

U.S. Department of Education

Influence Index: 99

Mission Statement: The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation.

History & General Information: The Department of Education Organization Act of 1979 created the U.S. Department of Education. Its offices now include the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office for Civil Rights, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, and the Institute of Education Sciences.

SOURCE: www.ed.gov

BASIC FACTS

Location Washington, DC

President/Director Secretary Margaret Spellings

Number of Staff 4,500

Membership N/A

FISCAL DATA

The Department of Education has a total budget of approximately \$88.9 billion for FY2006. Of that total, \$57.6 billion is made up of discretionary appropriations and \$31.3 billion is from mandatory appropriations. The budget encompasses:

- Title I grants to districts \$12.71 billion
- Special education (IDEA) state grants (Part B-611) 10.58 billion
- Vocational and technical education \$1.30 billion
- Pell Grants \$13.1 billion
- Institute of Education Science (IES) \$517 million

Major Initiatives

Contact Information

The U.S. Department of Education promulgates regulations related to federal laws and programs such as the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The Department distributes funding and financial aid. In addition, it conducts research and assembles data. Recent initiatives are:

- No Child Left Behind
- Reading First
- National Mathematics Advisory Panel
- Commission on the Future of Higher Education

The Department of Education is also home to the Institute of Education Sciences (established by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002). Within IES is located the National Center for Education Statistics, primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education.

U.S. Department of Education
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www.ed.gov

Notes

Information gathered from the U.S. Department of Education website www.ed.gov.