



# President Bush's Continued Commitment to Education

## 2007 Budget Good News for Puerto Rico's Children



The U.S. Department of Education's FY 2007 budget request provides \$54.4 billion in Federal education funding—an increase of 29 percent since the President took office. This budget focuses on the key priorities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century—reform of high schools, more rigorous coursework and an unprecedented emphasis on math and science. Despite the competing budgetary priorities—strengthening our economy, defending our Nation and reducing the deficit—the FY 2007 budget reflects the President's strong and continued commitment to education.

### Highlights of the FY 2007 Education Budget

- Title I Program receives **\$12.7 billion** for students in high-poverty schools. This is a 45 percent increase over FY 2001.
- New Title I School Improvement Grants receive **\$200 million** to help States turn around low-performing schools and districts.
- Special Education Grants to States Program receives a record **\$10.7 billion**. This is a 69 percent increase over the funding level when the President took office and the highest level of Federal support ever provided for children with disabilities.
- Pell Grant Program receives **\$12.7 billion** to support 5.3 million recipients in need in the 2007-2008 school year. Since President Bush took office, the number of Pell Grant recipients has increased by more than 1.3 million students.
- Academic Competitiveness and National SMART Grants, newly initiated with the President's signature of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, receive **\$850 million**, an increase of \$60 million over FY 2006, to provide grants of up to \$4,000 to an estimated 600,000 low-income, high achieving postsecondary students who have completed a rigorous high school curriculum or are majoring in math, science, technology, engineering, or critical foreign languages.
- President's American Competitiveness Initiative receives **\$380 million** in Department of Education funds for proposals to strengthen K-12 math and science instruction, including **\$250 million for Math Now programs** for elementary and middle school students to help ensure every child can take and pass Algebra and **\$25 million** to encourage qualified professionals to become adjunct high school math and science teachers. Also included is **\$90 million for expanded Advanced Placement** programs in math, science and critical foreign languages, in which grantees will match funds two-to-one.
- High School Reform initiative receives **nearly \$1.5 billion** for targeted interventions to improve the performance of students at risk of failing to meet State standards and expanded high school assessments to increase accountability.
- President's National Security Language Initiative receives **\$57 million**, an increase of \$35 million over FY 2006, to significantly increase the number of American students learning foreign languages critical to our national security and global competitiveness.
- Total funding for **math and science programs increases by 51 percent** over FY 2006.
- Reading funding increases to a total **\$1.2 billion**, including \$1 billion for the Reading First program, \$103 million for Early Reading First programs, and \$100 million for the Striving Readers program to meet the President's goal of ensuring that every child can read at grade level.
- Choice and options for students and parents expand to **\$484 million**—including \$100 million for a new America's Opportunity Scholarships for Kids program—to empower families to find schools that best meet the needs of children who most need help.

### How the President's Budget Will Help Puerto Rico's Children and Families

- Increases Federal education funding in Puerto Rico to **\$1.8 billion**—37.7 percent more than when the President took office.
- Provides **\$710.1 million** to help Puerto Rico implement the reforms of *No Child Left Behind*.
- Provides **\$491.7 million** in Title I funding—\$217.3 million over FY 2001—to help Puerto Rico's children who are most in need.
- Provides **\$7.6 million** in new Title I School Improvement Grants to help Puerto Rico turn around low-performing schools and districts.
- Increases Special Education Grants for Puerto Rico to **\$110.5 million**—\$44.8 million over FY 2001.
- Provides **\$610 million** in Pell Grants to help ensure a college education for Puerto Rico students who otherwise might not be able to afford one.
- Provides Puerto Rico with **\$259.3 million** in funding for new Federal Student Loans that ensure greater access to a college education for more young people.
- Provides **\$22.7 million** to ensure that every high school student in Puerto Rico graduates with the skills needed to succeed in college and in the globally competitive workforce.
- Provides access to **\$37.3 million** in Reading First funding to ensure that every child in Puerto Rico learns to read by the third grade.
- Provides **\$91.7 million** to attract and retain highly qualified teachers in Puerto Rico classrooms.
- Provides **\$6.5 million** for annual assessments so every mom and dad in Puerto Rico will know how well their children are learning each year and where they need improvement before they fall behind.
- Provides **\$3.1 million** to support students in Puerto Rico who are learning the English language.

Source: U.S. Department of Education Budget Service. All dollar amounts are estimates as of 2/13/06. For more information, please visit [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).