

SUBCHAPTER VIII—MINORITY-FOCUSED  
CIVICS EDUCATION

**§ 5981. Short title**

This subchapter may be cited as the “Minority-Focused Civics Education Act of 1994”.

(Pub. L. 103-227, title VIII, § 801, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 209.)

**§ 5982. Purposes**

It is the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) to encourage improved instruction for minorities and Native Americans in American government and civics through a national program of accredited summer teacher training and staff development seminars or institutes followed by academic year inservice training programs conducted on college and university campuses or other appropriate sites, for—

(A) social studies and other teachers responsible for American history, government, and civics classes; and

(B) other educators who work with minority and Native American youth; and

(2) through such improved instruction to improve minority and Native American student knowledge and understanding of the American system of government.

(Pub. L. 103-227, title VIII, § 802, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 209.)

**§ 5983. Grants authorized; authorization of appropriations**

**(a) Grants authorized**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary is authorized to make grants to eligible entities for the development and implementation of seminars in American government and civics for elementary and secondary school teachers and other educators who work with minority and Native American students.

**(2) Award rule**

In awarding grants under this subchapter, the Secretary shall ensure that there is wide geographic distribution of such grants.

**(b) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for fiscal 1995, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998, to carry out this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 103-227, title VIII, § 803, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 210.)

**§ 5984. Definitions**

For purposes of this subchapter—

(1) the term “eligible entity” means a State educational agency, an institution of higher education or a State higher education agency, or a public or private nonprofit organization, with experience in coordinating or conducting teacher training seminars in American government and civics education, or a consortium thereof; and

(2) the term “State higher education agency” means the officer or agency primarily re-

sponsible for the State supervision of higher education.

(Pub. L. 103-227, title VIII, § 804, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 210.)

**§ 5985. Applications**

**(a) Application required**

Each eligible entity desiring a grant under this subchapter shall submit an application to the Secretary, at such time, in such manner and containing or accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

**(b) Contents of application**

Each application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall—

(1) define the learning objectives and course content of each seminar to be held and describe the manner in which seminar participants shall receive substantive academic instruction in the principles, institutions and processes of American government;

(2) provide assurances that educators successfully participating in each seminar will qualify for either graduate credit or professional development or advancement credit according to the criteria established by a State or local educational agency;

(3) describe the manner in which seminar participants shall receive exposure to a broad array of individuals who are actively involved in the political process, including political party representatives drawn equally from the major political parties, as well as representatives of other organizations involved in the political process;

(4) provide assurances that the seminars will be conducted on a nonpartisan basis;

(5) describe the manner in which the seminars will address the role of minorities or Native Americans in the American political process, including such topics as—

(A) the history and current political state of minorities or Native Americans;

(B) recent research on minority or Native American political socialization patterns and cognitive learning styles; and

(C) studies of political participation patterns of minorities or Native Americans;

(6) describe the pedagogical elements for teachers that will enable teachers to develop effective strategies and lesson plans for teaching minorities or Native American students at the elementary and secondary school levels;

(7) identify the eligible entities which will conduct the seminars for which assistance is sought;

(8) in the case that the eligible entity is an institution of higher education, describe the plans for collaborating with national organizations in American government and civics education;

(9) provide assurances that during the academic year educators participating in the summer seminars will provide inservice training programs based upon what such educators have learned and the curricular materials such educators have developed or acquired for their peers in their school systems with the approval and support of their school administrators; and

(10) describe the activities or services for which assistance is sought, including activities and services such as—

- (A) development of seminar curricula;
- (B) development and distribution of instructional materials;
- (C) scholarships for participating teachers; and
- (D) program assessment and evaluation.

**(c) Priority**

The Secretary, in approving applications for assistance under this subchapter, shall give priority to applications which demonstrate that—

- (1) the applicant will serve teachers who teach in schools with a large number or concentration of economically disadvantaged students;
- (2) the applicant has demonstrated national experience in conducting or coordinating accredited summer seminars in American government or civics education for elementary and secondary school teachers;
- (3) the applicant will coordinate or conduct seminars on a national or multistate basis through a collaboration with an institution of higher education, State higher education agency or a public or private nonprofit organization, with experience in coordinating or conducting teacher training programs in American government and civics education;
- (4) the applicant will coordinate or conduct seminars designed for more than one minority student population and for Native Americans; and
- (5) the applicant will coordinate or conduct seminars that offer a combination of academic instruction in American government, exposure to the practical workings of the political system, and training in appropriate pedagogical techniques for working with minority and Native American students.

(Pub. L. 103-227, title VIII, § 805, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 210.)

SUBCHAPTER IX—EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT

**§ 6001. Short title**

This subchapter may be cited as the “Educational Research, Development, Dissemination, and Improvement Act of 1994”.

(Pub. L. 103-227, title IX, § 901, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 212.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title IX of Pub. L. 103-227, Mar. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 212, which enacted this subchapter, amended sections 2422, 3155, 3412, 3419, 3462, and 4085b of this title, repealed section 1221e of this title, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1221e and 3155 of this title.

**§ 6002. Findings**

The Congress finds as follows with respect to improving education in the United States:

- (1) A majority of public schools in the United States are failing to prepare students to achieve the National Education Goals. The Federal Government should support an exten-

sive program of educational research, development, dissemination, replication and assistance to identify and support the best responses for the challenges ahead. A significant investment in attaining a deeper understanding of the processes of learning and schooling and developing new ideas holds the best hope of making a substantial difference to the lives of every student in the United States. The Office of Educational Research and Improvement within the Department of Education should be at the center of this campaign in order to coordinate such efforts.

(2) The Federal role in educational research has been closely identified with youths who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, are minorities, belong to a language minority, or have a disability. The Federal commitment to education was sufficient to serve not more than—

- (A) in 1993, 1 out of every 6 low-income children in need of preschool education;
- (B) in 1990, 3 out of every 5 children in need of remediation;
- (C) in 1991, 1 out of every 5 children in need of bilingual education; and
- (D) in 1992, 1 out of every 20 youths eligible for assistance under the Job Training Partnership Act.

(3) The failure of the Federal Government to adequately invest in educational research and development has denied the United States a sound foundation of knowledge on which to design school improvements. The educational achievement of minority children is of particular concern because at least half of the public school students in 25 of the largest cities of the United States are minority children, and demographers project that, by the year 2005, almost all urban public school students will be minority children or other children in poverty.

(4) The investment goal of the Federal research, development, and dissemination function should be at least 1 percent of the total amount of funds spent on education.

(5) Nationwide model programs and reliable interventions should be demonstrated and replicated, and for such purposes, programs should be established to conduct research and evaluations, and to disseminate information.

(6) The Office should develop a national dissemination policy that will advance the goal of placing a national treasure chest of research results, models, and materials at the disposal of the education decisionmakers of the United States.

(7) A National Educational Research Policy and Priorities Board should be established to work collaboratively with the Assistant Secretary to forge a national consensus with respect to a long-term agenda for educational research, development, dissemination, and the activities of the Office.

(8) Existing research and development entities should adopt expanded, proactive roles and new institutions should be created to promote knowledge development necessary to accelerate the application of research findings to high priority areas.

(9) Greater use should be made of existing technologies in efforts to improve the edu-