

Title VI--Innovative Education Program Strategies (CFDA No. 84.298)

I. Legislation

Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act. (P.L. 103-382) (20 U.S.C. 7301) (expires September 30, 1999).

II. Funding History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
1995	\$347,250,000
1996	275,000,000

III. Analysis of Program Performance

A. Goals and Objectives

Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act, is designed to (1) support local educational reform efforts that are consistent with, and support statewide reform efforts, under Goals 2000: Educate America Act; (2) support state and local efforts to accomplish the National Education Goals; (3) provide funding to enable state and local education agencies (LEAs) to implement promising educational reform programs; (4) provide a continuing source of innovation, and educational improvement, including support for library services and instructional materials; and (5) meet the special needs of at-risk and high-cost students.

B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Title VI funds are allocated to states based on the ratio of the school-age population (children ages 5 through 17) in each state to the school-age population in all states. Once a state receives its Title VI funds, the state education agency (SEA) is required to distribute not less than 85 percent of those funds to its LEAs, according to the relative enrollment in public and participating private schools within those LEAs, adjusted in accordance with criteria approved by the Secretary of Education to provide higher per-pupil allocations to those LEAs with the greatest numbers or percentages of high-cost children.

Most Title VI programs and activities tend to serve all types of students, focusing neither on a particular grade level nor on particular student groups. However, both an SEA or an LEA might design a program using Title VI funds to meet the needs of students with special learning requirements.

Title VI funds may be used for implementing programs in eight innovative assistance areas:

1. Technology related to the implementation of school-based reform--including professional development to assist teachers and other school professionals regarding how to use such equipment;
2. Programs for the acquisition and use of instructional materials;

Chapter 107-2

3. Promising education reform, including effective schools and magnet schools;
4. Programs to improve the higher order thinking skills of disadvantaged elementary and secondary students and to prevent students from dropping out of school;
5. Programs to combat illiteracy in the student and adult population, including parent illiteracy;
6. Programs to provide for the educational needs of gifted and talented children;
7. School reform activities consistent with Goals 2000; and
8. School improvement programs.

IV. Planned Studies

In 1997 the Department will award a contract to begin compiling the results of the biennial report due to Congress in December 1997. This report will detail the expenditure of program funds and the number of students served by Title VI funded programs and projects.

In 1997 the Department will also contract for a compilation of state self-evaluations of the effectiveness of programs assisted under Title IV. The report will attempt to assess the impact such funding has on students and schools. This report is due to Congress in 1998.

V. Sources of Information

1. Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act (P.L. 103-382).
2. Nonregulatory Guidance for Title VI of the ESEA.

VI. Contacts for Further Information

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