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ABOUT ED: OVERVIEW AND MISSION STATEMENT

ED's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

ED was created in 1980 by combining offices from several federal agencies. ED's 4,400 employees and \$68 billion 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.
- Focusing national attention on key educational issues.
- Prohibiting discrimination and ensuring equal access to education.

Contact [ED staff](#). See [performance plans and accountability reports](#) and ED's [strategic plan](#). Find out about [ED's offices and structure](#). Learn about ED's [mission](#), [initiatives](#), [senior staff](#), and [website](#).