and provide no less than \$15 million in FY 2019 for the recruitment, training, and development of effective principals.

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COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY STATE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (FOUND IN TITLE II, PART B):

- Help advance literacy skills for students from birth through grade 12, including limited-English-proficient students and students with disabilities.
- Previously included the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Program, which has transitioned to the newly enacted Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN) Act.
- Received \$190 million in FY 2018, the same amount it received in FY 2017.

Forty-six states have completed their plans for comprehensive literacy programming, with 11 having received awards to implement them: Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, New Mexico, Ohio, and Oklahoma. The Bureau of Indian Education was awarded a grant as well.

NASSP urges Congress to provide \$200 million to maintain a dedicated federal funding stream for literacy programming to continue the important work that 46 states are already doing.

TITLE IV, PART A, STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT GRANTS:

ESSA included a flexible block grant program under Title IV, Part A, authorized at \$1.65 billion annually. Unfortunately, this grant program received only \$1.1 billion in FY 2018. This grant authorizes activities in three broad areas:

- Providing students with a well-rounded education, including music, the arts, social studies, and computer science.
- Supporting safe and healthy students.
- Supporting the effective use of technology.

NASSP urges Congress to fund the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants at the authorized level of \$1.65 billion in FY 2019. Under this grant, each state will receive an allocation based on the Title I funding formula. NASSP also urges members to oppose any initiative that would permit the use of these funds to arm educators.

OTHER GRANT PROGRAMS

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA) STATE GRANTS:

- Assist state and local educational agencies in educating children with disabilities.
- Support implementing, expanding, and improving access to high-quality special education.
- Received \$12.3 billion in FY 2018.

NASSP urges Congress to make annual incremental increases to federal funding for special education to ultimately fulfill its promise to fund 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure for students receiving IDEA services. NASSP also urges Congress to pass the IDEA Full Funding Act (S.2542/H.R. 2902).

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) STATE GRANTS:

- Provide support for states and communities to implement high-quality CTE programs to meet the demands of the 21st century economy and workforce.
- Received \$1.19 billion in FY 2018.

According to the U.S. Department of Education's statistics, almost all high school students participate in CTE, and more than half take three or more credits. Additional data also shows that students participating in CTE programs have graduation rates of more than 90 percent.

NASSP calls on Congress to increase funding for CTE state grants in FY 2019 by providing the full authorization of \$250 million.