



DEMOCRATIC BUDGET SHOWS COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION REFORM

The United States is now the only industrialized country where young people are less likely than their parents to earn a high school diploma. In order to remain competitive in the global economy, we must act now to ensure all children have the opportunity to receive a world-class education. The House Democratic budget accommodates the President's proposals to renew and restore our education system to expand access for America's youth, including additional funding for new initiatives in early childhood education, support for programs that make sure all children learn and achieve in school, and a new tax credit and increasing the Pell Grant award to help cover college costs.

Democrats Reform and Invest in Education

“This budget must renew our nation’s commitment to a complete and competitive education for every American child...we have proposed investments in childhood education programs that work; in high standards and accountability for our schools; in rewards for teachers who succeed; and in affordable college education for anyone who wants to go. It is time to demand excellence from our schools so that we can finally prepare our workforce for a 21st century economy.”

– President Barack Obama, 3/21/09

“Now more than ever, with millions of Americans losing income and jobs in this economy, students and families need reliable, low-cost federal student loans to help pay for college...This is exactly the kind of investment we should be making, at this moment, to turn our country around. In the short term, it will help make sure the economic crisis doesn’t price qualified students out of a college education. In the long term, it will save taxpayers money and make our nation stronger and more competitive.”

– Chairman George Miller, 3/26/09

The House Democratic budget builds upon significant investments made in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act with additional support for early childhood education, elementary and secondary school students, and efforts to help more Americans obtain a college degree.

These investments will help create a workforce that is prepared to compete and succeed in the global economy:

- **Supports initiatives to help strengthen and expand early childhood education programs**
– Includes paid-for increases for new efforts to improve academic achievement and life outcomes, and child nutrition that includes school meals
- **Increases the number of high school graduates that attend and complete higher education by making college more affordable and accessible** – Provides funding to support the President’s Pell grant increase for 2010, additional assistance to help more low-income high school graduates attend and complete college, and contains reconciliation instructions to the Education and Labor Committee to provide further increases in Pell Grant and other investments in higher education without increasing the deficit
- **Supports strong job training services that will prepare Americans for stable and high-paying jobs**