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West Virginia and Funding from the U.S. Department of Education

On March 20, 2025, an Executive Order was issued to eliminate the U.S. Department of Education. This decision threatens essential services for students with disabilities, including IEPs, vocational rehabilitation, and civil rights protections under IDEA. Without strong federal oversight, students with disabilities may face significant barriers to accessing the education and support they are guaranteed by law. The Executive Order offers no clear plan for how these critical services will be maintained.

In addition to the following details the federal funding West Virginia received from the U.S. Department of Education in the 2021-2022 school year.

Federal Funding Percentage: Public schools in West Virginia received approximately 18.9% of their funding from the federal government during the 2021-22 school year.

Total Federal Funding: The state received \$779 million in federal funds for public schools during that period.

Per Student Funding: This translates to \$3,083 in federal funds per student, which is 21.6% higher than the national average of \$2,536 per student.

Federal Spending: The Department of Education spent \$268 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2024, which was 4.0% of the \$6.8 trillion in overall federal spending.

State and Local Funding for Higher Education: State and local government funding for higher education in West Virginia totaled \$574 million in fiscal year 2024.

Federal Grants: A variety of federal grants are available, including Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), and Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants.

Reference: <https://nacdd.org/> and <https://usafacts.org/>