

Department of Education
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND
Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Request

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AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

For carrying out the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind of March 3, 1879, \$25,431,000.

(Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2016.)

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Analysis of Language Provisions and Changes

Language Provision	Explanation
<u>to Promote the Education of the Blind</u>	The name of the Act of March 3, 1879 is included to clarify the appropriation language reference.

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Appropriation, Adjustments and Transfers
(dollars in thousands)

Appropriation/Adjustments/Transfers	2015	2016	2017
Discretionary:			
Appropriation	\$24,931	\$25,431	\$25,431

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Authorizing Legislation
(dollars in thousands)

Activity	2016 Authorized	2016 Estimate	2017 Authorized	2017 Request
The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind (20 U.S. C. 101 et. seq.)	<u>Indefinite</u>	<u>\$25,431</u>	<u>Indefinite</u>	<u>\$25,431</u>
Total annual appropriation		25,431		25,431

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Appropriations History (dollars in thousands)

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2008	\$17,573	\$17,573	\$22,000	\$21,616
2009	21,616	22,697 ¹	22,500 ¹	22,599
2010	22,599	22,599	24,600 ²	24,600
2011	24,600	24,600 ³	24,600 ²	24,600 ⁴
2012	24,600	24,551 ⁵	24,551 ⁵	24,505
2013	24,505	24,505 ⁶	24,508 ⁶	23,223
2014	24,505	N/A ⁷	24,456 ²	24,456
2015	24,456	N/A ⁷	25,000 ⁸	24,931
2016	24,931	25,431	24,931	25,431 ⁹
2017	25,431			

¹ The levels for the House and Senate allowances reflect action on the regular annual 2009 appropriations bill, which proceeded in the 110th Congress only through the House Subcommittee and the Senate Committee.

² The levels for the Senate allowance reflect Committee action only.

³ The levels for the House allowance reflect the House-passed full-year continuing resolution.

⁴ The level for appropriation reflects the Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (P.L. 112-10).

⁵ The level for the House allowance reflects an introduced bill and the level for the Senate allowance reflects Senate Committee action only.

⁶ The level for the House and Senate allowances reflect action on the regular annual 2013 appropriations bill, which proceeded in the 112th Congress only through the House Subcommittee and the Senate Committee.

⁷ The House allowance is shown as N/A because there was no Subcommittee action.

⁸ The level for the Senate allowance reflects Senate Subcommittee action only.

⁹ The levels for House and Senate allowances reflect action on the regular annual 2016 appropriation bill, which proceeded in the 114th Congress only through the House Committee and Senate Committee.

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American Printing House for the Blind

(Act to Promote the Education of the Blind, 20 U.S.C. 101 et seq.)

(dollars in thousands)

FY 2017 Authorization: Indefinite

Budget Authority:

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Change</u>
\$25,431	\$25,431	0

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind authorizes an annual appropriation for the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) to produce and distribute educational materials adapted for students who are legally blind and enrolled in formal educational programs below the college level. The APH, located in Louisville, Kentucky, has received Federal support under this Act since 1879. Materials produced by APH include textbooks in braille and large type, educational tools such as braille typewriters and computer software and hardware, teaching aides, including tests and performance assessments, and other special supplies. State educational agencies and programs serving persons who are blind may order materials free of charge up to the amount of funds allocated to each State for educational materials.

Approximately 75 percent of the appropriation is used to cover the cost of operations to produce these materials. The APH uses the remainder of the appropriated funds to conduct research related to developing and improving products and to provide advisory services to professional and consumer organizations.

The APH conducts research necessary to develop and improve educational materials in core curriculum areas such as science, mathematics, English language arts, and social studies and adapts testing materials related to these subject areas. In addition, APH undertakes research in product areas specific to the visually impaired population, such as braille reading, orientation and mobility, and assistive technology. Special materials are also developed for use in teaching students who are blind and have additional disabilities in areas such as early intervention and early childhood education, prevocational training, and the functional use of residual vision.

Advisory services provided by the APH include: administration of the Student Registration System, Louis Database of Accessible Materials, Electronic File Repository and Expert Database; National Instructional Partnership activities; and production of catalogs, brochures, videos, and a wide variety of web-based information. APH also convenes expert advisory committees and focus groups to address specific issues, as necessary.

APH materials are distributed, through allotments of funds to the States, to programs serving students who are blind. The allotments are based on an annual census conducted by APH of the number of students who are legally blind in each State and are provided in the form of

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credits. As of July 2015, APH had 201 Federal Quota accounts administered by 143 ex officio trustees who represent State educational agencies, schools for the blind, rehabilitation programs, and other agencies responsible for the education of blind students in each State. The Quota accounts consist of funds from the APH appropriation in the form of credits that are allocated on the basis of the annual census of blind students to the ex officio trustees. Trustees may use the credits to order materials from APH. These materials are available for purchase by the trustees and the general public at <http://shop.aph.org>. The ex officio trustees are responsible for the administration of the Federal accounts in each State. Items to be produced and distributed by APH are reviewed by a six-member Educational Products Advisory Committee. The purpose of this committee, made up of ex officio trustees, is to ensure that all educational materials produced and research undertaken by APH are effectively focused on meeting the needs of students who are blind. In addition, a second five-member advisory committee of ex officio trustees, the Educational Services Advisory Committee, provides oversight and accountability regarding APH's outreach and support services.

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the States are required to provide a free appropriate public education, including appropriate related materials and supplies, to all students with disabilities. Materials provided through the APH appropriation supplement the various other resources available to the States to achieve this goal. In order to meet their responsibilities under the IDEA, many States make additional purchases from APH and other suppliers of materials for students who are visually impaired.

In fiscal year 2015, funding provided by the Federal Government for educational materials represented approximately 65 percent of the Printing House's total sales income. Funding provided through the APH appropriation represented approximately 73 percent of APH's total budget of \$34 million. Federal grants and contracts from agencies such as the National Library Service for the Blind, Social Security Administration, and Veterans Administration represented 11 percent of APH's total budget for fiscal year 2015. The remaining sixteen percent of APH's budget came from nongovernmental contracts and revenue generated from the sale of unsubsidized product to State and local agencies, direct sales to individuals who are blind, private sector contract sales, corporate and individual donations from the private sector, and interest income from endowments and other investments.

Funding levels for the past 5 fiscal years were:

Fiscal Year	(dollars in thousands)
2012	\$24,505
2013	23,223
2014	24,456
2015	24,931
2016	25,431

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FY 2017 BUDGET REQUEST

The Administration requests \$25.4 million for activities to be conducted by the American Printing House (APH) for the Blind in fiscal year 2017. The request would maintain funding for APH at the fiscal year 2016 level. APH provides crucial educational aids at no cost to students who are visually impaired. The materials developed, manufactured, and distributed by the APH offer States an additional resource to help provide a free appropriate public education to visually impaired students, as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Federal support of the APH also helps ensure that students who are visually impaired receive the accessible educational materials they need to succeed in school and prepare for college and careers. The Administration believes the request provides sufficient resources to support an adequate level of service in each of the three program areas: educational materials, advisory services, and research.

Educational Materials. The Administration's request includes \$19 million for educational materials, the same as the fiscal year 2016 level. The requested funding level provides an estimated \$304 per eligible student. Materials produced by APH include textbooks in braille, large type, and audio recording formats; educational aides such as braille typewriters, raised (tactile) graphics, and computer software and hardware; teaching tools such as tests and performance measures; and other special supplies. APH manufactures these instructional materials for a broad range of academic subjects and grade levels. In fiscal year 2015, 1,020 distinct educational products were available for purchase with Federal Quota funds. The Quota consists of funds from the APH appropriation (about 75 percent) in the form of credits that are allocated to States on the basis of the annual census of blind students in each State.

The timely delivery of textbooks in accessible media formats for braille-reading students is crucial to ensuring that children who are visually impaired have the same access to a free appropriate public education as children without disabilities. In order to address this need, each year APH produces thousands of braille and large print textbooks on demand, including instructional materials featuring tactile graphics. APH issues industry standards for tactile graphics, manufactures and distributes graphics to students across the country, and maintains a Tactile Graphic Image Library in order to increase the variety and lower the cost of pictures and graphics included in accessible educational materials. Tactile graphics are essential for teaching subjects such as geography and geometry. The funds requested for educational materials support APH's production of teaching modules and associated instructional materials in these subjects.

Advisory Services. The Administration requests \$1.5 million for advisory services for fiscal year 2017, the same as the fiscal year 2016 level. APH advisory services include a variety of activities that support the administration of the educational materials program. These funds provide for such things as the annual meeting of the ex-officio trustees; advisory group panels; the annual census of students who are visually impaired; printing and distribution of catalogs of available materials; and field services such as consultation, in-service training, webinars, and workshops. Advisory services support the provision of ongoing consumer information and technical support to customers and help to establish and maintain communication with APH's network of ex-officio trustees. APH also provides support and information to staff and teachers at schools around the country. In order to maximize the availability of ongoing training and

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technical assistance activities, APH frequently conducts training through the Internet. These Web-based training sessions have given APH the ability to reach a wide audience in an efficient, low-cost manner.

Projects that would continue to be funded in fiscal year 2017 include:

- the National Instructional Partnerships program, Webcast product training series (see: <http://www.aph.org/videos/>),
- APH Research Library (see: <http://miguel.aph.org/catalog/CategoryInfo.aspx?cid=152>),
- APH Accessible Media Producers Database (see: <http://louis.aph.org/catalog/CategoryInfo.aspx?cid=152&master=AMP>), and the
- National Instructional Partnership with Teacher Training Programs (see: <http://www.aph.org/advisory/initiatives/#nip>).

The APH Web site offers the public convenient access to products, manuals, downloadable catalogs and newsletters, information on training events, online surveys, and online reference services such as the Louis Accessible Materials Database and APH file repository. In recent years, APH has integrated these unique databases and online tools to make them cross-searchable and to enhance user-friendliness. The APH Web site provides a unique, comprehensive source of specialized information and resources on accessible instructional materials for individuals who are visually impaired. The request provides sufficient funds to cover advisory services planned in fiscal year 2017.

Research and Product Development. The Administration's request for research in fiscal year 2017 is \$4.9 million, the same amount that would be allocated for research at the fiscal year 2016 level. APH undertakes applied and developmental research with the goal of developing innovative educational products for students who are visually impaired. Major research initiatives include the *APH SMART Braille by Perkins*, which is an electronic braille that provides the user immediate feedback through text-to-speech, and a screen that displays SimBraille and large print of what is brailled. There is an audio and visual component that provides access to non-braille users. APH has also partnered with Orbit Research® and Texas Instruments® to create the *Orion TI-84 Plus Talking Graphing Calculator*. The modified TI-84 Plus has attachments that add accessibility controls allowing the student to participate fully in STEM-related academics. A calculator to assist younger students is currently in development. These new products represent major improvements over existing tools and technologies. APH also continues to invest in the development of the file formats, software, hardware, and production infrastructure necessary to produce and deliver braille books through electronic files and e-readers rather than through paper books. (see: <http://www.aph.org/research/>)

The Administration recognizes the need for APH to conduct developmental and applied research, so that it can continue to meet the changing needs of students who are visually impaired, particularly as the technologies for producing accessible educational materials evolve rapidly. The request will provide funds for APH to conduct over 350 research projects in a wide range of content areas, including development of new products for use with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who are visually impaired, materials for students who are visually impaired with secondary disabilities, equipment to assist students with low vision, materials for braille

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literacy, classroom learning aids, tactile graphics, and tools to aid in the transition from school to postsecondary educational or job settings.

Product development activities planned for fiscal year 2017 are categorized into 12 content areas: Adult Life, Braille, Core Curriculum, Cortical Visual Impairment, Early Childhood, Emergent Literacy, Low Vision, Multiple Disabilities, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), Tactile Graphics, Technology, and Tests and Assessments.

The Administration's request also includes funding for APH's Accessible Tests Department initiative. (see: <http://www.aph.org/tests-and-textbooks/>) The goals of this initiative are to:

- Provide tests, practice tests, examination administration manuals, and other assessment related materials, including full-color large print assessments, in high quality accessible media.
- Promote the inclusion of visually impaired individuals during the development of assessments.
- Enhance the test performance of visually impaired individuals through research, education, and communication.

PROGRAM OUTPUT MEASURES

(dollars in thousands)

<u>Output Measures</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Distribution of funding:			
Educational materials	\$18,698	\$19,000	\$19,000
Advisory services	1,550	1,550	1,550
Educational and technical research	<u>4,683</u>	<u>4,881</u>	<u>4,881</u>
Total	24,931	25,431	25,431
Number of eligible students	61,739	62,528	62,528
Average per student allotment (whole dollars)	\$305	\$304	\$304
Number of services and products provided:			
Products available with Federal funds	1,020	1,020	1,020
Advisory committee meetings	5	5	5
State educational agencies visited	14	12	12
Residential programs visited	9	10	10
Rehabilitation programs visited	9	9	9
In-service training programs and webcasts	20	25	25
Product training presentations and exhibits	111	125	125
Visits to Ex Officio Trustees	2	2	2
Total employees (full-time equiv.)	31	31	31

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PROGRAM PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Performance Measures

This section presents selected program performance information, for example, GPRA goals, objectives, measures, performance targets; and an assessment of the progress made toward achieving program results. Achievement of program results is based on the cumulative effect of the resources provided in previous years, those requested in fiscal year 2017 and future years, as well as the resources and efforts invested by those served by this program.

The Administration and the APH worked together to develop 10 performance measures for the activities carried out through the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind. Four of the indicators are customer satisfaction measures. Two are efficiency measures. Four indicators measure aspects of product quality.

Goal: Pre-college level blind students will receive appropriate educational materials that result in improved educational outcomes.

***Objective:** Appropriate, timely, high-quality educational materials are provided to pre-college level visually impaired students to allow them to benefit more fully from their educational programs.*

Measure: The percentage of American Printing House for the Blind trustees, advisory committee members, consumers, and teachers who agree that the educational materials provided through the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind are appropriate, timely, and high quality.

Trustees - Percentage who agree:

Year	Target	Actual Extremely Mostly Somewhat	Extremely Satisfied	Mostly Satisfied	Detail Somewhat Satisfied	Not too Satisfied	Not at all Satisfied
2012	98%	99%	52%	44%	4%	0%	0%
2013	98	99	56	39	6	0	0
2014	98	98	61	35	2	0	0
2015	98	99	61	34	4	0	0
2016	98						
2017	98						

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Advisory Committee Members - Percentage who agree:

Year	Target	Actual Extremely Mostly Somewhat	Extremely Satisfied	Mostly Satisfied	Detail Somewhat Satisfied	Not too Satisfied	Not at all Satisfied
2012	100%	100%	60%	37%	3%	0%	0%
2013	100	100	57	43	0	0	0
2014	100	100	63	33	3	0	0
2015	100	100	66	33	0	0	0
2016	100						
2017	100						

Consumers - Percentage who agree:

Year	Target	Actual Extremely Mostly Somewhat	Extremely Satisfied	Mostly Satisfied	Detail Somewhat Satisfied	Not too Satisfied	Not at all Satisfied
2012	96%	98%	58%	34%	6%	2%	0%
2013	96	98	50	43	6	2	0
2014	96	99	61	33	2	1	0
2015	96	98	50	41	7	0	0
2016	96						
2017	96						

Teachers - Percentage who agree:

Year	Target	Actual Extremely Mostly Somewhat	Extremely Satisfied	Mostly Satisfied	Detail Somewhat Satisfied	Not too Satisfied	Not at all Satisfied
2012	97%	98%	54%	38%	6%	1%	1%
2013	97	98	53	40	6	1	0
2014	97	99	56	37	6	1	0
2015	97	99	57	38	5	0	0
2016	97						
2017	97						

Additional Information: In 2015, data were collected using a survey instrument designed to measure the levels of consumer satisfaction specified in the objective. The individual factors were each rated on a separate 5-point Likert scale, with 5 representing the highest level of satisfaction. APH conducted surveys of the four groups of constituencies cited in the APH GPRA plan for 2015. These groups are: (1) Ex Officio Trustees of APH who are professionals in the field of blindness; (2) APH advisory committees; (3) other consumers of APH products; and (4) teachers of students who are visually impaired.

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The percentages shown for each measure are composed of the respondents from each group that were “Extremely satisfied,” “Mostly satisfied,” or “Somewhat satisfied” with all three dimensions of product satisfaction (quality, timeliness, and appropriateness for targeted audience).

The survey instrument was distributed electronically to 143 current Ex Officio Trustees of APH, advisory committee members, teachers, and consumers. In addition, the survey was available on the APH website. This made it easily available for response by individuals who were not on a specific mailing list, but who were encouraged to respond through invitations on list serves and in various newsletters and announcements. The web-based format also provides accessibility to visually impaired individuals who require alternate media.

There were 366 valid respondents to the 2015 survey. The subsets of that total are: (1) 77 Ex Officio Trustees; (2) 10 advisory committee members; (3) 222 teachers; and (4) 67 other consumers.

Objective: *To improve the quality of APH research and product usefulness.*

Measure: The percentage of APH product sales revenue that is from new products.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	22%	31%
2013	22	45
2014	22	40
2015	22	18
2016	22	
2017	22	

Additional Information: This measure was developed to help determine the efficacy of new products developed by APH. The purpose of the measure is to evaluate the reaction of consumers to new products created by the research department, which is determined by measuring the extent to which sales of new products surpass a minimum level of products sold.

New products for fiscal year 2015 included the Smart Braille and the TI-84 Talking Graphing Calculator. However, the overall ratio of the dollar value of sales of new products to ongoing products is lower for 2014-2015 (at 17.6%), as some of the more expensive products, such as the Visiobook (introduced in 2012), reached the end of the two-year period from their launch dates and are no longer included in this calculation as new products. Thus, APH did not meet the target for 2015.

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Measure: The average rating, according to approved criteria on relevance, for a sample of new American Printing House for the Blind products evaluated by an independent panel of qualified experts or individuals with appropriate expertise related to the target audience.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	4	4.5
2013	4	5.0
2014	4	5.5
2015	4	5.8
2016	4	
2017	4	

Additional Information: To determine the average relevance rating, a panel of experts, who are proposed by APH and approved by the Department, reviews a random sample of new products developed each year by the Printing House to assess whether: (1) there is evidence of need for the product; (2) there is evidence that APH sought the opinions of knowledgeable individuals on the need for the product; (3) APH made the decision to produce the product based on a standardized process for product selection; (4) the product addresses an identified need for individuals who are visually impaired; and (5) the product is fully accessible for the intended population. The products are rated using a 7-point rating scale, where 1 equals “does not meet criteria, 4 equals “meets criteria,” and 7 equals “exceeds criteria.” The average of the scores is the number reported in the actual column. In fiscal 2015, the panel’s average rating increased from the prior year and continued to exceed the “meets criteria” rating. The small variations in the average score from year to year may reflect the changing composition of the expert review panel and the sample of the products rated.

Panel members reviewed and rated 10 new APH products during the on-site March 2015 expert panel meeting, including: (1) U.S.Canada Tactile/Print Atlas; (2) BOEHM3 Preschool Assessment; (3) Braille Beads; (4) DNA/RNA Kit; (5) Games of Squares; (6) Hundres Chart; (7) Math Robot App for IOS; (8) Parenting with a Visual Impairment Book; (9) Smart Brailier; and (10) Step by Step. These products - representing the variety of products produced by APH - were purposefully selected by APH for review by the expert panel.

During the on-site March 2015 expert panel meeting, panel members noted that the product reports included the results of literature searches and user data when documenting relevance. Panel members determined that these APH products met the criteria defined for relevance; that is, these products were relevant and addressed the needs of consumers who are blind and visually impaired.

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Measure: The average rating, according to approved criteria on quality of research, for a sample of new American Printing House for the Blind products evaluated by an independent panel of qualified experts or individuals with appropriate expertise related to the target audience.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	4	4.3
2013	4	4.4
2014	4	5.3
2015	4	5.4
2016	4	
2017	4	

Additional Information: The panel of experts annually reviews a purposefully selected sample of new products developed each year by APH to assess whether: (1) appropriate research methodologies are being used consistent with the type of product being developed; (2) sufficient supporting information and evidence is collected by research data methods; (3) data are gathered from a geographically diverse U.S. population and a variety of potential user groups; (4) evaluation data are gathered from appropriately qualified individuals; (5) research data are gathered from an adequate number of sources; (6) development demonstrates use of field-reviewed data for modification to the product prior to final development; and (7) data are gathered on student and consumer outcomes related to the use of the proposed product. The products are rated using a 7-point rating scale, where 1 equals “does not meet criteria, 4 equals “meets criteria,” and 7 equals “exceeds criteria.” The mean of the scores is the number reported.

Panel members reviewed and rated 10 new APH products during the on-site March 2015 expert panel meeting, including: (1) U.S.Canada Tactile/Print Atlas; (2) BOEHM3 Preschool Assessment; (3) Braille Beads; (4) DNA/RNA Kit; (5) Games of Squares; (6) Hundres Chart; (7) Math Robot App for IOS; (8) Parenting with a Visual Impairment Book; (9) Smart Brailier; and (10) Step by Step. These products - representing the variety of products produced by APH - were purposefully selected by APH for review by the expert panel. Panel members reported that reports with specific data gathered at multiple points, qualitative quotes, and field testing at different geographical sites, as compiled by project leaders, were particularly helpful in rating products. At the same time, panel members stated that APH needs to continue its efforts to collect relevant and useful data on the links between products and student learning outcomes.

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Measure: The average rating, according to approved criteria on utility, for a sample of new American Printing House for the Blind products evaluated by an independent panel of qualified experts or individuals with appropriate expertise related to the target audience.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	4	4.4
2013	4	5.2
2014	4	5.5
2015	4	6
2016	4	
2017	4	

Additional Information: For this measure, the panel of experts annually reviews a purposefully selected sample of new products developed each year by APH to assess whether: (1) sales of the new products indicate demand; (2) new product indicators, such as field evaluations and other feedback, substantiate that the new product is meeting a need; and (3) the products are considered highly useful for individuals with visual impairments. The products are rated using a 7-point rating scale, where 1 equals “does not meet criteria, 4 equals “meets criteria,” and 7 equals “exceeds criteria.” In fiscal 2015, the average rating continued to increase and the target “meets criteria” rating was once again exceeded. Panel members stated that updates on specific products provided by the project leaders during the on-site presentations, along with hands-on demonstration and videos, were helpful in determining the utility of APH products for this category.

Efficiency Measures

The Department worked closely with the Printing House to develop appropriate efficiency measures for the Federal program at APH.

Measure: The cost (in cents) per page to produce color large type textbooks.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	10.8¢	8.1¢
2013	11.5	9.3
2014	12.0	8.2
2015	10.0	8.9
2016	10.0	
2017	10.0	

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Additional Information:

There are three variables used in calculating the cost per page for both the production of color large type and braille textbooks. These three variables are: (1) the actual cost of manufacturing the pages; (2) the total number of pages produced annually; and (3) the average number of pages per volume. Factors that can affect these variables include the costs of raw materials and equipment, demand for products, and efficiency of operations.

In FY 2015, the total number of large type color pages decreased by 1.9 million or 19.7 percent and the number of volumes decreased by 37,000 or 17.7% when compared to FY 2014. Total production expenses decreased by \$141,000 or 10%. As a result, the cost per page increased by 0.7 cents to 8.9 center per page, which is still under the target of 10 cents per page. (APH printed 7,763,000 pages of color large print type textbooks at a cost of \$1,262,000 in 2015.)

Measure: The cost (in cents) per page to produce braille textbooks.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	10.9¢	10.6¢
2013	11.0	15.2
2014	10.7	17.1
2015	15.0	15.1
2016	15.0	
2017	15.0	

Additional Information: In FY 2015, the total number of braille textbook pages decreased by 1.8 million or 29.2 percent and the number of volumes increased by 13,000 or 18.8 percent, compared to FY 2014. Total production expenses increased by \$86,000 or 8 percent. As a result, the total cost to produce braille textbooks decreased by 2 cents or 12 percent to 15.1 cents per page, almost meeting the target of 15 cents per page. (APH printed 7,855,000,000 pages of braille textbooks at a cost of \$1,167,000 in FY 2015.)