

Amendment 920– Removes a federal “Summer School for Teachers” Program (Summer Institute).

S. 761 creates a new federal program to establish summer institutes at each of the National Laboratories with the goal of strengthening the math and science teaching skills of kindergarten through 12 grade teachers through grants to universities and other nonprofit entities.

This portion of Section 2003 would authorize \$190 million over 4 years for these institutes.

AUTHORIZED COST
Summer Institutes
Years 2008- 2011

Year	Amount
2008	\$25,000,000
2009	\$40,000,000
2010	\$50,000,000
2011	\$75,000,000

This section requires the Secretary of Energy to establish or expand summer school programs at each of the National Laboratories to provide training in math and science teaching skills for teachers employed at public schools.

These programs should last for not less than 2 weeks and include, as a component, a program that provides direct interaction between students and faculty, including personnel of 1 or more National Laboratories who have scientific experience.

It also provides for follow-up training, during the academic year, that is conducted in the classroom.

The U.S. Department of Education currently administers a budget of about \$67.2 billion per year—\$57.5 billion in discretionary appropriations and \$9.7 billion in mandatory appropriations.¹

The Department's elementary and secondary programs annually serve more than 14,000 school districts and approximately 56 million students attending some 94,000 public schools and 28,000 private schools.²

Department programs also provide grant, loan, and work-study assistance to more than \$10 million postsecondary students.

Now it is hard to believe that in a budget that is over \$67 billion dollars – the department of education couldn't find \$25 million dollars to pay for summer school for public school teachers if they really thought it was a pressing need.

In fact, the Department of Education spent over \$182 million in Fiscal Year 2006 on a grant program called "Mathematics and Science Partnerships."

Mathematics and Science Partnerships³
Fiscal Years 2004 - 2007

Year	Amount
2004	\$149,115,000
2005	\$178,560,000
2006	\$182,160,000
2007	\$182,160,000

¹ The Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs, 2006, pages 405 – 406.

² <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/index.html?src=gu>

³ The Guide to U.S. Department of Education Programs, 2006, pages 405 – 406.

According to the Department of Education's Web site, the "awards are made to State Educational Agencies (SEA's) on 56 different awards, with the average new award of 3.2 million dollars.⁴

In fact, the range of grant awards, in this one program were between \$906,000 - \$25 million dollars.⁵

Now, it must be clear that this grant program would not be placed in the Department of Education, as one might assume. This new federal program would be placed in the Department of Energy. The Department of Energy would now running another grant program that would be tasked with education. This time, education of teachers who teach grades K – 12.

Now, the Mathematics and Partnership program is part of the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs which is located in the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

This office administers programs to improve academic achievement and teacher quality: Title II Part A Teacher Quality Program, after school 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, the Mathematics and Science Partnership Program, Comprehensive School Reform Program, Advanced Placement Programs, Drop Out Prevention Program, Smaller Learning Communities Program, Javits Gifted and Talented Program, Native Hawaiian Education, Alaska Native Education, and Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program.

These programs are authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

These programs provide financial assistance to State and local educational agencies, institutions of higher education, community and faith-based organizations, and other entities for activities designed to recruit and retain a high-quality teaching staff for America's schools,

⁴ <http://www.ed.gov/programs/mathsci/index.html>

⁵ <http://www.ed.gov/programs/mathsci/index.html>

to strengthen the quality of elementary and secondary education, including through after-school programs, to test and disseminate information on new approaches for improving educational results.

AITQ is divided into three Program Groups:⁶

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program Group is responsible for oversight and dissemination of State-administered grants that provide services during non-school hours to students and their families for academic enrichment. This program group is also responsible for the development and recommendation of policy that affects this grant program.
- The Comprehensive School Reform Program Group is responsible for supporting the implementation of comprehensive schoolwide reforms grounded in scientifically based research and effective practices. The purpose of the CSR program is to ensure all children, especially those in low-performing, high poverty schools, can meet challenging State academic content and achievement standards. This group administers the State formula grant program based on each States' Title I allocation.
- Teacher Quality Program Group is responsible for changing the face of teaching and academic achievement. This group will accomplish this by elevating teacher and principal quality, improving literacy skills of students by providing them with access to up-to-date school library materials, and improving students' achievement in mathematics and science.

In administering the programs assigned to it, AITQ establishes cooperative relationships with other Departmental Principal Offices and with other Federal agencies and governmental and nongovernmental organizations as appropriate.

- For example, AITQ administers the Mathematics and Science Partnerships program cooperatively with the National Science Foundation and carries out joint activities in support of 21st Century Community Learning Centers with one or more private foundations.

⁶ <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/aitq/aboutus.html>

- Administration of the Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program involves frequent interaction with other offices in the Department that administer programs that train and provide professional development to teachers.⁷

It seems to me that the Department of Education is already doing, for the most part, what is being proposed in this section. If the Department of education is not doing it well or if teachers are not being trained properly, it seems to me that we should investigate the Department of Education, not simply create a nearly identical program in the Department of Energy.

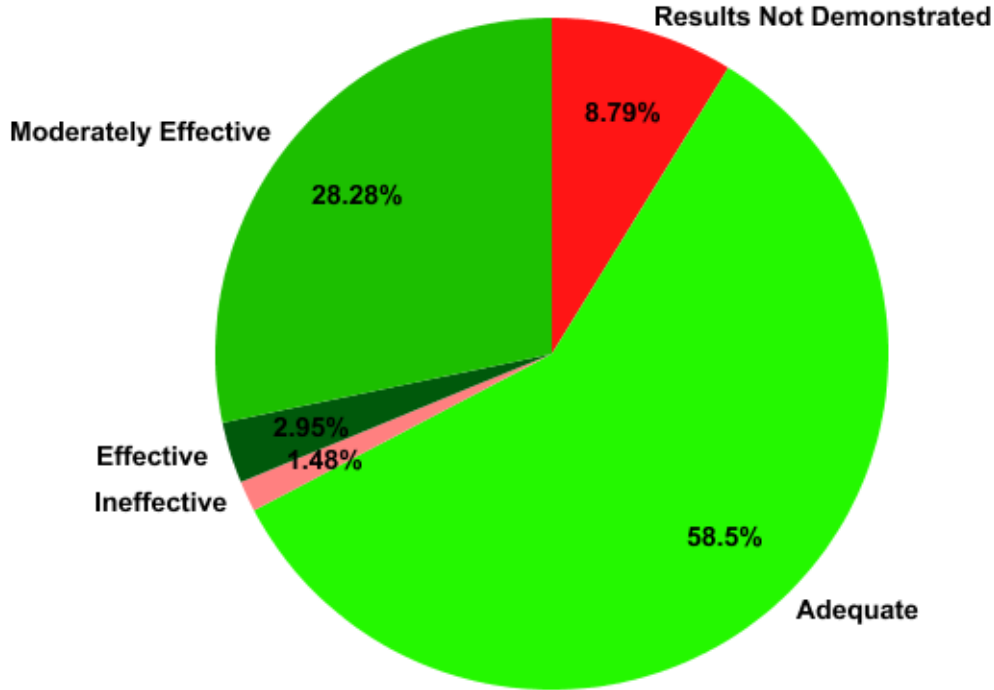
- In Fiscal Year 2007, we are spending \$1,452 billions dollars though Title II grants for “Improving Teacher Quality.”⁸
- Again, it seems to me that if training teachers in math and science is such a priority, and universities are not able to do this on their own – with their outrageous tuition charges – then we need to reevaluate how this \$1.452 billion is being spent.⁹ Certainly, we can find \$25 million for next year.
- According to the Department of Education’s PART score – over \$ 6.3 billion dollars or more than 11 percent of their discretionary budget is considered “ineffective” or “Results (can not) Be Demonstrated”. Frankly, that isn’t very impressive.

⁷ <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/aitq/aboutus.html>

⁸ <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget08/08bylevel.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget08/08bylevel.pdf>

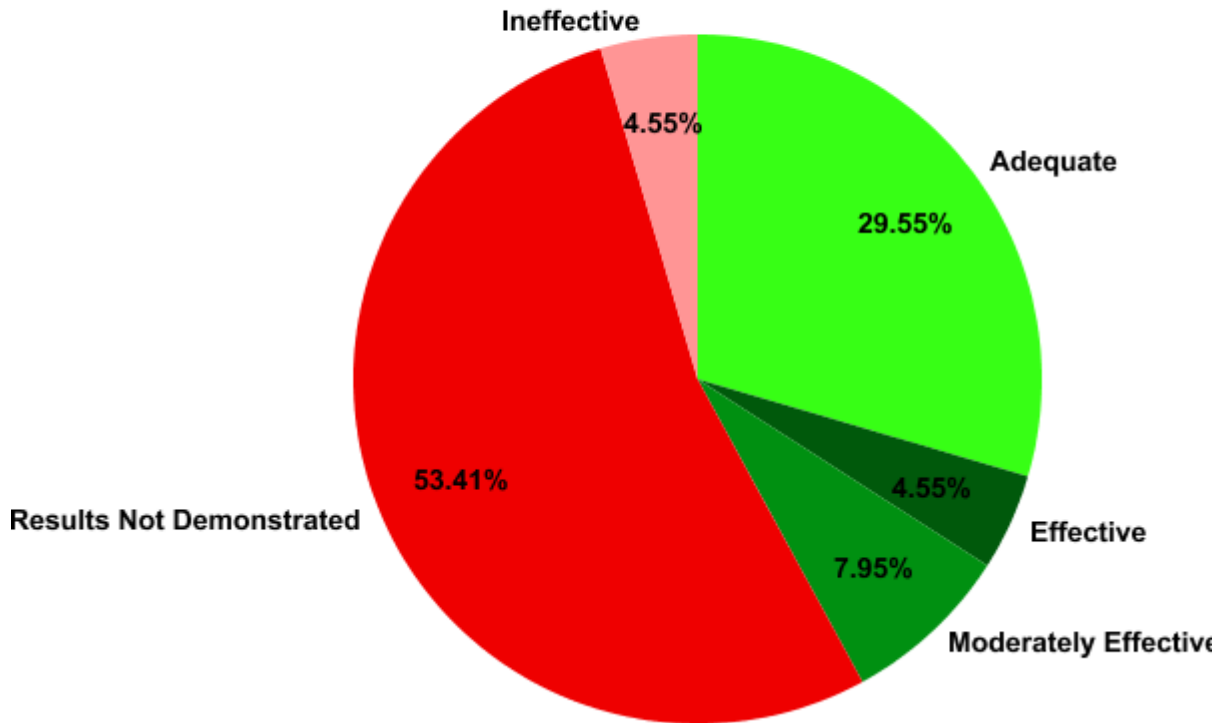
Ratings of Agency Spending, Education



U.S. Department of Education Spending (dollars in millions)¹⁰	
Effective	1,813
Moderately Effective	17,396
Adequate	35,979
Ineffective	911
Results Not Demonstrated	5,406
Total PARTs Completed	61,505

¹⁰ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/agency/018.html>

Ratings of Agency Programs, Education

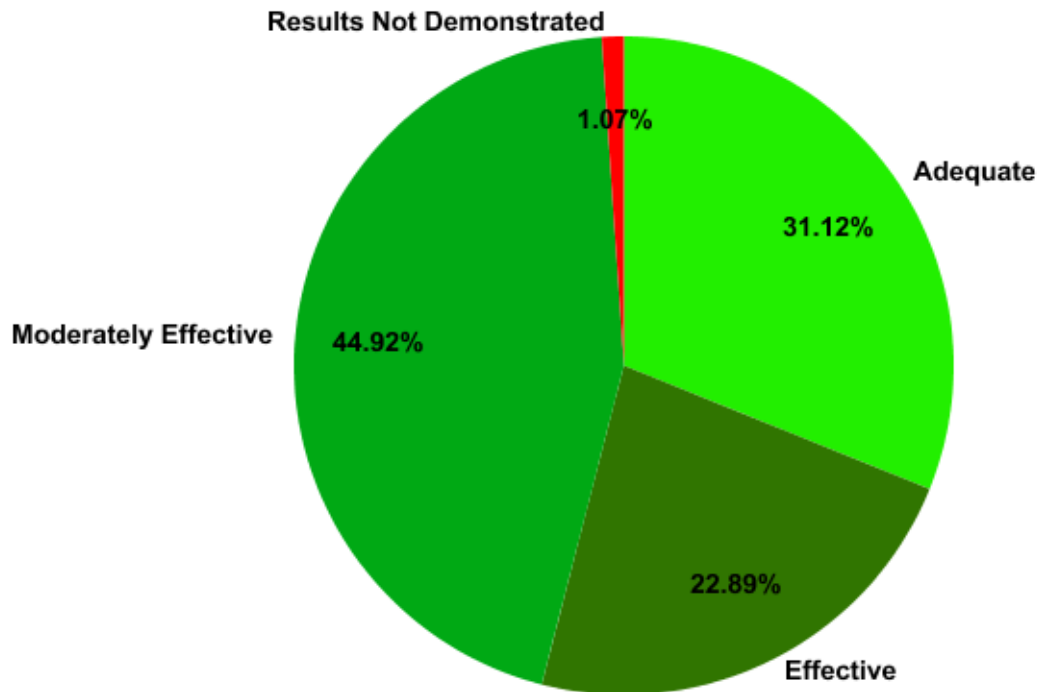


U.S. Department of Education PART Program Ratings¹¹

Effective	4
Moderately Effective	7
Adequate	26
Ineffective	4
Results Not Demonstrated	47
Total PARTs Completed	88

¹¹ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/agency/018.html>

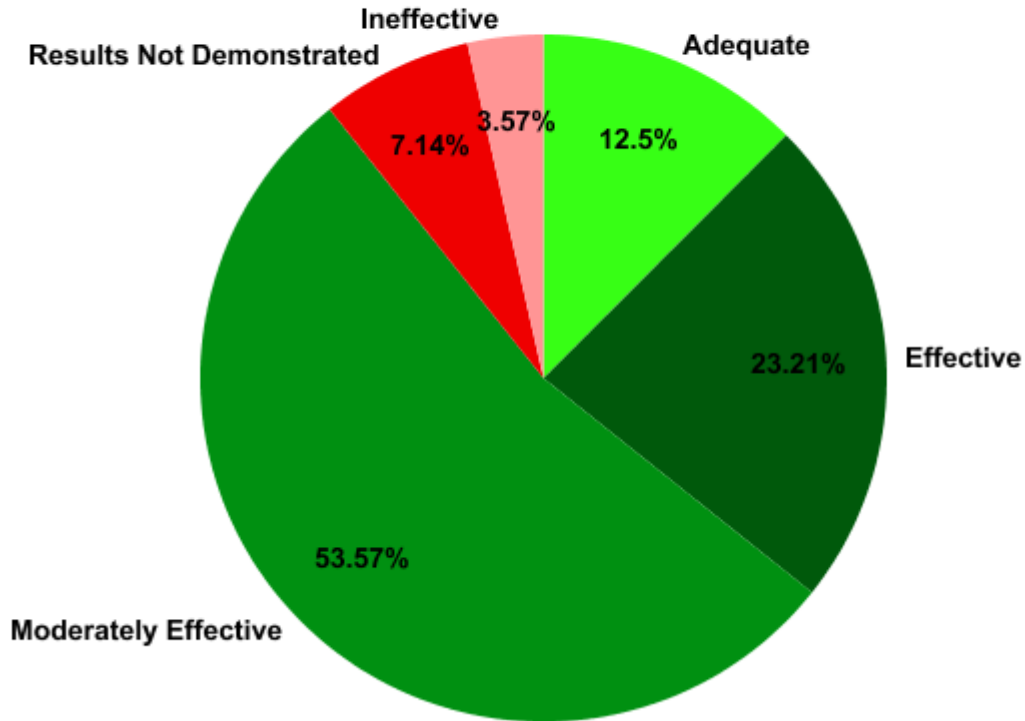
Ratings of Agency Spending, Energy



U.S. Department of Energy Spending (dollars in millions) ¹²	
Effective	5,465
Moderately Effective	10,723
Adequate	7,428
Ineffective	0
Results Not Demonstrated	256
Total PARTs Completed	23,872

¹² <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/agency/019.html>

Ratings of Agency Programs, Energy



U.S. Department of Energy PART Program Ratings¹³

Effective	13
Moderately Effective	30
Adequate	7
Ineffective	2
Results Not Demonstrated	4
Total PARTs Completed	56

¹³ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/agency/019.html>