

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS**

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**Training and advisory services**

(Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IV)

(dollars in thousands)

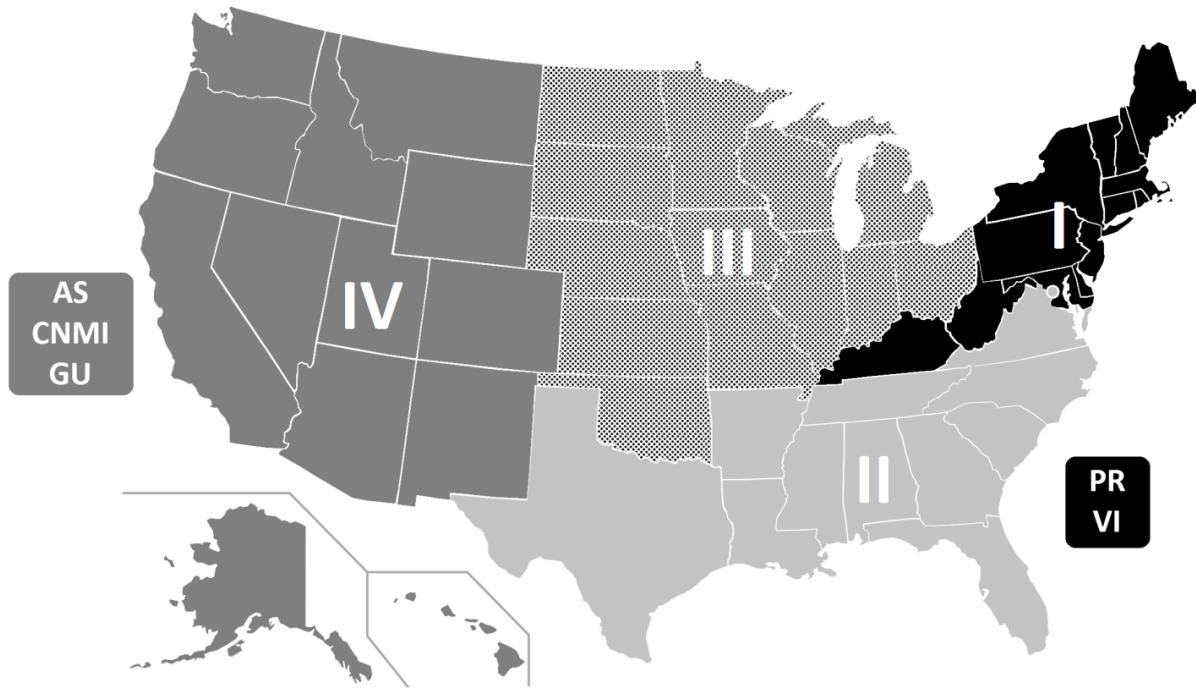
FY 2025 Authorization: Indefinite

Budget Authority:

2024 Annualized CR	2025 Request	Change
\$6,575	\$6,575	0

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Training and Advisory Services program supports efforts to achieve the intent of Title IV of the Civil Rights Act by aiding educators in preparing, adopting, and implementing plans for desegregating public schools and solving equity problems related to race, sex, national origin, and religion. To carry out those activities, the Department awards grants to Equity Assistance Centers (EACs) in four geographic regions serving the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Outlying Areas of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.



The EACs provide services to school districts upon request. Typical activities include disseminating information on successful educational practices and on legal requirements related to nondiscrimination in educational programs. Other activities include training designed to

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

### Training and advisory services

---

develop educators' skills in such areas as the identification and selection of appropriate educational programs to meet the needs of a diverse student body. Topics covered by the EACs include areas such as school climate, disproportionate and exclusionary discipline, bullying and harassment, culturally and linguistically relevant practices, educator diversity, the effect of poverty on equity in educational opportunity and achievement gaps, and instructional practices that reach all students.

Funding levels for the past 5 fiscal years were:

Fiscal Year	(dollars in thousands)
2020	\$6,575
2021	6,575
2022	6,575
2023	6,575
2024 Annualized CR	6,575

### **FY 2025 BUDGET REQUEST**

For fiscal year 2025, the Administration requests \$6.6 million for Training and Advisory Services, level with a fiscal year 2024 annualized CR based on the fiscal year 2023 appropriation. Requested funds would support the fourth year of Equity Assistance Center grants made in fiscal year 2022 under a competition aligned with President Biden’s equity agenda.

The Equity Assistance Centers continue to develop and implement innovative approaches to technical assistance that respond to needs across States, districts, and schools, and are engaged in a range of evidence-based activities to improve equity and access to high-quality educational environments and resources. In fiscal year 2023, the four EACs provided targeted and intensive assistance to clients in areas such as culturally responsive family and community engagement, implementing Title IX provisions in rural areas, and responding to bullying and sex-based harassment findings of other Federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Justice.

### **PROGRAM OUTPUT MEASURES**

(dollars in thousands)

Output Measures	2023	2024	2025
Amount for continuation awards	\$6,374	\$6,402	\$6,397
Number of continuation awards	4	4	4
Average award size	\$1,594	\$1,601	\$1,599
Data collection	\$201	\$173	\$178

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

### Training and advisory services

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#### PROGRAM PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

##### Performance Measures

This section presents selected program performance information, including, for example, program goals, objectives, measures, and performance targets and data; and an assessment of the progress made toward achieving program results. Achievement of program results is based on the cumulative effect of the Federal resources provided for the program as well as the resources and efforts invested by those served by the program.

Except where stated otherwise below, data for the following measures are collected through an annual survey of EAC clients. In fiscal year 2023, the Department obtained a new contractor for the survey, which was not administered for the fiscal year 2016 grantee cohort in 2022.

Data for these measures for 2023 for the fiscal year 2022 cohort are expected to be available in spring 2024. Targets for the measures for the fiscal year 2022 cohort, using 2023 as the baseline year, will be developed at a later date.

**Goal: To support access and equity in public schools and help school districts solve equity problems in education related to race, sex, national origin, and religion.**

**Objective:** *Provide coordinated technical assistance and training to State educational agencies and public-school districts in addressing equity in education.*

**Measure:** The percentage of clients reporting an increase in awareness or knowledge resulting from technical assistance provided.

Year	Target (Combined Only)	Combined Actual	Awareness Actual	Knowledge Actual
2020	86%	88%	88%	81%
2021	90	81	80	81
2022	92	N/A	N/A	N/A
2023	Baseline for 2022 cohort			

**Additional information:** Clients were asked whether they increased their awareness or knowledge and, if so to what extent, on different topics for which they received assistance. The “Combined Actual” percentage is the higher of the two reported percentages for Awareness and Knowledge.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

### Training and advisory services

---

**Measure:** The percentage of clients who report changed policies or practices related to providing students with a full opportunity for participation in all educational programs regardless of their sex, race, religion, and national origin.

Year	Target	Actual
2020	78%	73%
2021	78	82
2022	80	N/A
2023	Baseline for 2022 cohort	

**Measure:** The percentage of clients reporting an increase in capacity resulting from technical assistance provided.

Year	Target	Actual
2020	90%	73%
2021	76	64
2022	78	N/A
2023	Baseline for 2022 cohort	

**Additional information:** Clients were asked whether their organizations received assistance to (1) build inclusive leadership, (2) identify and/or leverage mutually beneficial relationships or partnerships, or (3) obtain and/or leverage tangible materials or systems, and, if so, the extent to which their capacity increased after receiving assistance from the EAC. Data reflect the percentage of respondents who said their capacity increased to a moderate or great extent in at least one of these ways. Declines in performance in 2020 and 2021 are likely explained by service disruptions and challenges in transitioning to a virtual service model during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Measure:** The percentage of technical assistance requests received from organizations that were accepted during the performance period.

Year	Target	Actual
2020	98%	97%
2021	98	95
2022	98	96
2023	Baseline for 2022 cohort	

**Additional information:** Data are from EAC grantee annual performance reports.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

### Training and advisory services

---

**Measure:** The percentage of technical assistance requests received from new (not previously served by the EAC) organizations during the performance period.

Year	Target	Actual
2020	48%	69%
2021	71	67
2022	73	84

**Additional information:** Data are from EAC grantee annual performance reports. The Department is eliminating this measure beginning with the fiscal year 2022 cohort.

**Measure:** The percentage of clients willing to request additional technical assistance or refer another organization to an EAC for technical assistance during the performance period.

Year	Target (Combined Only)	Combined Actual	Request Additional Assistance Actual	Refer Another Agency Actual
2020	91%	89%	84%	89%
2021	91	89	89	84
2022	93	N/A	N/A	N/A
2023	Baseline for 2022 cohort			

**Additional information:** Clients were asked how likely they were to request additional assistance from the EAC and how likely they were to refer another agency to an EAC for technical assistance. The “Combined Actual” percentage is the higher of the two reported percentages for Request Additional Assistance and Refer Another Agency.

The Department has established the following additional measure for the program beginning with the fiscal year 2022 cohort: The percentage of clients who report that outcomes, as documented in memoranda of understanding with EACs, were met as a result of the technical assistance provided.