

# CTSP CENTER UPDATES

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## Federal Budget Cuts



The FY11 Continuing Resolution cut \$38 billion in federal spending on education. Title I Grants to LEAs were subject to the 0.2 percent across-the-board cut (\$29 million), while Title I School Improvement grants were reduced by \$11 million. The IDEA formula grants were also cut by 0.2 percent (\$23 million). Title II Teacher Quality formula grants were cut by \$480 million. Title III grants for English language learners were cut by \$16 million. Title IV National Safe and Drug Free Schools grants were cut by \$97 million. Over 20 categorical school programs were eliminated, including Title II-D Education Technology, Striving Readers, Perkins Tech-Prep, Smaller Learning Communities, and Even Start.

**Total cut to Education Department from current FY 11 CR = \$11.55 billion**

**Perkins cut significantly. Funding for Tech Prep eliminated, and a 3 percent cut applied to the Basic State Grant.**

The 2012 budget aims to (1) sustain State and local reform momentum by providing significant competitive funding for key initiatives like Race to the Top, while maintaining critical formula programs for at-risk students; (2) support the aggressive consolidation and restructuring of

Federal education programs to emphasize fewer priorities and provide greater flexibility for local innovation; (3) eliminate ineffective programs and earmarked activities not aligned with reform priorities; and (4) expand investments aimed at improving college access and success. Several programs considered ineffective, duplicative of other authorities, poorly structured, or not reflective of current needs are proposed for elimination or consolidation. For a comprehensive look at the proposed education budget for 2012, please visit: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget12/summary/index.html>.

## Encouraging Students Pursuing Non-Traditional Occupations

A non-traditional occupation, as defined by Perkins, is any occupation in which women or men comprise 25 percent or less of its total employment. To increase the opportunities for both genders to pursue self-sufficiency, teachers should be aware of programs that can help their students.

The National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) is designed to reach and bring together organizations that encourage girls to

pursue STEM subjects and careers. By implementing a collaborative model, providing dissemination and outreach, offering mini-grants, and conducting evaluation, NGCP hopes to maximize access to, strengthen the capacity of, and create a tipping point for a gender equity in STEM.

The American Assembly of Men in Nursing (AAMN) provides a framework for nurses, as a group, to meet, discuss, and

influence factors that affect men as nurses. AAMN encourages men of all ages, supports men who are nurses, advocates for continued research, and supports members' full participation in the nursing profession and its organizations. To access the websites for both organizations, please visit <http://ctsp.tamu.edu/resources>.



## English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) Toolkit

The ELPS Toolkit is designed to help teachers incorporate the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) when planning lessons and delivering instruction.

Education Service Center 13 in Austin offers the toolkit to teachers at a nominal price.

The toolkit contains:

- a copy of the ELPS.
- guidelines for differentiating instruction and interactive strategies for developing academic language.
- resources and strategies for lesson planning designed with English learners in mind, including creating language objectives, accessing prior knowledge, building vocabulary and concept knowledge, engaging students with interaction, teaching learning strategies, and assessing students.
- sample lesson plan templates.
- corresponding ELPS, sample sentence stems, and classroom strategies for English learners designed for educators who use the 5E method of instruction.

Also available for download from the ESC 13 website are sample lesson templates. To access the toolkit and other resources, visit ESC 13's website at <http://store.esc13.net/index.php/elps-toolkit-1.html>.

## I'm Determined



The Virginia Department of Education's "I'm Determined" project aims to improve self-determination skills (self-advocacy, problem solving, leadership skills) in youth with disabilities. The website offers resources for elementary

through high school educators, parents, and

youth. Educators can access the site's resources, such as videos, checklists and rubrics, to assess their students' self-determination needs. Parents can access tools such as tips for IEP participation and student engagement. Youth can use the website to learn about their rights, understand IEPs, and participate in meetings. To access this website and its useful resources, visit <http://www.imdetermined.org>.

## CTSP Happenings

### We are on Facebook!

The CTSP Center is on Facebook. "Like" us at <http://www.facebook.com/ctspcenter>. Follow our posts on the latest educational, legislative, and disabilities-related happenings.

### Follow us on Twitter!

Not a fan of Facebook? No problem. Follow our 140-character "tweets" on Twitter at [http://www.twitter.com/ctsp\\_center](http://www.twitter.com/ctsp_center).

### Watch for our latest online module, **Incorporating Universal Design for Learning into CTE Instruction.**

The module and related training manual/materials will be posted at <http://ctsp.tamu.edu/videos/videos11>.



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