

FY 2005 Bush Budget: *Shortchanging Education and Children AGAIN!*

Major Failures of the President's Budget

- **President Bush shortchanges education for the third year in a row with historically low Federal investment.** President Bush provides a meager 3 percent increase (\$1.7 billion) in education funding over last year, despite rising enrollments and a shortage of resources to meet our education needs. President Bush also eliminates dozens of key programs, reducing the Federal investment in education by \$1.4 billion.
- **President Bush denies critical services to millions of disadvantaged children.** President Bush shortchanges his own No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) by \$9.4 billion—including \$7.2 billion for Title I. The President breaks his promise to provide \$20.5 billion for Title I under NCLB. His Budget will deny nearly 5 million disadvantaged children critical education services, such as extra help to become proficient in reading and math. Since NCLB was signed into law President Bush has underfunded the law by \$26.5 billion or 21.7 percent.
- **President Bush freezes or cuts college aid, forces taxes on students, and fails to stop tuition hikes.** Despite rising college tuition and the declining buying power of grants, President Bush has frozen or cut the maximum Pell Grant for the last 3 years. The President freezes the maximum Pell Grant at \$4,050, freezes Work-study and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), and forces increased taxes on students. Not only does the President fail to address rising college tuition, but he also makes college even *more* expensive by freezing or cutting student aid and taxing students.
- **President Bush jeopardizes aid to children of military families.** The Bush budget freezes all Impact Aid funding at the FY 2004 level, jeopardizing programs and services for children of military families. Just as thousands of American military personnel are risking their lives serving abroad in places like Iraq and Afghanistan, President Bush has chosen to ignore the well-being of their families.
- **President Bush breaks his NCLB promise on afterschool programs.** The Bush budget freezes funding for afterschool programs. As a result, nearly 1.3 million children will be shut out of afterschool programs.
- **Bush Budget jeopardizes existence of Head Start** – The Bush Budget re-proposes an 8-state block grant program that will begin to dismantle Head Start. The budget also diverts 45 million dollars from the Head Start program to entice reluctant states to participate in this destructive Head Start plan. The remainder of the budget reflects only a 1.8% increase (\$124 million) over FY04, which just barely covers inflation and leaves no funds for quality improvements or program expansion.

- **President Bush Adds New Money for Private School Vouchers while Shortchanging Students at Public Schools.** The Bush budget proposes \$50 million in private school vouchers. At a time when our *public* schools are trying to meet the challenges of NCLB, the Administration is diverting resources away public school students and local efforts to improve public schools.
- **President Bush makes certain that full funding of special education will never happen.** The Bush budget proposes a \$1 billion increase for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This marks the 4th year in a row President Bush has proposed this exact level of increase, placing disabled students at an even greater disadvantage. At this rate of increase, we will never reach full funding of IDEA.
- **President Bush cuts \$316 million from vocational education and community colleges - again.** The Bush Budget would cut \$316 million, or nearly 24 percent, from vocational education. On top of this, President Bush has proposed more than \$1.5 billion in cuts in job training and vocational education programs since he took office. In addition, the budget proposes to turn this program into a block grant to states, eliminating accountability and targeting of resources to disadvantaged students and programs.

Failure to Ensure Adequate Investments

Shortchanging Bipartisan Education Reform. The Bush Budget for the 3rd straight time would fail to provide the promised resources for the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), bipartisan K-12 education reform legislation signed into law only two years ago. The Budget falls \$9.4 billion short of the funding commitment made in NCLB to K-12 education. The Bush FY 2005 budget translates into the Administration shortchanging NCLB by \$27 billion since its enactment.

Failing to Support NCLB and Close the Achievement Gap

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
NCLB Authorized Level	\$26.4 billion	\$29.2 billion	\$32 billion	\$34.3 billion
FYs 02, 03 and 04 Enacted Appropriations and FY 05 Bush Request	\$22.2 billion	\$23.8 billion	\$24.5 billion	\$24.9
NCLB shortfall	-\$4.2 billion	-\$5.4 billion	-\$7.5 billion	-\$ 9.4 billion

3rd Year of Historically Low Education Increases. President Bush proposes just a 3 percent increase in education (\$1.7 billion) in contrast to the average increase of 12% over the past 8 years. This translates into the lowest increase for education spending in 9 years. As States and localities continue to suffer from significant budget shortfalls, inadequate Federal investments will further jeopardize education reform focused on improved accountability, teacher quality, and school safety and hamper postsecondary access for disadvantaged students.

The Smallest Increase for Education in 9 Years

Bush FY 2005 Request	+ \$1.7 billion	+ 3.0 %
2004	+ \$2.5 billion	+ 4.8 %
2003	+ \$3.2 billion	+ 6.4 %
2002	+ \$7.7 billion	+ 18.2%
2001	+ \$6.6 billion	+ 18.6%
2000	+ \$2.1 billion	+ 6.0 %
1999	+ \$3.6 billion	+ 12.1 %
1998	+ \$3.3 billion	+ 12.2 %
1997	+ \$3.6 billion	+ 15.7 %
<i>Historic Average (1997-2004)</i>	<i>+ \$4.1 billion</i>	<i>+ 12%</i>

Terminates Critical Priorities

The President's Budget would terminate 38 education programs, reducing the Federal investment in education by \$1.4 billion. Among the programs terminated are critical priorities such as:

- Comprehensive School Reform – provides assistance to schools to implement public school reform programs.
- Dropout Prevention Programs – the sole Department of Education funding source targeted toward reducing the dropout rate among at-risk populations.
- Smaller Learning Communities – provides resources to reduce school size, especially in high schools.
- State College Scholarship Program, or LEAP – which leveraged more than \$1 billion in state spending on college aid to students.
- School Leadership – Improved training opportunities for principals and assistant principals.
- Elementary School Counseling – provides resources to support elementary and secondary school counseling programs.
- Even Start – provides funding to support family literacy programs – improving the literacy skills of both children and their parents.
- Arts in Education – funds art programs for disabled children.

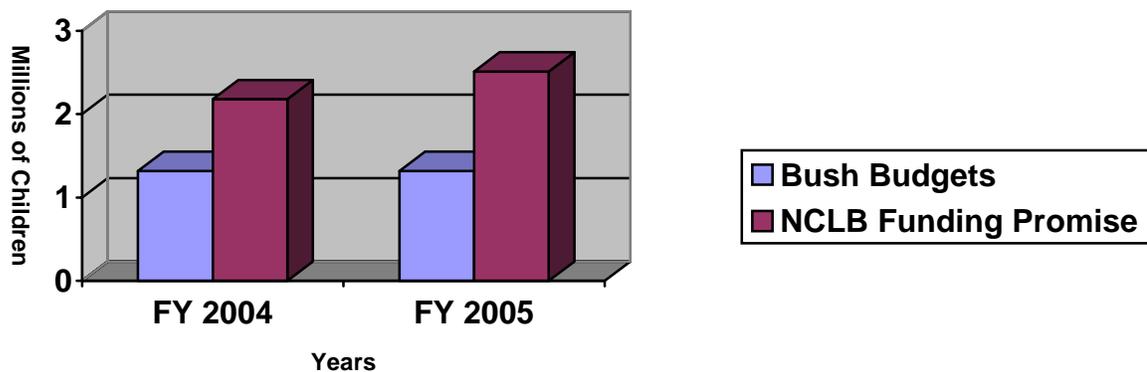
Elementary and Secondary Education

Supports Private School Vouchers while Shortchanging Public Schools. President Bush's budget proposes a private-school voucher initiative—a \$50 million voucher program. These wrongheaded ideas are being promoted by the Bush Administration at exactly the same time our schools are trying to meet the challenges of NCLB and local efforts to improve public schools.

Fails to Meet the Commitments of Bipartisan Education Reform. Just two years ago, Congress and the President enacted the most important education reform legislation in 30 years – the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). NCLB focused on improving quality and accountability for results in exchange for significantly increased resources. Unfortunately, the Bush Administration has essentially abandoned its commitment to this law. Through low funding and weak implementation, the Administration has failed miserably at helping our schools meet the implementation challenges of this law. Now, the FY 2005 Bush budget further widens the gap between the NCLB’s funding promises and the resources being proposed. The Bush Budget:

- **Freezes Teacher Quality.** The Teacher Quality initiative helps states and school districts reduce class sizes and better recruit and train teachers. For the third year in a row, the Bush budget freezes Teacher Quality funding at \$2.93 billion. Over this 3-year period, this freeze will have denied 15,000 teachers high quality professional development resulting in 325,000 students being taught by teachers without this necessary training.
- **Shortchanging Title I of 1/3 of its Funding.** President Bush's FY 2005 budget will provide \$13.3 billion in funding for the Title I program. This program provides additional assistance to our most disadvantaged children in math and reading. **This level is \$7.2 billion short of, or one third less than, the \$20.5 billion he President and Congress agreed to provide in NCLB in FY 2005.** The Bush Budget will deny nearly 5 million disadvantaged children critical education services, such as extra help to become proficient in reading and math.
- **Freezes AfterSchool Programs.** The Bush budget irresponsibly freezes funding for the effective and popular 21st Century Community Learning Centers Initiative. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program provides safe, healthy places for over 1.3 million children currently to learn after school. Under NCLB, the President promised to fund this program at \$2 billion in FY 2005. This broken promise would deny nearly 1.3 million additional children the ability to attend afterschool programs.
- **Freezes Bilingual Education.** The Bush budget freezes Bilingual Education at \$681 million, even though the number of students with limited English proficiency is growing rapidly. This proposal essentially provides no increase in bilingual education for the third year in a row.
- **Level funds Safe and Drug Free Schools.** The Bush budget freezes funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools State grant program. This will provide fewer resources to schools as they work to ensure safe learning environments and ensure their students are safe from terrorism.
- **No increase for Technology.** The Bush budget freezes the federal investment in educational technology. Studies show that technology can substantially raise student achievement. This proposal essentially funds technology programs at the same level for the third year in a row.

Bush Budget Shuts the Door on Afterschool Opportunities



Higher Education

Freezes Federal College Scholarships. Despite rising college costs and the declining buying power of grants, President Bush freezes the maximum Federal College Scholarship, or Pell Grant, at \$4,050. This is the third year in a row that Bush has frozen or cut the maximum Pell Grant.

Bush Breaks Promise to Raise the Maximum Pell Grant to \$5,100. While campaigning in 2000, President Bush pledged to make college more affordable and accessible by increasing the maximum Pell Grant for college freshman to \$5,100, but he has yet to make good on his promise. In fact, Bush breaks his pledge just as millions of students struggle to pay for college, and despite the fact that the 2002-03 maximum Pell grant was worth \$500 less than the maximum grant in 1975-76.

Bush Leaves 99 percent of all Pell Recipients Behind with 'Expanded' Pell Program. Less than 1 percent of all Pell Grant recipients would be allowed to benefit from the new 'expanded' Pell Grants, while less than three-tenths of 1 percent all of all college students would benefit from the grants.

Freezes or Cuts Work-study and College Loans. President Bush freezes funds for Work-study, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), and cuts the Perkins college loan program.

Increases Taxes on Students, Making College Loans More Expensive. The Bush Budget forces a tax on student loans that would charge students an additional \$3.8 billion dollars over the next ten years.

Eliminates State College Scholarships Program, and Risks \$1 Billion in non-federal Student Aid. President Bush eliminates the \$66 million Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships (LEAP) initiative, which encourages states to establish college scholarships for college students. In 2001-2002, the federal investment in LEAP leveraged more than \$1 billion in matching state spending.

Cuts Programs that Boost College Opportunities for Students and Veterans. President Bush freezes GEAR UP and TRIO funding—programs that boost opportunities for veterans, disadvantaged, and first generation college students to earn a college degree. Bush's freeze severely handicaps TRIO—which currently serves only 7 percent of all eligible students and veterans due to inadequate funding.

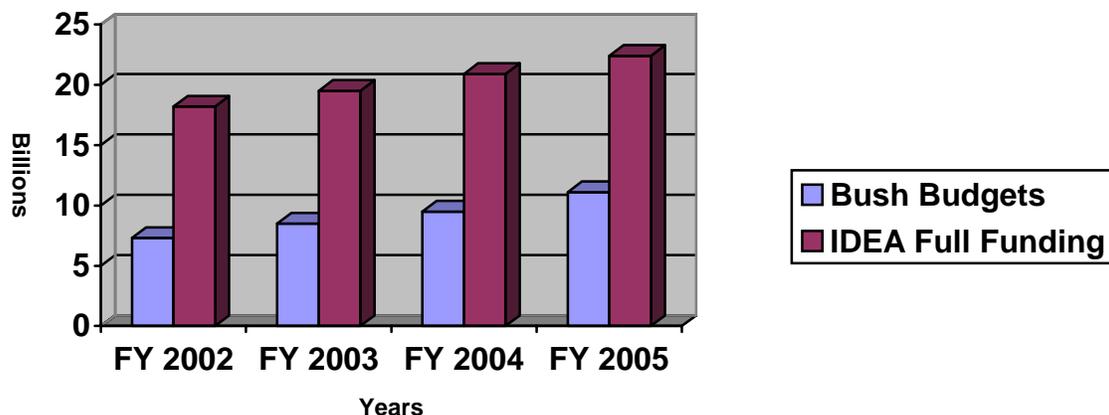
Places Student Aid Program Operations at Risk. President Bush’s budget puts stable student aid administrative funds at risk by subjecting them to an annual appropriation. The Bush change will force administrative funding to compete against Pell grants and other higher education priorities for resources, and will jeopardize Education’s ability to administer the student aid programs—which have a long history of fraud and abuse—safely and soundly.

Special Education

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) provides critical resources to educate children with disabilities along with a system of civil rights protections designed to ensure children with disabilities are afforded a high quality education. In 1975, the Federal government committed to providing 40% of the cost of educating children with disabilities. This 40% level is often referred to as “full funding” of IDEA.

Unfortunately, the Bush Budget fails to fully fund special education, renege on a 29-year promise to children with disabilities. President Bush has now requested a \$1 billion increase for special education in each of his last 4 budgets, including FY 2005. However, at this rate of increase the commitment to fully fund special education will never be met. The FY 2005 Bush Budget leaves us \$11.3 billion short of full funding. If President Bush hadn’t defeated bipartisan special education full funding proposals offered during consideration of NCLB, schools would have received over \$1 billion more in special education funding this year than Bush is proposing.

Bush Shortchanges Special Education



Vocational Education and Adult Education

Vocational education provides important training and education opportunities to students in high schools and community colleges. The current system supports training and education in cutting edge fields of medicine, technology and others. In addition, Adult Education continues to provide opportunities for adults to increase their literacy and workplace skills. Both vocational and adult education programs continue to play a crucial role in training our American workforce for high paying and rewarding careers.

The Bush Budget loses cite of the important job training and economic benefits of vocational and adult education programs. The Bush Budget:

- **Cuts \$316 million – approximately a 24 percent cut – from vocational education programs and freezes funding for adult education.** These cuts to vocational and adult education come at a time when our country needs increased investments in education and training.
- **Cuts more vocational education funding than the amount of spending proposed for Bush’s new Community College job training program.** The Bush Administration has given much attention to its new \$250 million job training proposal for community colleges at the Department of Labor. However, these cuts to vocational education programs total \$66 million more than the spending proposed for this new initiative. The bulk of these vocational education cuts will be felt by community colleges. These most recent cuts come on top of more than \$1.5 billion in spending reductions President Bush has proposed in vocational education and job training since he took office.
- **Turns vocational education into a block grant to states, eliminating accountability and targeting of resources to disadvantaged students and programs.**

Head Start

Bush Budget jeopardizes existence of Head Start. The Bush Budget re-proposes an 8-state block grant program that will begin to dismantle Head Start. The budget also diverts 45 million dollars from the Head Start program to entice reluctant states to participate in the Head Start block grant. The remainder of the budget reflects only a 1.8% increase (\$124 million) over FY04, just barely covering inflation. This translates to less than 10 million dollars in FY05 for improving the salaries of 51,000 teachers or expanding services to the 40% of eligible children who don’t receive them.

Child Care and Development Block Grant

Bush increases child care waiting lists by HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS. The Child Care and Development Block Grant is a critical program that providing child care assistance for low income families working to get off welfare and stay off welfare and early education to our country’s most disadvantaged children. In many states, waiting lists for CCDBG assistance are tens of thousands of families long. By freezing funding for CCDBG for the third consecutive, the Bush budget – by their own admission – will **cut** child care assistance by an additional 300,000 children by FY09. When state TANF expenditures are accounted for, another 150,000 children will be cut.

Child Nutrition

As childhood obesity rates continue to increase, the President's budget for child nutrition programs ignores the pressing need to improve the quality of foods available to children through the National School Lunch Act by not including proposals to address the sale of unhealthy foods in school. The budget also fails to provide the necessary resources that would enable schools to serve more children through certification proposals that would eliminate error and administrative burden.