

(11)(A) has been found, through scientifically based research to significantly improve the academic achievement of students participating in such program as compared to students in schools who have not participated in such program; or

(B) has been found to have strong evidence that such program will significantly improve the academic achievement of participating children.

(b) Special rule

A school that receives funds to develop a comprehensive school reform program shall not be limited to using nationally available approaches, but may develop the school's own comprehensive school reform program for schoolwide change as described in subsection (a) of this section.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title I, §1606, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title I, §101, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1604.)

§ 6517. Evaluation and reports

(a) In general

The Secretary shall develop a plan for a national evaluation of the programs assisted under this part.

(b) Evaluation

The national evaluation shall—

(1) evaluate the implementation and results achieved by schools after 3 years of implementing comprehensive school reforms; and

(2) assess the effectiveness of comprehensive school reforms in schools with diverse characteristics.

(c) Reports

The Secretary shall submit a report describing the results of the evaluation under subsection (b) of this section for the Comprehensive School Reform Program to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title I, §1607, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title I, §101, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1605.)

§ 6518. Quality initiatives

The Secretary, through grants or contracts, shall provide funds for—

(1) a public-private effort, in which funds are matched by private organizations, to assist States, local educational agencies, and schools, in making informed decisions regarding approving or selecting providers of comprehensive school reform, consistent with the requirements described in section 6516(a) of this title; and

(2) activities to foster the development of comprehensive school reform models and to provide effective capacity building for comprehensive school reform providers to expand their work in more schools, assure quality, and promote financial stability.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title I, §1608, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title I, §101, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1605.)

PART G—ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAMS

§ 6531. Short title

This part may be cited as the “Access to High Standards Act”.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title I, §1701, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title I, §101, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1606.)

§ 6532. Purposes

The purposes of this part are—

(1) to support State and local efforts to raise academic standards through advanced placement programs, and thus further increase the number of students who participate and succeed in advanced placement programs;

(2) to encourage more of the 600,000 students who take advanced placement courses each year but do not take advanced placement exams each year, to demonstrate their achievements through taking the exams;

(3) to build on the many benefits of advanced placement programs for students, which benefits may include the acquisition of skills that are important to many employers, Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores that are 100 points above the national averages, and the achievement of better grades in secondary school and in college than the grades of students who have not participated in the programs;

(4) to increase the availability and broaden the range of schools, including middle schools, that have advanced placement and pre-advanced placement programs;

(5) to demonstrate that larger and more diverse groups of students can participate and succeed in advanced placement programs;

(6) to provide greater access to advanced placement and pre-advanced placement courses and highly trained teachers for low-income and other disadvantaged students;

(7) to provide access to advanced placement courses for secondary school students at schools that do not offer advanced placement programs, increase the rate at which secondary school students participate in advanced placement courses, and increase the numbers of students who receive advanced placement test scores for which college academic credit is awarded;

(8) to increase the participation of low-income individuals in taking advanced placement tests through the payment or partial payment of the costs of the advanced placement test fees; and

(9) to increase the number of individuals that achieve a baccalaureate or advanced degree, and to decrease the amount of time such individuals require to attain such degrees.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title I, §1702, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title I, §101, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1606.)

§ 6533. Funding distribution rule

From amounts appropriated under section 6302(g) of this title for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall give priority to funding activities under section 6534 of this title and shall distribute any remaining funds under section 6535 of this title.

(Pub. L. 89-10, title I, §1703, as added Pub. L. 107-110, title I, §101, Jan. 8, 2002, 115 Stat. 1606.)