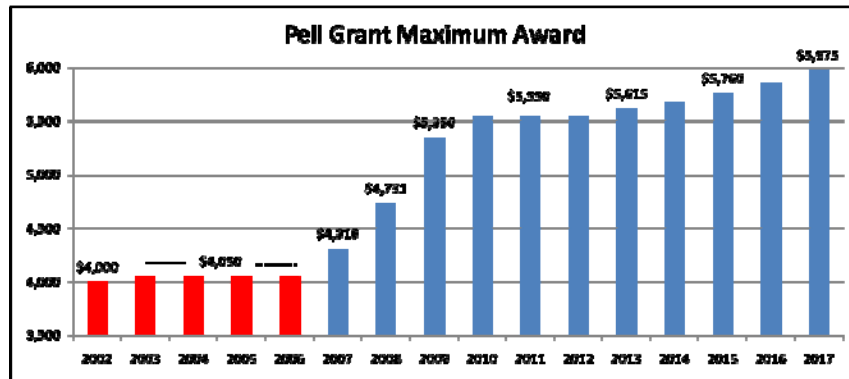




Democrats Made Historic Investments in Education and Saved Hundreds of Thousands of Jobs

Since 2007, the Democratic-led Congress has lowered education costs and expanded educational opportunities for American students:

Increased the Maximum Pell Grant Award to \$5,550 This Year

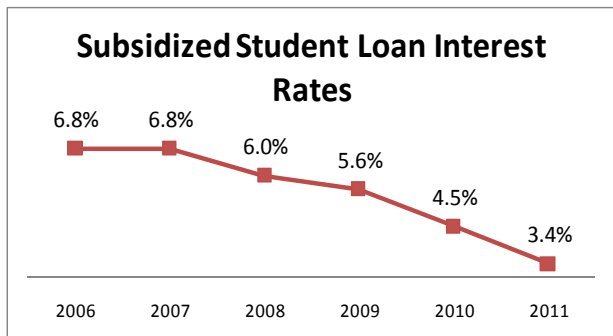


Made Student Loan Repayments More Affordable

Borrowers can now cap their student loan payments at 15% of their discretionary incomes, and any balances left after 25 years will be forgiven. For new borrowers starting in 2014, this goes down to 10% of their discretionary incomes, with balances forgiven after 20 years.

Lowered Student Loan Interest Rates on Need-Based Loans

Subsidized Stafford loan rates have been dropping and will continue to decrease over the next two years, going down to 4.5% in the 2010-2011 school year and reaching 3.4% in the 2011-2012 school year.



Invested in Students, NOT Banks

Switched all schools to the more efficient Direct Loan program, saving \$61 Billion, which was re-invested in higher education and also used to reduce the federal deficit by \$19 billion.

Made It Easier to Apply for Federal Student Aid and Plan for Textbook Purchasing

Streamlined the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process down from 100 questions and created a two-page FAFSA-EZ form—giving families extra time to plan for college expenses. On textbooks, colleges are now required to provide advance information on textbook pricing to help families plan. And publishers must provide pricing information on “unbundled” versions of every “bundled” textbook they sell.

Invested in Community Colleges — \$500 Million a Year for Next 4 Years

All students—including those who are returning to school after being in the workforce—will have access to high-quality, low-cost higher education. More courses will be available, at times that work for students.

Encouraged Teaching Through Tuition Assistance and Rewarded Public Service Through Loan Forgiveness

Students can receive up to \$4,000 a year in up-front tuition assistance if they commit to teaching in a high-need school or subject area for four years after graduation. Graduates who work in public service or at a non-profit for 10 years, and make payments on their federal student loans during that time will have any balances remaining after 10 years forgiven.

Invested \$3 Billion in Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions

Made a landmark investment in the nation's premier Minority-Serving Institutions, to ensure they continue to provide a high quality education.

Provided High Quality Learning Opportunities to Young Children and Child Care Assistance to Families

In addition to helping college students, the Democratic Congress provided high quality early learning opportunities to 63,000 children and child care assistance to more than 200,000 families. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided \$2.1 billion for Head Start and Early Head Start and \$2 billion for Child Care Development Block Grants to provide child care services.

Saving and Creating Jobs

311,000 jobs:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided a total of \$53.6 billion for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) to help sustain and create jobs and advance education reforms. It is estimated that funding provided for this program helped create or retain an estimated 311,000 jobs in the education and government services sectors, which included positions such as teachers, librarians, counselors, corrections officers, public health personnel, and construction workers.



93,000 jobs:

ARRA provided \$10 billion in additional Title I, Part A funds to local education agencies (LEAs). IDEA received \$12.2 billion and is provided under three separate authorities: \$11.3 billion is available under Part B Grants to States; \$400 million is available under Part B Preschool Grants; and \$500 million is available under Part C Grants for Infants and Families. It is estimated that between Title I and IDEA (all three programs) 93,000 jobs were created or retained.

300,000 summer jobs:

ARRA provided \$1.2 billion for Youth Services, including summer employment opportunities, and it is estimated that these funds supported more than 300,000 summer jobs.

Opportunities for 155,000 students:

ARRA provided \$200 million for Federal Work-Study, which supported student employment and service opportunities for more than 155,000 college students.

161,000 teacher jobs:

The Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act will save or create 319,000 American jobs in local communities, including 161,000 teacher jobs, and also discourages American corporations from shipping jobs overseas.