

Appendix C: Selected Department Web Links and Education Resources

Education Dashboard

The Department supports a data dashboard that contains high-level indicators, ranging from student participation in early learning through completion of postsecondary education, as well as indicators on teachers and leaders and equity. The Department will regularly update the dashboard's data and enhance tools. <http://dashboard.ed.gov/>

College Cost Lists

The Department provides college affordability and transparency lists under the *Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008*. Each list is broken out into nine different sectors, to allow students to compare costs at similar types of institutions, including career and technical programs. <http://collegecost.ed.gov/catc/>

College Navigator

The Department provides a multi-dimensional review of higher education options for students and provides links to other search sites. <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

College Preparation Checklist

This Departmental tool gives prospective college students step-by-step instructions on how to prepare academically and financially for education beyond high school. Each section is split into subsections for students and parents, explaining what needs to be done and which publications or websites might be useful to them. <https://fafsa.ed.gov>

Additional resources within the checklist assist students in finding scholarships and grants.

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/checklist/main.html>

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/checklist/MoreSourcesOfStudentAid.html>

Resources for Adult Education

The Department, through the Perkins Collaborative Resource Network, offers resources and tools for the development and implementation of comprehensive career guidance programs. This includes guides for students, parents, teachers, counselors, and administrators across relevant topics, such as planning and exploring careers, selecting institutions, finances, and guidance evaluation. This source is an example of interdepartmental cooperation between the Department and the U.S. Department of Labor. http://cte.ed.gov/nationalinitiatives/gandctools.cfm?&pass_dis=1

Federal Resources for Educational Excellence

Federal Resources for Educational Excellence (FREE) provides easily accessible resources in a wide gamut of subjects for educators. The tool breaks resources into categories, ranging from art and music to science and mathematics. It also offers a wide

variety of primary documents, photos, and videos. In addition, FREE allows educators to follow via Twitter, a social network, which facilitates the sharing of ideas. This tool acts as a depository of ideas and resources for educators to help them supplement their lessons.

<http://free.ed.gov/>

College Completion Toolkit

The College Completion Toolkit provides information that governors and other state leaders can use to help colleges in their state increase student completion rates. It highlights key strategies and offers models to learn from, as well as other useful resources.

<http://www.ed.gov/sites/default/files/cc-toolkit.pdf>

Practice Guides for Educators

The Department offers guides that help educators address everyday challenges they face in their classrooms and schools. Developed by a panel of nationally recognized experts, practice guides consist of actionable recommendations, strategies for overcoming potential roadblocks, and an indication of the strength of evidence supporting each recommendation. The guides themselves are subjected to rigorous external peer review. Users can sort by subject area, academic level, and intended audience to find the most recent, relevant, and useful guides. http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/publications_reviews.aspx

Doing What Works: Research Based Educational Practices

The purposes of this tool are to provide a convenient and easy way for educators to find research proven teaching methods and to translate research-based practices into practical applications in the classroom. The site is easy to navigate and offers useful tools for teachers to practice skills in key subject areas. <http://dww.ed.gov/>

TEACH

The Department's TEACH campaign is designed to raise awareness of the teaching profession and to get a new generation of teachers to join the ones who are already making a difference in the classroom. The website provides valuable tools for educators around the country: from advice on building a career in teaching to connecting teachers to employers. Another component of TEACH is creating a network of teachers and mentors. Teachers can sign up to receive news and updates from TEACH. The purpose is for users to connect and share opportunities. <http://www.teach.gov/>

Department Evaluation Studies

The Department designs evaluation studies to produce rigorous scientific evidence on the effectiveness of education programs and practices. The two locations for finding studies are:

<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/projects/evaluation/index.asp>

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oepd/ppss/reports.html>

Performance Data

EDFacts is a Department initiative to put performance data at the center of policy, management, and budget decisions for all K-12 educational programs.

<http://www.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/index.html>

Condition of Education and Digest of Education Statistics

The Condition of Education is a congressionally mandated annual report that summarizes developments and trends in education using the latest available statistics. The report presents statistical indicators containing text, figures, and data from early learning through graduate-level education.

<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/>

The primary purpose of the *Digest of Education Statistics* is to provide a compilation of statistical information covering the broad field of American education from pre-kindergarten through graduate school. The Digest includes a selection of data from many sources, both government and private, and draws especially on the results of surveys and activities carried out by the National Center for Education Statistics.

<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/>

Projections of Education Statistics to 2019

For the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the tables, figures, and text in this report contain data on projections of public elementary and secondary enrollment and public high school graduates to the year 2019. The report includes a methodology section that describes the models and assumptions used to develop national and state-level projections.

<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/projections/projections2019/>

Discretionary Grant Programs for FY 2012

This site lists Department grant competitions previously announced, as well as those planned for later announcement, for new awards organized according to the Department's principal program offices.

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>

Open Government Initiative

The Department's Open Government Initiative is designed to improve the way the Department shares information, learns from others, and collaborates to develop the best solutions for America's students.

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/open.html>

Research and Statistics

The *Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002* established the Institute of Education Sciences within the Department to provide research, evaluation, and statistics to the nation's education system.

<http://ies.ed.gov/>

National Assessment of Educational Progress

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses samples of students in grades 4, 8, and 12 in various academic subjects. Results of the assessments are reported for the nation and states in terms of achievement levels—basic, proficient, and advanced.

<http://nationsreportcard.gov/>

Government Accountability Office

The Government Accountability Office supports Congress in meeting its constitutional responsibilities and helps improve the performance and accountability of the federal government for the benefit of the American people.

<http://www.gao.gov/docsearch/agency.php>

Office of Inspector General

The Office of Inspector General has four primary business functions: audit, investigation, cyber security, and evaluation and inspection.

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/index.html>

For a list of recent reports, go to:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/reports.html>