



VCU School of Education

Education Policy and Politics:
**What's at Stake for Students with
Disabilities**

Monday, September 21, 2015

4:00 – 5:15 p.m.

Presenters:

Jane West

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Federal Education Policy

Birth to Five

Head Start (1965)
Head Start
Reauthorization (1972)
CCDBG (1990)
Section 619 of IDEA (1975)
Part C of IDEA (1986)
CCDBG Reauthorization
(2014)

FERPA (1974)

K-12

Brown v. Topeka (1954)
NDEA (1958)
ESEA (1965)
EAHCA (1975)
IDEA (1990)
NCLB (2001)
ESEA Reauthorizations

CTE

Vocational Education Act (1963)
Perkins (1998)
WIA (1998)
WIOA (2014)

Post-Secondary

G.I. Bill (1944)
HEA (1965)
TRIO Programs (1965)
Pell Grants (1980)
HEOA (2008)

ESRA (2002)

History of Federal Education Policy

- 1800s: Higher education focused (e.g., the Morrill Act of 1862)
- Early 1900s: Vocational education focus (e.g., Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 and the George-Barden Act of 1946)
- Mid-1900s: More focus on higher education (e.g., the GI bill of 1947)
- 1958: “Missile Gap” (National Defense Education Act)
- 1965: Poverty and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- 1975: Education for All Handicapped Children Act 1975
- 1986: EAHCA Reauthorization
- 1990: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Four Major Touchpoints for Federal Education Disability Policy

- Congress (the House and the Senate)
- The Executive Branch (the president and the agencies)
- Advocates
- The States



Education Appropriations (FY 2013)

Political Landscape

- Sequestration
- Generally flat funding
- 0-5% cuts annually to small programs
- Consolidation of programs
- Preference for states to try new ideas
- Common ground has narrowed



Important Education Players in Congress

- John Kline
- Bobby Scott
- Patty Murray
- Lamar Alexander



Important Education Players in the Administration

- Arne Duncan
- Melody Musgrove
- Sue Swenson
- Roberto Rodriguez
- Cecilia Munoz



Common Ground Issues

- Increasing states' flexibility to implement programs (sometimes)
- Student achievement (sometimes)
- Social security (sometimes)
- Disability (sometimes)



Early Childhood (birth to 5)



K-12

CTE

Higher Ed

Cross-cutting Issues

- Education Research: ESRA
- Student and Family Privacy: FERPA

