

## EDUCATION

The President's 2008 Budget will ensure all American students have access to a quality education by:

- Building on the success of the No Child Left Behind Act;
- Making college more affordable.

**Building on the success of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB):** NCLB is already raising student achievement for millions of children in schools nationwide. And it is working to ensure all students perform at or above grade level in reading and math by 2014. In 2007, the President will work with Congress to reauthorize NCLB so that we can:

- Prepare high school students for the future: Establish the national expectation that all high school students graduate on time with a diploma that prepares them for college and the workplace.
  - Over a \$1 billion increase for Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, this will primarily be used to increase funding for high schools that serve low-income students.
  - \$412 million will go to States for administration of tests that assess students, high school achievement and college readiness.
  - \$100 million for Striving Readers to expand the development and implementation of research-based interventions to improve the skills of secondary school students who are reading below grade level.
- Ensure Future Competitiveness: \$365 million in new funding as part of the President's American Competitiveness Initiative (ACI) to improve student learning in mathematics and science, including:
  - *Math Now:* \$250 million to prepare elementary and middle school students for more rigorous high school math classes.
  - *Adjunct Teacher Corps:* \$25 million to recruit professional mathematicians, scientists, and engineers over the next eight years to share their expertise with high school and middle school classes.
  - *Advanced Placement/ International Baccalaureate:* A \$90 million increase to train more teachers to teach AP/ IB courses, and expand low-income students access to them.
- Improve Schools and Expand Choices:
  - *Helping schools in need of improvement:* \$500 million in funding for School Improvement Grants, along with over \$500 million reserved from Title I, to help improve the performance of schools that struggled the most to meet NCLB standards.
  - *Providing new choices for families:* \$300 million to create the Promise and Opportunity Scholarships that will offer education alternatives to low-income students in low-performing schools.

**Making college more affordable:** In 2008, the Budget will provide nearly \$91 billion in financial aid to 11 million students to help pay for college. The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education offered recommendations to improve student access to and quality of postsecondary education. The Budget includes several reforms aligned with these recommendations, including:

- An increase in the Pell Grant maximum award from to \$4,600 in 2008 and \$5,400 over five years.
- Increase grant rewards by 50 percent for low-income students who complete a rigorous high school curriculum through the Academic Competitiveness Grants.

- \$25 million for a voluntary pilot initiative that will collect and analyze student data to measure outcomes such as graduation rates. This initiative will help ensure accountability and transparency in higher education.