

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -- ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS

Question: On top of the current \$6.1 billion Title I advance appropriation, the budget proposes to advance appropriate an additional \$1.9 billion of the Department of Education's budget authority. Doesn't the use of budgetary gimmicks like advance appropriations show that the Administration does not take the discretionary spending caps seriously? Doesn't proposing so large an advance in appropriation mean that the President is willing to put Education's programs more at risk than funding for the other agencies?

Answer: The Budget proposes to advance appropriate \$1.925 billion of the Special Education State Grants program. However, as is the case with the Title I advanced appropriation, this new special education advance appropriation will have no programmatic impact -- school districts will continue to receive all of their federal special education funds in a timely fashion.

As was the case in last year's Omnibus appropriations bill -- where Congress provided Title I an advance appropriation increase of \$4.7 billion -- the special education advance appropriation frees up budget authority for other Administration priorities.

Background: The table below illustrates the changes in the Department of Education's advanced appropriations since FY 1998:

	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000
Title I LEA Grants BA:			
Current Year BA	5,927	1,528	1,848
Advance from prior year	1,298	1,448	6,148
Change in Advance (FY98 approp.)	150	0	0
Change in Advance (FY99 approp.)	0	4,700	0
<i>Title I LEA Grants Program Level (non-add):</i>	<i>7,375</i>	<i>7,676</i>	<i>7,996</i>
Special Education State Grants BA:			
Current Year BA	3,808	4,311	2,389
Advance from prior year	0	0	0
Change in Advance (FY00 approp.)	0	0	1,925
<i>Special Education Program Level (non-add)</i>	<i>3,808</i>	<i>4,311</i>	<i>4,314</i>
Other Education:	18,226	21,132	22,401
Total, Current Year BA	27,961	26,971	26,638
<i>Increase in Advance Appropriation</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>4,700</i>	<i>1,925</i>
Total Advanced Appropriation	1,448	6,148	8,073
Total, Program Level	29,409	33,119	34,711

Prepared by: David Rowe (x53846)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -- TITLE I ADVANCE APPROPRIATION

Question: The Budget continues to advance appropriate \$6.1 billion or nearly 80 percent of the Title I Grants to LEAs program. The Budget also proposes to help end social promotion by, among other things, increasing support for summer school programs, which can be partially paid for with Title I funds. If LEAs increase their investment in summer school programs, could this cause the Title I advance appropriation to have a programmatic impact? That is, are you concerned that there won't be enough Title I money available from July to October for some LEAs to pay for their expanded summer school programs?

Answer: Even with the Budget's increased emphasis on summer school programs, the Title I advance appropriation should still have no programmatic impact. Currently, the Title I first year spendout rate (i.e., the funds spent from July-October of the academic year) is about 5 percent. Even with the \$6.1 billion advance appropriation, the Budget still keeps about 23 percent of the BA for Grants for LEAs available in the current year.

Background:

- * The Budget requests a total program level of \$7,996 million for Title I Grants for LEAs. Of this total, \$1,848 million becomes available on July 1, 2000 (i.e., in FY00) and \$6,148 million becomes available on October 1, 2000 (i.e., FY01). The \$1,848 million funded in the current year is 23 percent of the total program level.
- * LEAs are allowed to use Title I funds to pay for summer school programs. This includes using Title I funds to pay for the matching requirement for After School/21st Century Community Learning Center grants.

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