

**Department of Education**  
**NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF**  
**Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Request**

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## **NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF**

For the National Technical Institute for the Deaf under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, \$70,016,000: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the Institute may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act<sup>1</sup>. (*Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2016.*)

### NOTE

Each language provision that is followed by a footnote reference is explained in the Analysis of Language Provisions and Changes document which follows the appropriation language.

**NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF**

**Analysis of Language Provisions and Changes**

Language Provision	Explanation
<p><sup>1</sup>... <i>Provided</i>, That from the total amount available, the Institute may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207.</p>	<p>This language provides authority for the Institute to use funds from the general appropriation for the Endowment Grant program.</p>

**NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF**

**Appropriation Adjustments and Transfers**  
(dollars in thousands)

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Appropriation/Adjustments/Transfers	2015	2016	2017
Discretionary budget authority:			
Appropriation .....	\$67,016	\$70,016	\$70,016

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**NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF**

**Authorizing Legislation**  
(dollars in thousands)

Activity	2016 Authorized	2016 Estimate	2017 Authorized	2017 Request
Operations ( <i>EDA I-B</i> )	Indefinite	\$67,016 <sup>1</sup>	To be determined <sup>1</sup>	\$70,016
Construction ( <i>EDA I-112</i> )	Indefinite	---	To be determined <sup>1</sup>	---
Endowment ( <i>EDA II-207</i> )	<u>Indefinite</u> <sup>2</sup>	____ <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>To be determined</u> <sup>1,2</sup>	____ <sup>(2)</sup>
Total appropriation		70,016		70,016
Portion of the request subject to reauthorization				70,016

<sup>1</sup> The GEPA extension expired September 30, 2015. Reauthorizing language is sought for fiscal year 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Funding for the Endowment Grant program is provided together with funding for operations through a single appropriations amount. Appropriations language is included to authorize NTID, at its discretion, to use funds for the Endowment Grant program from the total amount available.

**NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF**

**Appropriations History**  
(dollars in thousands)

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2008	\$56,262	\$60,757	\$59,000	\$59,696
2009	59,195	64,212 <sup>1</sup>	62,000 <sup>1</sup>	64,212
2010	68,437	68,437	68,437 <sup>2</sup>	68,437
2011	64,677	68,437 <sup>3</sup>	64,677 <sup>4</sup>	65,546
2012	65,037	65,546 <sup>5</sup>	65,546 <sup>5</sup>	65,422
2013	65,037	65,422 <sup>6</sup>	65,422 <sup>6</sup>	62,000
2014	65,422	N/A <sup>7</sup>	66,422 <sup>2</sup>	66,291
2015	66,291	N/A <sup>7</sup>	66,291 <sup>8</sup>	67,016
2016	67,016	68,016 <sup>9</sup>	69,016 <sup>9</sup>	70,016
2017	70,016			

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> The level for the Senate allowance reflects Committee action only.

<sup>3</sup> The level for the House allowance reflects the House-passed full-year continuing resolution.

<sup>4</sup> The level for the House allowance reflects the House-passed full-year continuing resolution.

<sup>5</sup> The level for the House allowance reflects an introduced bill and the level for the Senate allowances reflects Senate Committee action only.

<sup>6</sup> The levels 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.

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

<sup>8</sup> The level for the Senate allowance reflects Senate Subcommittee action only.

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

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National Technical Institute for the Deaf  
(Education of the Deaf Act, Title I, Part B and Section 207)

(dollars in thousands)

FY 2017 Authorization: To be determined<sup>1</sup>

Budget authority:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Change</u>
	\$70,016	\$70,016	0

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<sup>1</sup> The GEPA extension expired September 30, 2015; reauthorizing legislation is sought for fiscal year 2017.

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### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Congress created the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) in 1965 to promote the employment of persons who are deaf by providing technical and professional education. The National Technical Institute for the Deaf Act was superseded by the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986 (EDA). This Act continued the authority of the Department of Education to maintain an agreement with a host institution for the operation of a residential facility for postsecondary technical training and education for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and to provide a Federal subsidy to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf so that it may continue to provide postsecondary educational opportunities.

The Department maintains a contract with the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, New York, for the operation of NTID. NTID is one of nine colleges of RIT. The purpose of the relationship with the host institution is to provide NTID students access to more facilities, institutional services, and career preparation options than could be otherwise provided solely by a national technical institute for the deaf. RIT provides NTID students with options for courses of study from its eight other colleges, health and counseling services, library, physical education, and recreation facilities, and general services such as food, maintenance, grounds, and security. Indirect cost rates are established by RIT, which govern the reimbursement for each of the services it provides and to cover tuition charges for NTID students enrolled in RIT programs. These rates are approved by the Division of Cost Allocation of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Academics. NTID offers a variety of technical programs at the sub-baccalaureate degree level (certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees). Students enrolled at NTID can earn associate degrees in 18 accredited programs. Qualified students can also earn bachelor's or master's degrees in approximately 200 programs offered by RIT's other colleges: Applied Science and Technology; Business; Computing and Information Sciences; Engineering; Health Sciences and Technology; Imaging Arts and Sciences; Liberal Arts; and Science. NTID initiated a Master of Science program in Secondary Education to prepare students to help meet the national need for highly qualified deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing teachers and leaders in the field of deaf

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education. In addition, NTID operates a Bachelor in Applied Science degree program to train interpreters and a tutor/notetaker training program. Students with hearing loss who enroll in NTID or RIT programs are provided a wide range of support services and programs to assist them in preparing for their careers, including tutoring, remedial and language enrichment programs, counseling, notetaking, interpreting, mentoring, specialized educational media, cooperative work experiences, and specialized job placement.

NTID conducts applied research on occupational and employment-related aspects of deafness, communication assessment, the demographics of NTID's target population, and learning processes in postsecondary education. In addition, NTID conducts training workshops and seminars related to deafness. These workshops and seminars are offered to professionals throughout the nation who employ, work with, teach, or otherwise serve persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Endowment Grant Program. The Federal Endowment Grant program is designed to assist in meeting future needs of NTID and reduce long-term Federal funding requirements by stimulating private contributions. NTID has the discretion to determine the amount of funds it wants the Department to provide from the annual appropriation as matching funds under the Endowment Grant program. The Department may allot funds to the program from the appropriation up to the amount contributed to the fund from non-Federal sources. The EDA provides that NTID may retain up to 50 percent of the income of the fund for expenses necessary to its operation such as personnel, construction and renovation, community and student services, technical assistance, and research. The other 50 percent of the interest returns to the corpus.

No portion of the endowment fund corpus may be withdrawn, except with the Department's approval and only due to a financial emergency, life-threatening situation occasioned by natural disaster, arson, or other unusual circumstance. NTID has full discretion in how it invests the funds it raises for this program. However, the EDA specifies parameters for investment of the Federal matching funds in order to help safeguard that portion of the fund corpus. After a period of 10 years from an initial investment, NTID does not have to follow Federal investment restrictions related to the Federal portion of the corpus and may use any and all earned interest associated with that year's matching funds.

Funding levels for the past 5 fiscal years were:

Fiscal Year	(dollars in thousands)
2012.....	\$65,422
2013.....	62,000
2014.....	66,291
2015.....	67,016
2016.....	70,016

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### FY 2017 BUDGET REQUEST

The Administration is requesting \$70 million for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf for fiscal year 2017, the same as the fiscal year 2016 appropriation. The Administration supports funding for NTID to help promote educational and employment opportunities for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Administration's request would fund operations at the FY 2016 level, which would provide sufficient support to maintain program operations at NTID. The fiscal year 2017 request for operations represents approximately 72 percent of NTID's total projected budget, consistent with recent years. The remaining funds will come from tuition, fees, private contributions, endowment income, and Federal grants and contracts.

Endowment Grant Program. The Administration's request continues the policy of not specifying an amount for NTID's Federal Endowment Grant program. NTID would retain the discretion to determine how much of the Federal funds provided will be used for the Endowment Grant program in 2017. Funds added to NTID's base for operations in prior fiscal years remain available to be used as matching funds for the purpose of the Endowment Grant program. The Administration strongly supports the objectives of the Endowment Grant program and believes this program helps to promote NTID's financial independence through the creation of a permanent and increasing source of funds for enrichment activities and special projects. As of September 30, 2015, the market value of the Federal Endowment Grant program at NTID, including Federal, private, and reinvested funds, was \$50.9 million.

Other Revenue. In addition to funding from the Federal appropriation, NTID receives revenue from a variety of other sources. In fiscal year 2015, NTID received approximately \$26.8 million in other revenue from tuition (\$18.1 million), room and board (\$7.5 million), and student activity fees (\$328,000), as well as sources such as interpreting and captioning services provided to RIT and programs outside the University, the NTID Hearing Aid Shop, and fees from grant programs renting space. This amount represents an increase of approximately \$100,000 in revenue over the \$26.7 million NTID received from these sources in fiscal year 2014. NTID has the flexibility to apply this increased revenue to its highest funding priorities.

The revenue derived from tuition, room, board, and fees is substantially comprised of payments from Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) State agencies and Federal student financial aid programs. For example, in fiscal year 2015, NTID students received \$10.8 million from funds made available under the VR State Grants program to support their postsecondary education and \$2.7 million in Pell Grants. Students also received \$100,000 from RIT grants-in-aid, \$1.4 million from NTID grants-in-aid, \$459,000 in State grants, and \$3.0 million in scholarships stemming from institutionally-supported grants, endowment income, and external groups. In addition to grants and scholarships, NTID students received nearly \$4.8 million in subsidized and unsubsidized Federal student loans and Parent PLUS loans in fiscal year 2015. Many NTID students also receive Federal Social Security and Supplemental Security Income payments. Student aid, excluding loans, averaged approximately \$13,790 per domestic student for both deaf and hearing students, including students in the sub-baccalaureate, baccalaureate, graduate, and interpreter training programs.

International students pay tuition, room, board, and fees, and these payments are included in the revenue figure cited above. However, these students, with the exception of permanent residents, are not eligible for Federal student financial aid or assistance under the VR State

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Grants program. International students receive support from two private endowments. During fiscal year 2015, \$398,000 in interest accrued from these endowments was used for this purpose.

NTID also receives significant revenue from competitive grants and contracts awarded by the Federal and New York State governments. In fiscal year 2015, NTID received nearly \$3.2 million in Federal and State grants and contracts, as well as \$706,000 in private grants and contracts.

Additionally, NTID has been successful in raising private funds. In fiscal year 2015, NTID received \$1.3 million in cash donations to the endowment and other restricted funds and \$70,000 in gifts in kind, primarily equipment and software for specific programs at NTID. These amounts are on par with the previous fiscal year. The funds raised in addition to endowments are restricted by the donors to NTID activities and include such projects as the Hearing Aid Shop Renovation, the Pre-College Education Network, the Next Big Idea Competition, Theater Outreach Programming, Pre-College Outreach Programs, and selected research projects. Restricted gifts totaled \$998,000 in fiscal year 2015. NTID currently has \$5.1 million in endowments that are not part of the Federal Endowment Grant program. In fiscal year 2015, NTID distributed \$1.8 million in earnings from all endowment sources.

### PROGRAM OUTPUT MEASURES

(whole dollars)

<u>Output Measures</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Undergraduate tuition (U.S. students)	\$14,040	\$14,570	\$15,124
Graduate tuition (U.S. students)	15,444	16,030	16,639
Fees	512	528	545
Room	6,758	6,954	7,156
Board	4,810	4,964	5,123
Undergraduate tuition (International students)	28,080 <sup>1,2</sup>	29,140 <sup>1,2</sup>	30,247 <sup>1,2</sup>
Graduate tuition (International students)	30,888 <sup>2,3</sup>	32,060 <sup>2,3</sup>	33,278 <sup>2,3</sup>
Student data (deaf students only – includes international students):			
Applications	796	860	860
Acceptances	464	488	488
Percent of applications accepted	58%	57%	57%
Registrations	324	340	340
Percent of accepted who register	70%	70%	70%

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<sup>1</sup> Tuition rate increases are proposed by NTID annually. However, through an agreement with the Department, the increase may not exceed 10 percent in any given year. NTID is proposing a 3.8-percent increase in graduate tuition for fiscal year 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Graduate students are charged a 10-percent surcharge above the tuition rate for undergraduate students.

<sup>3</sup> A tuition surcharge of 100 percent for international students is required by the authorizing statute; however, the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 provides that NTID may develop a sliding scale model to reduce the surcharge, with different surcharge levels set depending on student need and whether the student's country of origin is considered developed or developing.

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### PROGRAM OUTPUT MEASURES

(whole dollars)

<u>Output Measures</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Enrollment (deaf students only – includes international students):			
Technical (Career Exploration Studies and Sub-Baccalaureate)	624	624	624
Professional Undergraduate	529	543	543
Professional Graduate	<u>44</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>
Total deaf students	1,197	1,220	1,220
Degrees granted			
Associate and certificate degrees	100	100	100
Baccalaureate and graduate degrees	<u>185</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>185</u>
Total degrees granted	285	285	285
Co-op (work experience) placements	271	271	271
Percent of support for operations provided by Federal appropriation	72%	72%	72%
Estimated Federal Cost Per Graduate	\$226,200 <sup>1</sup>	\$233,000 <sup>1</sup>	\$240,000 <sup>1</sup>
Estimated Educational Cost Per Graduate	\$277,100 <sup>2</sup>	\$285,000 <sup>2</sup>	\$293,000 <sup>2</sup>
Student services (rounded to nearest 100 hours):			
Hours of interpreting	140,200	140,200	140,200
Hours of in-class interpreting	106,000	106,000	106,000
Hours of note taking	60,200	60,200	60,200
Hours of tutoring	14,200	14,200	14,200
Hours of C-print captioning	22,200	22,200	22,200
Research:			
Federal funds	\$1,328,000	\$1,368,000	\$1,409,000
Sponsored research	\$7,000,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,400,000
Personnel (in full-time equivalents)			
Faculty	169	169	169
Interpreters	120	120	120
C-print captionists	46	46	46
Clerical/Technical	78	78	78
Professional	<u>117</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>117</u>
Total	530	530	530

<sup>1</sup> Excludes expenses related to sponsored and other research, public services, auxiliary enterprises, and construction.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes expenses related to sponsored and other research, public services, auxiliary enterprises, construction, and student support services such as audiology, speech, remedial English, and psychological services. It also excludes portions of the cost of admissions, placement, instructional media, and some other administrative categories that address unique aspects of NTID's mission.

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PROGRAM OUTPUT MEASURES

(whole dollars)

<u>Output Measures</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Minorities as a % of faculty	11.6%	11.6%	11.6%
Minorities as a % of staff	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%
Disabled as a % of faculty	32.0%	32.0%	32.0%
Disabled as a % of staff	11.4%	11.4%	11.4%
NTID faculty/student ratio	1:8.4 <sup>1,2</sup>	1:8.4 <sup>1,2</sup>	1:8.4 <sup>1,2</sup>
NTID teaching faculty/student ratio	1:10.3 <sup>2</sup>	1:10.3 <sup>2</sup>	1:10.3 <sup>2</sup>
Average Faculty Salaries <sup>3</sup> :			
Professor	\$111,806	\$114,713	\$117,695
Associate Professor	\$93,391	\$95,819	\$98,310
Assistant Professor	\$71,496	\$73,355	\$75,262
Principal / Senior lecturer	\$65,595	\$67,300	\$69,050
Lecturer	\$58,939	\$60,471	\$62,044
All Faculty	\$78,953	\$81,006	\$83,112
Average full- and part-time staff salary <sup>3</sup> :			
Exempt staff	\$66,219	\$67,941	\$69,707
Non-exempt staff	\$44,912	\$46,080	\$47,278
All staff	\$51,778	\$53,124	\$54,505

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NOTE: Data for fiscal year 2015 are actual, while data for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 are estimated.

<sup>1</sup> Includes administrators and researchers who have faculty rank.

<sup>2</sup> Faculty/student ratios do not include RIT faculty who teach the 46 percent of NTID's students enrolled in RIT courses or RIT faculty teaching NTID students in pre-baccalaureate programs.

<sup>3</sup> FY 2015 salaries are actual and FY 2016 and FY 2017 salaries assume a 2.6 percent increase from the previous year.

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### PROGRAM PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

#### Performance Measures

This section presents selected program performance information, including, for example, GPRA goals, objectives, measures, and performance targets and data; 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 and those requested in FY 2017 and future years, as well as the resources and efforts invested by those served by this program.

**Goal:** To provide deaf and hearing students in undergraduate programs and professional studies with state-of-the-art technical and professional education programs, undertake a program of applied research; share National Technical Institute for the Deaf expertise, and expand outside sources of revenue.

**Objective:** Maximize the number of students successfully completing a program of study.

**Measure:** The percentage of first-time, full-time degree-seeking sub-baccalaureate and baccalaureate students who were in their first year of postsecondary enrollment in the previous year and are enrolled in the current year.

Year	Sub-Baccalaureate Target	Sub-Baccalaureate Actual	Baccalaureate Target	Baccalaureate Actual
2012	70%	67%	85%	86%
2013	70	68	85	91
2014	70	74	85	90
2015	70		85	
2016	70		86	
2017	70		87	

**Additional Information:** This measure is used to gauge the persistence rate (i.e., first-year retention rate) of first-time, full-time students from the fall semester of their freshmen year to the fall semester of their sophomore year. RIT submits data to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) on its students, including NTID students who are in RIT programs. However, it does not break out data separately for NTID students in RIT programs. The data for this measure are calculated using the same IPEDS methodology as used by other postsecondary education programs funded by the Department. The data allow for comparative analyses between NTID, Gallaudet University, and other higher education programs.

Comparisons with IPEDS data for 2-year public and private higher education institutions indicate that NTID's persistence rate of 74 percent for sub-baccalaureate students is higher than the rates for comparable institutions. Two-year public colleges have an average persistence rate of 58 percent, and 2-year private colleges have a persistence rate of 67 percent.

NTID's baccalaureate student persistence rate of 90 percent is considerably higher than those of other 4-year public and private colleges. For example, IPEDS data show an average

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persistence rate of 73 percent for both 4-year public colleges and 4-year private colleges. The Department will consider adjusting targets for 2017 and beyond.

**Measure:** The percentage of first-time, full-time degree seeking sub-baccalaureate students and baccalaureate students who graduate within 150 percent of the program-based length of time.

Year	Sub-Baccalaureate Target	Sub-Baccalaureate Actual	Baccalaureate Target	Baccalaureate Actual
2012	27%	41%	61%	62%
2013	35	42	62	72
2014	36	37	63	68
2015	37		64	
2016	38		65	
2017	39		65	

**Additional Information:** The methodology used to obtain data for this measure is consistent with that used by IPEDS and other Department programs to measure graduation. Program-based length of time refers to the stated number of years to complete a degree. Generally, an associate degree program requires 2 years of study, and a baccalaureate degree program requires 4 years. However, some of RIT's programs include a requirement for an additional internship year. In this case, the program-based length of time for a sub-baccalaureate degree may be 3 years and baccalaureate degree 5 years. As such, the program-based length of time may be 2, 3, 4, or 5 years, depending on the program.

An IPEDS analysis of public and private not-for-profit 2-year institutions indicated graduation rates of 31 percent for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students within 150 percent of normal time to completion; NTID has a higher sub-baccalaureate graduation rate of 37 percent. IPEDS data indicate 4-year public colleges have an average graduation rate of 45 percent and 4-year private colleges have an average graduation rate of 53 percent. NTID has a higher baccalaureate graduation rate of 68 percent. Given NTID's performance, the Department revised targets starting in 2013 and will reconsider revising targets for 2017 and beyond.

**Measure:** The percentages of graduates who are employed, in advanced education or training, or are neither employed nor enrolled in advanced education or training during their first year after graduation.

Year	Employed Target	Employed Actual	Advanced Ed Target	Advanced Ed Actual	Neither Target	Neither Actual
2012	47%	46%	45%	46%	8%	8%
2013	47	58	45	32	8	10
2014	47	55	45	35	8	10
2015	47		45		8	
2016	47		45		8	
2017	47		45		8	

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**Additional Information:** For students who graduated in fiscal year 2014, NTID reported 55 percent were employed during their first year after graduation, 35 percent were in advanced education or training, and 10 percent were not in the workforce nor engaged in advanced education or training. Any graduate who was simultaneously employed and in advanced education or training was placed into the one category that best described their status.

### Efficiency Measures

**Objective:** *Improve the efficiency of operations at NTID as defined by the cost per successful student outcome, where the successful outcome is graduation.*

**Measure:** Total Federal cost per NTID graduate.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	\$205,657	\$172,000
2013	209,564	146,000
2014	213,755	183,300
2015	218,030	226,200
2016	222,827	
2017	222,827	

**Additional Information:** The Federal cost per graduate, as reported by NTID, includes graduates who receive sub-baccalaureate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees. The measure is calculated by averaging the Federal appropriation for a particular year and the previous 5 years, and dividing the figure by the number of graduates for that school year. Federal student aid, vocational rehabilitation payments, other Federal support for students, Federal grants and contracts, the Federal Endowment Grant Program tuition, and other private funds received by NTID are not included in this calculation.

This measure focuses on graduates, because it is a key program outcome for NTID. The Department plans to investigate how much of the variation can be explained by funding levels and what measures, if any, can be taken to lessen the measure's inconsistency. Given recent performance, the Department will reconsider this measure and targets for 2017 and beyond to account for disaggregation of data by program type.

**Measure:** Total educational cost per NTID graduate.

Year	Target	Actual
2012	\$247,203	\$206,100
2013	251,800	176,900
2014	256,836	224,000
2015	261,973	277,100
2016	267,737	
2016	267,737	

**Additional Information:** The measure is calculated by averaging the total annual student expenditures for a particular year and the previous 5 years, and dividing the figure by the number of graduates for that school year. Graduates include students receiving certificates, diplomas, associates degrees, baccalaureate degrees, and master's degrees. The cost is

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composed of the total program budget excluding expenditures associated with research, public services, auxiliary enterprises, and construction. This measure looks at the total cost of educating a student at NTID as an indication of how efficiently the University operates.

Both efficiency measures use existing cost data reported to the Department as part of NTID's budget submission. The increase in efficiency between 2012 and 2013 can be attributed in part to a record number of graduates over that time period, coupled with NTID's internal budget reduction efforts in anticipation of Federal spending cuts. The Department will continue its discussion with NTID about how best to use these measures as a basis for examining the cost per student, the subcomponents of the expenditures, and whether efficiencies can be achieved. The Department will use IPEDS data to look at cost components of similarly sized Carnegie Level IV institutions as a basis for comparison.

The Department reached an agreement with NTID on a methodology that accounts for future inflation by using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) with the goal of limiting increases on the Federal cost per graduate and the total cost per graduate to less than those of the CPI. As updated information becomes available on the projected inflation rate for the next fiscal year and outyears, the targets will be adjusted accordingly. The Department plans to reconsider this measure and targets for 2017 and beyond to account for disaggregation of data by program type.

### **Other Performance Information**

#### Employment Study

For almost 30 years the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) collaborated first with the Internal Revenue Service and, during the past two decades, with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to conduct analyses of the employment status and earnings of its alumni to document the impact an NTID education has on the individuals who attend the school. The study tracked the educational and professional attainment of deaf and hard-of-hearing students who applied to NTID from 1965 to 2011.

These studies have demonstrated that an NTID education has significant economic benefits for graduates and effectively reduces the social cost of providing support for these individuals. The most recent study, published in March 2013 ([http://www.ntid.rit.edu/sites/default/files/economic\\_benefits\\_of\\_ntid\\_2011.pdf](http://www.ntid.rit.edu/sites/default/files/economic_benefits_of_ntid_2011.pdf)), concludes that bachelor's and master's degree graduates earn about 60% more on average per year than students who withdrew from NTID without earning a degree. Associate's degree graduates earn 20% more than those who withdrew without earning a degree.

With respect to percent of the alumni population reporting earnings from labor (participation in the labor force), almost twice as many non-graduates report no earnings than do graduates. NTID graduates also made use of Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance less than students who withdrew from NTID.

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<b>Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals at age 40</b>	<b>Participate in Supplemental Security Income</b>	<b>Participate in Social Security Disability Insurance</b>
NTID associate degree graduates	<2%	28%
NTID bachelor degree graduates	<2	18
NTID students who withdrew from NTID	8	35
Non-NTID college graduates	5	20

<b>Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals at age 50</b>	<b>Report Earnings</b>	<b>Median Salary</b>
NTID graduates with bachelor degrees	78%	\$58,000
NTID graduates with associate degrees	73	41,000
NTID students who withdrew from NTID	58	34,000
Non-NTID college graduates	69	21,000

Onsite Monitoring

The Department conducted a one-day onsite monitoring review of NTID on May 21, 2015. The goal of the monitoring visit was to review NTID’s use of its annual Federal appropriation to provide “a residential facility for postsecondary technical training and education for individuals who are deaf in order to prepare them for successful employment,” as required by Section 111 of the EDA, as amended, 20 U.S.C. § 4331, and other relevant requirements.

The NTID onsite monitoring visit covered multiple topics: implementation of its “Strategic Decisions 2020”; implementation of the direct instruction model for classroom communication; development of resources to assist faculty and staff to achieve a proficient level of sign language competency; allocation of indirect costs; and NTID’s GPRA performance measures. The Department issued a letter summarizing the results of the monitoring visit in October 2015. The Department requested regular updates regarding the NTID’s activities and implications for the Federal program throughout the “Strategic Decisions 2020” implementation process, as well as its efforts to reduce certain expenditures and better utilize RIT services paid for through overhead charges.