



# WASHINGTON REPORT

Prepared by *Education-Training Market Report*

EDUCATION GETS BRUSH: Office of Education programs get fast brush in "tight" Nixon fiscal 1971 budget. Higher prices and rising needs will more than offset slight rise in federal education effort. President claims total federal effort in education-training in all agencies will rise modest \$600 million to \$10.6 billion.

President's budget message stressed "high priority" on "expanding manpower programs as a means of getting people off welfare rolls into productive employment."

Labor Department's Manpower Administration proposed budget shows \$607 million for manpower development, up \$195 million over fiscal 1970; \$714 million for new Manpower Training Act, which includes \$45 million in start-up funds and transfer of \$622 million from OEO manpower training funds, other than Job Corps.

Manpower budget would provide for 125,000 new slots in JOBS program, for continuation of CEP, 10,000 more institutional training slots and expansion of computerized jobs banks and job-matching. In this connection, Labor Department spokesmen appear concerned about impact of rising unemployment on job opportunities for trainees.

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DEMONSTRATION PILOT PROJECTS: Associate Commissioner for Adult, Vocational and Library Services Grant Venn, in special memo to executive officers of State Boards for Vocational Education and State Directors of Vocational Education, has outlined what agency is looking for in proposals under Part D of Public Law 90-576, Amendments to Vocational Education Act of 1963.

Section 141 covers exemplary programs and projects in vocational education. It deals with demonstration pilot projects designed to "stimulate, through federal financial support, new ways to create a bridge between school and earning a living for young people, who are still in school, or who have left school..."

According to spokesman, effort will be made to invite proposals from

new sources: "We are looking for new approaches, new ideas. When we fund a project, we want to know that the money is reaching down where it will do some good."

Venn memo notes that to achieve maximum impact funds will focus on programs or projects which combine, in one operational setting, all of following aspects:

1. Provision for broad occupational orientation at elementary and secondary school levels so as to increase student awareness of range of positions open to them in the world of work.
2. Provision for work experience, cooperative education and similar programs, making possible wide variety of offerings in many occupational areas.
3. Provision for students not previously enrolled in vocational programs to receive specific training in job entry skills just prior to time they leave school. These could be short duration programs.
4. Provision for intensive occupational guidance and counseling during last years of school and for initial placement of all students at completion of schooling (this might mean job or post-secondary job training institution, done in cooperation with manpower agencies, employment services, etc.).
5. Provision for grantee or contractor to carry program on with support from regular funding sources after termination of federal assistance. Federal assistance cannot exceed three years under Act.

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WORKER EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY: Educational technology is under test in organized labor's education programs. Programs, conducted by AFL-CIO, and affiliated and unaffiliated national and local unions, are concerned with "tool" courses as stewards' training in such areas as grievance procedures, staff and leadership training and, increasingly, more generalized education in such areas as labor economics and collective bargaining. Possibly 15,000 or more union members, stewards, local officer and staffers take short courses in union halls, universities and local facilities each year.

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EDUCATION SEEN KEY: Labor Department forecast on characteristics of labor force in Seventies still stresses education as key to high wage jobs. Department looks to labor force of 100 million by 1980, of whom 36 million will be women and 12 million nonwhite. Biggest demand will be for supervisors and managers in 35-45 year age range. DOL projection sees balance between supply and demand for college graduates during decade and 45 percent increase in need for professional and technical workers. It also views continuing shortage of engineers leading to upgrading of technicians and training of non-engineering graduates for engineering jobs.

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