



Excerpts from the President's FY10 budget summary

When it comes to our children's future, we cannot waste dollars on methods, programs, and initiatives that are not effective and efficient. Consequently, in this Budget, the Administration makes significant investments in approaches that have proven to deliver for our children and will reallocate funds away from and terminate programs that do not.

Make a new investment in Early Childhood Education.

We know that a dollar invested in early education will pay off handsomely as these children grow older. That is why the Administration is proposing to help States strengthen their early education programs. The Administration will broaden the reach of these programs and boost their quality—encouraging new investment, a seamless delivery of services, and better information for parents about program options and quality. In addition, through funds from the recovery Act and this Budget, the President will provide funding to double the number of children served by Early Head Start and expand Head Start, both of which have proven to be successful with younger children.

Some studies show that for every dollar invested, there is a \$4 to \$9 return to society in higher earnings, higher graduation and employment rates, less crime, decreased need for special education services, less use of the public welfare system, and better health. However, we have yet to make a serious commitment to our youngest learners. From kindergarten through high school, too many of our students are falling behind.

Invest in innovations and in what works.

While it is important to increase support for education, it is also critical to invest in learning which programs are effective and in growing the ones that are. Through the Innovation Fund, the Administration will invest in school systems and nonprofit organizations with demonstrated track records of success in raising student achievement to expand their work or implement new innovative approaches. For instance, the Harlem Children's Zone aims to improve college going rates by combining a rigorous K12 education with a full network of supportive services—from early childhood education to after school activities to college counseling—in an entire neighborhood from birth to college.