

Key Education Programs for Hispanic Students and Families in the No Child Left Behind Act

Program	FY 2002 Appropriation	FY 2003 President's Request	FY 2003 Appropriation	FY 2004 President's Request	FY 2004 Appropriation	FY 2005 President's Request	NCLB Authorized Level
Migrant Education	396 million	396 million	395.4 million	396 million	393.6 million	393.6 million	410 million
Dropout Prevention	10 million	0	10.9 million	0	5 million	0	125 million
21 st Century Community Learning Centers	1 billion	1 billion	993.5 billion	600 million	991.1 million	991.1 million	1.75 billion
Parental Assistance Centers	40 million	0	42.2 million	0	42.0 million	0	Such sums
Language Assistance State Grants	664.2 million	665 million	686 million	665 million	681.2 million	681.2 million	750 million

Migrant Education State Grants

Migrant Education State Grants support efforts to provide educational services to children of migrant and seasonal workers. Migrant students have historically been left out of school reform efforts. Under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), schools are responsible for helping migrant children meet the same academic standards as other students, and migrant programs are responsible for sharing information about migrant students across states. Since passage of NCLB, the Bush Administration has requested no increases for the Migrant Education State Grants.

Dropout Prevention

The federal Dropout Prevention program in NCLB is intended to respond to the high Hispanic dropout rate by coordinating dropout prevention efforts at the federal level. The Bush Administration has sought elimination of this program since NCLB became law.

21st Century Community Learning Centers

These funds support formula grants to states, which award subgrants to centers providing academic and related services for youth and other members of the community during after-school, weekend, and summer hours. Many of the programs offer youth an alternative at times when they are most likely to be engaged in unproductive, unsupervised activities. In addition, the program was reformed to emphasize helping students meet the rigorous academic standards in NCLB. While the Bush Administration's 2002 budget contained no increase, funding was ultimately increased to \$1 billion through the appropriations process. The Administration's FY 2003 budget level-funded the program at the FY 2002 level of \$1 billion, which was roughly the level approved by Congress. Less than two years after supporting reform of the 21st Century program under NCLB, the Administration's FY 2004 budget sought a 40% cut in this program. For FY 2005, the Administration seeks to level-fund the program at \$991.1 million.

Parental Assistance

While testing and accountability are at the heart of NCLB, parents are the backbone of this legislation. Under NCLB, parents will be provided information and choices intended to help low-income and Limited-English-Proficient (LEP) parents hold their schools accountable and make important decisions about their children's education. NCLB also authorizes a new Local Family Information Centers (LFICs) program to help parents understand their responsibilities and opportunities included in the NCLB. These LFICs are a critical part of NCLB because they would provide Hispanic parents information about their children's schools in a way that is easily understood. The LFICs would help parents understand the school system in general, including how standards and assessments can be used to help improve student achievement. In addition, the LFICs can provide information about important educational options, including English language learner (ELL) programs. Although the Bush Administration touts the NCLB as a great boon for low-income and minority parents, it has sought to eliminate parent programs every year since President Bush signed NCLB into law.

Bilingual and Immigrant Education

Now the English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act, the program provides Language Assistance Grants to states to meet the language and academic learning needs of ELL students. While the number of ELL students continues to grow, exceeding 4.5 million children, the Bush Administration has not provided the resources so that the public schools can meet the needs of ELL students or the requirements of NCLB. Since passage of NCLB, the Bush Administration proposed to level-fund Language Acquisition State Grants at \$665 million for FY 2003 and FY 2004, and at \$681.2 million for FY 2005. Any increases in funding were provided by Congressional appropriators.