

Why do we need the Dept. of Education?

What did we do prior to 1979 when President Carter signed for the establishment of the DOEd?
It was a part of Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Before the Department of Education was created, the federal government's *role in education was limited to providing financial assistance to states and localities.*

What was education like before the DOEd?

Early schools taught reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, penmanship and geography. Learning by rote (memorization) was the standard method of instruction. In general, schools used whatever textbooks local families possessed and the books were handed down from older to younger students and from one family to another. There were no laws requiring children to attend school. (Think 1930-1960 education.)

Catholic schools receive zero government dollars. The entire cost of catholic children's education, including the school building itself, is born by parents and donors. Many of the teachers in elementary grades prior to 1970 were nuns who did not have formal teaching credentials. Catholic schools can now apply for government grants for non-education government required activities.

FY 2024, the Department of Education (ED) had \$241 Billion budgeted among its 6 sub-components. Student Education aide portion was \$162 Billion.

DOEd has 4,400 employees and its \$79 billion salary budget are dedicated to: Establishing policies on federal financial aid for education, and distributing as well as monitoring those funds. Collecting data on America's schools and disseminating research.

The Department of Education does not establish schools or colleges.

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution enumerates the things over which Congress has the power to legislate. Not only does the list not include education, there is no plausible rationale for squeezing education in under the commerce clause.

Education is a state responsibility.

While education may not be a "fundamental right" under the Constitution, the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment requires that when a state establishes a public school system (as in Texas), no child living in that state may be denied equal access to schooling.

What did we do with the billions of dollars in 2024?

\$167 Billion in student aide. There are approximately 50 million students in public school grades pre-K through 12. That averages \$3,340.00 per student.

\$79 Billion in Administration of DOEd is \$1580.00 per student.

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Education costs varies by state. Typically the cost is funded by the governments: Federal - 7.7%; States - 46.7%; Local - 45.6%. The average per student cost is \$14,500 per student.

The easiest way to handle the federal government cost is for the governor of each state to request a grant for the equivalent of 7.7% of the education costs each year. So the DODe needs a staff of maybe three people. One to receive the grant request, one to send the request to Treasury to release the funds to the state and one to get the coffee.

Savings - \$78.999 billion dollars in Administration Expense.

OR – let the governor subtract the 7.7% from the submission of Federal Withholding Tax to the government.

Savings – the entire \$79 Billion dollars. Let the governor get his own coffee.

Next – let me look at the CDC.

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