

# Funding Source Information

## Special Education IDEA

### Program Description

The program provides formula grants to states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the secretary of the interior, and outlying areas to assist them in meeting the costs of providing special education and related services to children with disabilities. Subject to maximum and minimum funding requirements, funds to states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are distributed based on the amounts each state received for fiscal year 1999, and their relative numbers of children in the general population and in poverty in the age ranges for which they mandate services. Most of the funds must be distributed to local education agencies generally serving elementary and secondary children directly. States may retain the remaining funds for state-level activities including administration and for support and direct services to children with disabilities. Funds for state administration are limited to 20 percent of the total funds the state is eligible to retain for state-level activities.

### Total appropriation for Fiscal Year 2003: \$9,696,000,000

**How the money is disseminated:** The Office of Special Education Programs provides funds to states through its IDEA formula grant programs, (Part B, Sections 611 and 619), to assist them in providing a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment for children with disabilities ages 3 through 21, and early intervention services (Part C) for infants and toddlers birth through age two and their families. Formula grants programs are noncompetitive awards based on a predetermined formula. These programs are sometimes referred to as state administered programs. The OSEP administered Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) has three formula grants programs, the Grants to States Program, the preSchool Grants Program and the Grants for Infants and Families.

### Types of Projects

Federal funds are combined with state and local funds to provide children with disabilities free and appropriate public education, including special education and related services. Funds are used for salaries of teachers and other personnel, education materials, related services such as special transportation or occupational therapy that allow children with disabilities to access education services, and other education related costs.

### Eligible Applicants

A state educational agency may apply for a grant for a period of not less than one year and not more than five years.

**Education Level:** Elementary, Secondary and Adult

### Possible Training/Product Solutions

**Products:** *eGuidanceCenter™*  
*Bridges-to-Careers*  
*Career Futures™*  
*Choices™*  
*CX Online™*  
*eChoices*  
*Paws in Jobland*

**Training:**

- Best Uses Seminars
- Regionalized Open Enrollment or On-site Product Training
- Standards and Curricular Integration Training

**Web Sites:** IDEA: [www.ideapractices.org](http://www.ideapractices.org)  
Office of Special Education: [www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP)



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