

Notes on OSEP Presentation

Research and Funding Opportunities from OSEP

Larry Wexler, Director of the Research to Practice Division

Main Points From Presentation:

This is from Part D - discretionary part of IDEA. It is a tool to support the formula grants. Their work includes:

- State Personnel Development - (His favorite program) Goes directly to states, 90% must be spent on professional development. Used to be called "improvement grants". Required to sub-grant IHE and PIC. States use as seed money for innovation zones.
- Personnel Preparation - lost \$200,000 in FY2012. Budget request \$2.5million less in FY2013 than FY2012. Money going into general ed teacher prep almost never supports special education teachers, so we need to save this \$ for our special ed teachers.
- TA and Dissemination - PBIS Center is part of this. Lost \$2million FY2012, which has been level requested. Department is not allowed to do "rate-able reduction", which means to cut every grant by the same amount. The cuts have to come out of new funding. This means no continuation awards. Part of the continuation trend is partly their fault because often the grants come out too late to recruit students to participate, so Universities try to continue it to next year when they can actually get students. Now those continuations won't happen. "Don't even try" to get money for doing the same thing twice.
- Technology and Media Services
- Parent Training and Information Centers - they are a formula grant, done every year. They got +\$1million (Congress loves parents).
- PROMISE: Promoting Readiness of Minors on SSI - David Johnson is involved in this in some way. OMB is interested in how to bring people off of SSI. \$2million in FY2012. Requested \$30million for FY2013. This will be to support models. There is some discussion on whom to focus on - those with significant disabilities who are on SSI in greater numbers or those with less significant disabilities who are probably easier to get off benefits. PROMISE is getting the RSA \$ that is unspent and sent back.

Also: \$25 million on TA for Data; \$8 million for Special Olympics (direct appropriation (named in the appropriations bill), but administered by OSEP.

There is a priority open for comment on supporting early childhood data.

Currently support 8,000 scholars. Doctoral and postdoctoral training.

Sought to strongly emphasize the process that they take to decide who gets personnel prep grants. The thin line between 13 and 14.

Blind, Visually Impaired, and Deaf University Consortium - developed joint collaborative syllabi and course of instructions. Students take rotation, can transfer between universities. Funded at a higher amount per scholar because students can't work - they

want doctors in these fields. Need to pull on non-flagship schools because those tend to be the teacher training centers.

TA&D Tech and Media - doing model and demonstrations. Taking research base into clinical or instructional environment.

"Diagram" - a venture capital model - an engineering project on how to video describe on the web. The point is to put \$\$ in the hands of smart people and assume that technology will advance to the point where things we can't imagine today are possible.

Stepping Up Technology Implementation: a child of stepping stones. Scaling-up something that already works, taking what IES has found and building capacity.

All OSEP programs saw cuts, except for Parent Information Centers.

Opportunities Identified for UCEDDs:

Training

Technical Assistance

Model/demonstration services - Juvenile Justice re-entry program; young children's use of AT

Educational materials in accessible formats

New TA Centers with upcoming grant opportunities: Early Childhood TA Center; Inclusive School-Wide Reform; Scaling-Up

TA on Early Childhood Data

Service

Research

Available Funding

Center to Support the Development of Effective Educators to Serve Students with Disabilities

Early Child Personnel Center

National Center for Development of Course Work and Training Modules to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities

Q&A with Participants:

Early Childhood Data Center. When is the RFP going to come out? Comments on this close July 12, but the award has to go out by September 30.

Stepping Up: Is it aimed at previous Stepping Stones awardees? No. It's aimed at products that have some research base, like those that came out of Stepping Stones, but being part of that program is not prerequisite.

Is Stepping Stones out of OSEP and in IES? No, current grants haven't been transferred to IES. However, new competitions will be through IES. They won't call it that, but it's a Stepping-Stones-like competition.

Model Demonstration on EC AT. Will that preclude new generic technologies like iPads? No, it's not limited to specific technology, just AT generally.

Technology grants: Is there any preference for any population? Larry says that the advice is: the grant tells you everything. Really read the priority. If the priority doesn't limit it to a particular focus, then it's wide open. "We're not as Machiavellian as you might credit us to be".