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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): Current Funding Trends

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Summary

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the major federal statute that supports special education and related services for children with disabilities. This report traces recent funding trends for this program and tracks the status of actions to “fully fund” the grants-to-states program under Part B of IDEA. FY2006 total funding for IDEA is \$11.65 billion. FY2006 funding for the Part B grants-to-states program is nearly \$10.58 billion. Since FY1995, funding for this program has more than quadrupled. The FY2006 amount for the grants-to-states program represents 17.7% of the estimated excess cost (i.e., the additional cost) of serving children with disabilities, which is down from the 18.5% of excess cost that the FY2005 appropriation represented.

The President’s FY2007 budget would increase overall funding for IDEA to \$11.7 billion, with funding for the grants-to-states program increasing to nearly \$10.6 billion, an increase of \$100 million above the FY2006 appropriation. Because of projected increases in the estimated cost of special education and in the number of children with disabilities served, this amount would represent another decrease in the estimated FY2007 excess cost to 17.0%.

This report will be updated to reflect congressional action on IDEA appropriations and to incorporate updated data for excess cost calculations.

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): Current Funding Trends

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the major federal statute that supports special education and related services for children with disabilities. As a condition of accepting IDEA funding, the act requires that states and local educational agencies (LEAs) provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to each eligible child with a disability. The IDEA is divided into four parts. Part A contains the general provisions, including the purposes of the act and definitions. Part B, the most often discussed part of the act, contains provisions relating to the education of school aged (the grants-to-states program) and state grants program for preschool children with disabilities (Section 619).¹ Part C authorizes state grants for programs serving infants and toddlers with disabilities, while Part D contains the requirements for various national activities designed to improve the education of children with disabilities. Part B is permanently authorized. Parts C and D are authorized through FY2011.² P.L. 108-446 made significant changes to IDEA, most of which went into effect on July 1, 2005.³

Recent Funding Trends⁴

Table 1 shows recent trends in IDEA appropriations since FY1995 for selected fiscal years. In this period, overall IDEA funding has increased by more than 250%, from \$3.3 billion to \$11.7 billion. Most of the increases over this period have been for the grants-to-states program, with its funding more than quadrupling since FY1995.⁵ Funding for Part C has increased more modestly — growing by about 38% since FY1995. Funds for the preschool program (Section 619) have grown more slowly since FY1995 — by about 5.7%. Since FY2002, when funding was \$390 million, funding for

¹ Part B includes the funding formulas, provisions relating to evaluations, eligibility determinations, individual educational programs (IEPs), and educational placements. It also contains detailed requirements for procedural safeguards as well as withholding of funds and judicial review.

² IDEA authorizes appropriations for Parts C and D programs and activities through FY2010. These authorities were automatically extended for an additional fiscal year by the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA — 20 U.S.C. §1226a).

³ For further information, see CRS Report RL32716, *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): Analysis of Changes Made by P.L. 108-446*, by Richard N. Apling and Nancy Lee Jones. (Hereafter cited as CRS Report RL32716.)

⁴ All dollar figures are in current dollars; no price-level adjustments have been applied.

⁵ As a result of the rapid increase in grants-to-states funding — the share of total IDEA funding for which this program accounts — has also increased: from about 71% in FY1995 to about 91% in FY2005.

the preschool program has declined slightly each year due to general across-the-board cuts in discretionary budget authority in those years. The slightly lower funding for Part D for FY2006 compared with 1995 reflects the transfer of authority for certain research and evaluation activities from IDEA to the Institute for Education Sciences (IES).⁶

FY2007 Budget Request

Table 1 also compares the FY2006 appropriations for IDEA with the President's FY2007 budget request. Overall funding for IDEA would increase by 0.38% under the President's budget, from \$11.65 billion to \$11.7 billion. Most of this increase is the result of a 0.94% increase in the Part B grants-to-states program, which would grow by \$100 million above the FY2006 amount. Preschool state grants and Part C infants and toddlers grants would be level funded. Total funding for Part D (national programs and activities) would decrease by 22%. Most of this decrease is due to a request for no funding for the state personnel development grants (Subpart 1 of Part D of IDEA).

In addition to grants to states and set-asides for the outlying areas,⁷ for the freely associated states,⁸ and for children with disabilities served in Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) schools, funding for the Part B grants-to-states program contains set-asides for other purposes. Prior to the 2004 reauthorization of IDEA under P.L. 108-446, the statute authorized the Secretary of Education to reserve up to \$20 million⁹ from Part B and Part C appropriations for studies and evaluations (P.L. 105-17, §674(e)). For FY2002 through FY2004, the Secretary reserved \$16 million annually for these purposes from the Part B grants-to-states appropriation and nothing from the appropriations for Section 619 or Part C appropriations.

P.L. 108-446 made some changes in this regard. Current law no longer authorizes Part B and Part C reserves for studies and evaluations. Instead the Secretary is authorized to reserve up to \$25 million¹⁰ of Part B appropriations for technical assistance for the states (P.L. 108-446, §611(c)) related to state requirements for data collection and analysis under §616(i). For FY2005, the Secretary reserved \$10 million from the Part B grants to states appropriation for this purpose and \$15 million for FY2006. The President proposes reserving \$20 million for FY2007.

⁶ See Title II of P.L. 108-446. The FY2006 amount for special education research in the IES budget is \$71.8 million, the same as the President's request for FY2007. The FY2006 amount for special education studies and evaluation in the IES budget is \$9.9 million, the same as the FY2007 request.

⁷ The outlying areas are defined as "the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands" (P.L. 108-446, §602(22)).

⁸ The freely associated states are: the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau (P.L. 108-446, §611(b)(1)(C)).

⁹ This maximum was to be adjusted each year by the rate of inflation.

¹⁰ This maximum is to be adjusted each year by the rate of inflation.

Table 1. IDEA Appropriations for Selected Fiscal Years (FY1995-FY2006) and the IDEA FY2007 Budget Request
(in thousands of dollars)

IDEA program/activity	FY1995	FY2005	FY2006	Percent change (FY1995-FY2006)	FY2007 Request	Percent change (FY2006-FY2007)
Part B grants to states	\$2,322,915	\$10,589,746	\$10,582,961	355.59%	\$10,682,961	0.94%
Part B preschool grants (Section 619)	\$360,265	\$384,597	\$380,751	5.69%	\$380,751	0.00%
<i>Subtotal Part B</i>	\$2,683,180	\$10,974,343	\$10,963,712	308.61%	\$11,063,712	0.91%
Part C infants and toddlers grants	\$315,632	\$440,808	\$436,400	38.26%	\$436,400	0.00%
<i>Subtotal state grants</i>	\$2,998,812	\$11,415,151	\$11,400,112	280.15%	\$11,500,112	0.88%
Part D (total)	\$254,034	\$258,455	\$252,901	-0.45%	\$197,390	-21.95%
Total IDEA	\$3,252,846	\$11,673,606	\$11,653,013	258.24%	\$11,697,502	0.38%

Source: U.S. Department of Education (ED) Budget Service spreadsheets.

Note: Totals may differ slightly due to rounding. All dollar figures are in current dollars; no price-level adjustments have been applied.

Estimated FY2006 and FY2007 State Grants

Table 2 shows estimated Part B grants-to-states allocations based on the FY2005 and FY2006 appropriations and on the FY2007 request. The FY2006 estimates are compared to states' FY2005 grants. The FY2007 estimates are compared to the FY2006 estimates. Decreases in FY2006 estimated grants range from -0.13% to -0.15%. FY2007 estimated increases range from 0.85% to 2.44%. The interaction of IDEA formula provisions accounts for the smallest states receiving percentage increases that are nearly three times the percentage increases of most other states. The formula requires (at the proposed level of the President's increase) that no state receive **less** than 1/3% of the overall increase in funding since FY1999 or 90% of the percentage increase of total IDEA Part B grants-to-states appropriations over the previous year, whichever amount is greater. In addition, no state may

receive a grant that is **more** than the overall annual growth rate in appropriations plus 1.5 percentage points. The minimum grant for the smallest states is the $\frac{1}{3}$ % of appropriations growth since FY1999; however, this would be more than the overall annual growth plus 1.5 percentage points. So the smallest states receive the latter percentage increase ($0.94\% + 1.5\% = 2.44\%$). Most other states receive the other minimum growth rate of 90% of the annual growth in total appropriations ($0.94 \times 90\% = 0.85\%$). For both FY2006 and FY2007, the total amount for set-asides represents inflationary increases for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) schools, outlying areas, and the freely associated states¹¹ and level funding for technical assistance to the states.

**Table 2. Final FY2005, Preliminary FY2006, and FY2007 Request
IDEA Part B Grants-to-States Allocations**
(dollars rounded to nearest \$000)

State	Final FY2005 grants	Preliminary FY2006 grants	Estimated FY2007 grants (based on FY2007 request)	Percentage change from FY2005 to FY2006	Estimated percentage change from FY2006 to FY2007
Alabama	\$167,865,000	\$167,635,000	\$169,060,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Alaska	32,499,000	32,452,000	33,245,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Arizona	162,563,000	162,328,000	164,291,000	-0.15%	1.21%
Arkansas	103,546,000	103,400,000	104,280,000	-0.14%	0.85%
California	1,132,573,000	1,130,940,000	1,140,558,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Colorado	137,681,000	137,481,000	138,651,000	-0.15%	0.85%
Connecticut	122,729,000	122,567,000	123,609,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Delaware	29,785,000	29,742,000	30,469,000	-0.15%	2.44%
District of Columbia	14,976,000	14,954,000	15,320,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Florida	581,254,000	580,457,000	585,393,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Georgia	285,784,000	285,369,000	287,796,000	-0.15%	0.85%
Hawaii	36,854,000	36,801,000	37,114,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Idaho	50,109,000	50,036,000	50,462,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Illinois	467,485,000	466,850,000	470,820,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Indiana	236,054,000	235,740,000	237,745,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Iowa	112,690,000	112,542,000	113,499,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Kansas	98,645,000	98,509,000	99,347,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Kentucky	145,703,000	145,505,000	146,743,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Louisiana	174,760,000	174,506,000	175,990,000	-0.15%	0.85%
Maine	50,509,000	50,442,000	50,871,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Maryland	184,824,000	184,574,000	186,143,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Massachusetts	262,025,000	261,681,000	263,906,000	-0.13%	0.85%

¹¹ The recent practice of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has been to increase funding for outlying areas and the freely associated states by the rate of inflation. Recent appropriations language (including language in the act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies for FY2006 — P.L. 109-149) limits increases in BIA funding under IDEA to the rate of inflation.

State	Final FY2005 grants	Preliminary FY2006 grants	Estimated FY2007 grants (based on FY2007 request)	Percentage change from FY2005 to FY2006	Estimated percentage change from FY2006 to FY2007
Michigan	\$369,788,000	\$369,262,000	\$372,402,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Minnesota	175,222,000	174,985,000	176,473,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Mississippi	109,859,000	109,703,000	110,635,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Missouri	209,676,000	209,400,000	211,180,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Montana	33,928,000	33,879,000	34,238,000	-0.14%	1.06%
Nebraska	68,924,000	68,834,000	69,419,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Nevada	61,135,000	61,046,000	61,566,000	-0.15%	0.85%
New Hampshire	43,805,000	43,748,000	44,120,000	-0.13%	0.85%
New Jersey	333,645,000	333,206,000	336,040,000	-0.13%	0.85%
New Mexico	84,127,000	84,016,000	84,730,000	-0.13%	0.85%
New York	700,725,000	699,789,000	705,740,000	-0.13%	0.85%
North Carolina	288,837,000	288,431,000	290,884,000	-0.14%	0.85%
North Dakota	24,185,000	24,150,000	24,740,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Ohio	404,055,000	403,485,000	406,916,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Oklahoma	136,539,000	136,350,000	137,510,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Oregon	119,052,000	118,887,000	119,898,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Pennsylvania	394,307,000	393,753,000	397,102,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Puerto Rico	99,371,000	99,227,000	101,653,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Rhode Island	40,365,000	40,312,000	40,655,000	-0.13%	0.85%
South Carolina	161,682,000	161,465,000	162,838,000	-0.13%	0.85%
South Dakota	28,811,000	28,769,000	29,472,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Tennessee	215,277,000	214,982,000	216,811,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Texas	889,556,000	888,269,000	895,823,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Utah	98,468,000	98,327,000	99,163,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Vermont	23,319,000	23,285,000	23,854,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Virginia	259,999,000	259,641,000	261,849,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Washington	204,329,000	204,037,000	205,772,000	-0.14%	0.85%
West Virginia	70,101,000	70,009,000	70,604,000	-0.13%	0.85%
Wisconsin	192,169,000	191,909,000	193,541,000	-0.14%	0.85%
Wyoming	24,464,000	24,428,000	25,026,000	-0.15%	2.44%
Subtotals to states	10,456,631,000	10,442,096,000	10,535,970,000	-0.14%	0.90%
Total set-asides	133,114,000	140,864,000	146,991,000	5.82%	4.35%
Totals	\$10,589,746,000	\$10,582,961,000	\$10,682,961,000	-0.06%	0.94%

Source: CRS calculations based on data obtained from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) Budget Service.

Note: Totals may differ slightly due to rounding. FY2006 and FY2007 grants are estimates only and do not necessarily represent amounts states and other entities will eventually receive. These amounts are provided for the purpose of policy discussion only.

Authorized Funding and Maximum Funding of IDEA

Actual and proposed Part B grants-to-states funding and state grant amounts are often compared with amounts to provide maximum state grants under the program — the so called “full funding” of IDEA. In addition, as a result of changes made by P.L. 108-446, which provides for specific authorization levels for the Part B grants-to-states program, it is appropriate to compare actual and proposed funding and grant amounts to authorized funding levels and estimated state grants at those authorized levels.

Part B Grants-to-States Authorizations. Prior to the enactment of P.L. 108-446, IDEA authorized “such sums as may be necessary” for the Part B grants-to-states program. In response to debate about how and when to reach maximum funding for IDEA, P.L. 108-446 [§611(i)] amended the act to include several years of specific authorization levels, culminating in an amount estimated to provide each state with its maximum grant in FY2011. **Table 3** lists these authorized amounts.

Table 3. Authorizations for the IDEA Part B Grants-to-States Program [P.L. 108-446, §611(i)]

Fiscal year	Authorization
2005	\$12,358,376,571
2006	14,648,647,143
2007	16,938,917,714
2008	19,229,188,286
2009	21,519,458,857
2010	23,809,729,429
2011	26,100,000,000
2012 and subsequent years	such sums as may be necessary

Table 4 below compares estimated FY2006 Part B grants-to-states allocations (column 2) with estimated allocations based on the FY2006 authorization level for the program (column 3) and estimated FY2007 allocations based on the President’s budget request (column 5) with those based on the FY2007 authorization (column 6). As discussed below, **Table 4** also presents estimates of maximum state grants under the grants-to-states program for comparison with grants based on appropriated, requested, and authorized amounts.

Table 4. Estimated FY2006 and FY2007 IDEA Part B Grants-to-States Allocations Based on Appropriated and Proposed Amounts, FY2006 and FY2007 Authorizations, and Estimated FY2006 Maximum State Grants

State	Preliminary FY2006 Grants	Estimated FY2006 Authorized Grants	Estimated FY2006 Maximum Grants	Estimated FY2007 Grants (based on President's request)	Estimated FY2007 Authorized Grants
(column 1)	(column 2)	(column 3)	(column 4)	(column 5)	(column 6)
Alabama	\$167,635,000	\$229,687,000	\$321,198,000	\$169,060,000	\$265,799,000
Alaska	32,452,000	45,443,000	62,229,000	33,245,000	52,428,000
Arizona	162,328,000	227,310,000	405,687,000	164,291,000	262,254,000
Arkansas	103,400,000	144,787,000	233,651,000	104,280,000	167,052,000
California	1,130,940,000	1,583,660,000	2,317,761,000	1,140,558,000	1,827,129,000
Colorado	137,481,000	192,517,000	285,677,000	138,651,000	222,113,000
Connecticut	122,567,000	167,929,000	250,627,000	123,609,000	194,340,000
Delaware	29,742,000	41,648,000	64,164,000	30,469,000	48,050,000
District of Columbia	14,954,000	20,941,000	40,517,000	15,320,000	24,160,000
Florida	580,457,000	812,760,000	1,372,643,000	585,393,000	937,777,000
Georgia	285,369,000	399,608,000	672,347,000	287,796,000	461,038,000
Hawaii	36,801,000	51,533,000	78,024,000	37,114,000	59,456,000
Idaho	50,036,000	70,066,000	99,105,000	50,462,000	80,838,000
Illinois	466,850,000	644,219,000	1,108,345,000	470,820,000	752,653,000
Indiana	235,740,000	324,757,000	601,233,000	237,745,000	378,613,000
Iowa	112,542,000	154,192,000	252,693,000	113,499,000	178,444,000
Kansas	98,509,000	134,975,000	204,770,000	99,347,000	156,696,000
Kentucky	145,505,000	203,734,000	366,893,000	146,743,000	235,076,000
Louisiana	174,506,000	244,364,000	351,732,000	175,990,000	281,929,000
Maine	50,442,000	69,110,000	128,936,000	50,871,000	79,980,000
Maryland	184,574,000	258,089,000	385,726,000	186,143,000	298,194,000
Massachusetts	261,681,000	358,526,000	555,895,000	263,906,000	414,917,000
Michigan	369,262,000	517,069,000	830,207,000	372,402,000	596,573,000
Minnesota	174,985,000	239,754,000	396,329,000	176,473,000	277,707,000
Mississippi	109,703,000	153,614,000	236,379,000	110,635,000	177,234,000
Missouri	209,400,000	286,937,000	490,280,000	211,180,000	334,176,000
Montana	33,879,000	47,441,000	66,957,000	34,238,000	54,734,000
Nebraska	68,834,000	94,308,000	156,865,000	69,419,000	109,142,000
Nevada	61,046,000	85,484,000	161,337,000	61,566,000	98,626,000
New Hampshire	43,748,000	59,938,000	108,696,000	44,120,000	69,365,000
New Jersey	333,206,000	456,521,000	843,755,000	336,040,000	528,327,000
New Mexico	84,016,000	115,521,000	176,604,000	84,730,000	134,683,000
New York	699,789,000	958,792,000	1,510,247,000	705,740,000	1,109,575,000
North Carolina	288,431,000	403,877,000	663,593,000	290,884,000	465,985,000
North Dakota	24,150,000	33,818,000	50,379,000	24,740,000	39,016,000
Ohio	403,485,000	560,267,000	894,652,000	406,916,000	651,864,000

State	Preliminary FY2006 Grants	Estimated FY2006 Authorized Grants	Estimated FY2006 Maximum Grants	Estimated FY2007 Grants (based on President's request)	Estimated FY2007 Authorized Grants
(column 1)	(column 2)	(column 3)	(column 4)	(column 5)	(column 6)
Oklahoma	136,350,000	188,954,000	326,077,000	137,510,000	220,285,000
Oregon	118,887,000	165,272,000	264,645,000	119,898,000	192,072,000
Pennsylvania	393,753,000	547,701,000	968,933,000	397,102,000	636,141,000
Puerto Rico	99,227,000	138,950,000	300,214,000	101,653,000	160,310,000
Rhode Island	40,312,000	55,231,000	108,205,000	40,655,000	63,918,000
South Carolina	161,465,000	222,967,000	382,654,000	162,838,000	260,207,000
South Dakota	28,769,000	40,286,000	61,498,000	29,472,000	46,479,000
Tennessee	214,982,000	297,806,000	420,862,000	216,811,000	347,322,000
Texas	888,269,000	1,243,854,000	1,764,652,000	895,823,000	1,435,073,000
Utah	98,327,000	137,686,000	205,347,000	99,163,000	158,855,000
Vermont	23,285,000	32,607,000	47,754,000	23,854,000	37,619,000
Virginia	259,641,000	363,553,000	610,444,000	261,849,000	419,472,000
Washington	204,037,000	285,710,000	425,748,000	205,772,000	329,639,000
West Virginia	70,009,000	95,918,000	172,874,000	70,604,000	111,005,000
Wisconsin	191,909,000	263,887,000	443,291,000	193,541,000	308,116,000
Wyoming	24,428,000	34,208,000	46,550,000	25,026,000	39,466,000
Subtotals to states	10,442,096,000	14,507,783,000	23,295,880,000	10,535,970,000	16,791,926,000
Total Set-Asides	140,864,000	140,864,000	140,864,000	146,991,000	146,991,000
Totals	\$10,582,961,000	\$14,648,647,000	\$23,436,744,000	\$10,682,961,000	\$16,938,918,000

Source: CRS calculations based on data obtained from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) Budget Service.

Note: Totals may differ slightly due to rounding. State grants are estimates only and do not necessarily represent amounts states and other entities will eventually receive. These amounts are provided for the purpose of policy discussion only.

Background on Maximum Funding. When Congress enacted the predecessor legislation to IDEA¹² in 1975, the available estimate of the cost of educating children with disabilities was, on average, twice the cost of educating other children. A determination was made that the federal government would pay some proportion of this additional or “excess” cost. The metric for determining this excess cost was the national average per-pupil expenditure (APPE). The final determination was that the federal government would pay up to 40% of this excess cost. That is,

¹² Federal special education legislation existed prior to 1975 — most notably the Education of the Handicapped Act (EHA). P.L. 94-142 (the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975) substantially amended the EHA, creating the essential structure and principles of federal assistance to special education that are still reflected in current law. In 1990, the name of the act was changed to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by P.L. 101-476. Congress made extensive amendments to IDEA in 1997 (P.L. 105-17) and again in 2004 (P.L. 108-446); however the basic characteristics of the act resemble those first enacted in 1975.

a state's maximum grant under the grant-to-states program is 40% of APPE times the number of children with disabilities served. (See Section 611(a)(2) of IDEA.)¹³ Total funds necessary to provide each state with its maximum grant are often called the "full funding" amount for IDEA Part B grants to states.

Relationship of Appropriations and Budget Request to Maximum Funding. Although appropriations for IDEA Part B grants to states have increased significantly over the last decade, funding still falls short of the amount that would be necessary to provide maximum grants to all states. **Table 5** shows estimated percentages of excess cost since FY1995. The 5th column of the table shows the estimated excess cost, that is, the number of children with disabilities served times the national APPE. The 4th column shows the estimated amount needed to "fully fund" IDEA, that is 40% of the figures in the final column. The calculation of the percentage of excess cost included in the appropriation (column 3) is obtained by dividing the appropriation (column 2)¹⁴ by the last column (column 5). The FY2006 appropriated amount (accounting for 17.73% of the estimated excess cost), represents the first time the percentage of APPE has declined from the prior year since FY1996. The President's budget request would also account for about 17% of estimated excess cost, which would represent another decrease.

**Table 5. Estimation of "Full Funding" of
IDEA Part B Grants to States (FY1995-FY2007)**

FY	Appropriations for IDEA Part B grants to states (in \$000)	Actual and proposed appropriations as % of estimated excess cost	Estimated federal "full funding" (40% of excess cost) (in \$000)	Estimated excess cost (in \$000)
(column 1)	(column 2)	(column 3)	(column 4)	(column 5)
1995	\$2,322,915	7.80%	\$11,872,137	\$29,680,343
1996	2,323,837	7.30%	12,699,024	31,747,560
1997	3,107,522	9.20%	13,460,630	33,651,576
1998	3,801,000	10.50%	14,457,195	36,142,988
1999	4,301,000	11.10%	15,445,347	38,613,368
2000	4,976,685	12.00%	16,641,158	41,602,894
2001	6,323,685	14.10%	17,882,114	44,705,286
2002	7,512,533	15.45%	19,446,407	48,616,017
2003	8,858,398	17.09%	20,729,452	51,823,629
2004	10,052,106	18.35%	21,911,602	54,779,004
2005	10,579,746	18.51%	22,858,080	57,145,200
2006	10,567,961	17.73%	23,847,402	59,618,504

¹³ Under P.L. 108-446, the calculation of maximum state grants will change in FY2007. See CRS Report RL32716 ("Part B — Assistance for Children with Disabilities Ages 3 to 21: Allotment and Authorization (§611)"), for a discussion of this change.

¹⁴ Note that funds for evaluations and studies are excluded from these calculations for FY1999 through FY2004 and funds for technical assistance are excluded from calculations for FY2006 and FY2007.

FY	Appropriations for IDEA Part B grants to states (in \$000)	Actual and proposed appropriations as % of estimated excess cost	Estimated federal “full funding” (40% of excess cost) (in \$000)	Estimated excess cost (in \$000)
(column 1)	(column 2)	(column 3)	(column 4)	(column 5)
2007 request	10,662,961	16.97%	25,134,246	62,835,615

Source: Table prepared by Congressional Research Service (CRS) from U.S. Department of Education (ED) data.

Note: FY1999-FY2004 funds exclude amounts for studies and evaluations; FY2005 through FY2007 funds exclude amounts for technical assistance. Estimates of “full funding” amounts and percentages of APPE will change for any fiscal year for which ED revises data to calculate these estimates.

It is important to note that the estimates of excess cost (and thus of the “full funding” amount) tend to increase from year to year. That is because the Budget Service of the U.S. Department of Education (ED), which is the principal source of estimates, increases its estimates of the number of children with disabilities each year and increases the estimated APPE by an inflation adjustment.

Table 4 above compares estimated FY2006 Part B grants-to-states allocations (column 2) with allocations based on estimated FY2006 maximum state grants (column 4). Estimates of FY2007 maximum state grants are not available at this time because a new method of calculating maximum grants goes into effect in FY2007,¹⁵ and complete data for making estimates are not currently available.

It is important to note that totals for maximum grants for FY2006 and FY2007 in **Table 4** differ from those in column 4 of **Table 5** because the Budget Service projects total numbers of children with disabilities served in its estimates of total funds necessary to provide maximum state grants but does not do this for numbers of children with disabilities served in each state. For the state-by-state maximum grant estimates, the Budget Service uses the most recent child count reported by the states, which currently are for December 2004.

¹⁵ For a discussion of the new methodology, see CRS Report RL32716.