

# History of the SLDS Grant Program

Expanding States' Capacity for Data-Driven Decisionmaking

**Statewide Longitudinal  
Data Systems  
Grant Program**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*A Program of the National Center for Education Statistics at IES*

The **Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Grant Program** helps states and territories make informed decisions to improve student learning and outcomes by designing, building, maintaining, and expanding P-20W+ (early childhood through workforce) longitudinal data systems. Since its establishment with the Education Technical Assistance Act of 2002, the program has awarded more than \$900 million in eight rounds of competitive grants. State education agencies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories are eligible to apply for SLDS grants.

## Evolving to Meet Growing Information Needs

Over time, the focus of the SLDS Grant Program has expanded to reflect states' progress in building and using data systems to support a variety of education and workforce policy and program decisions.

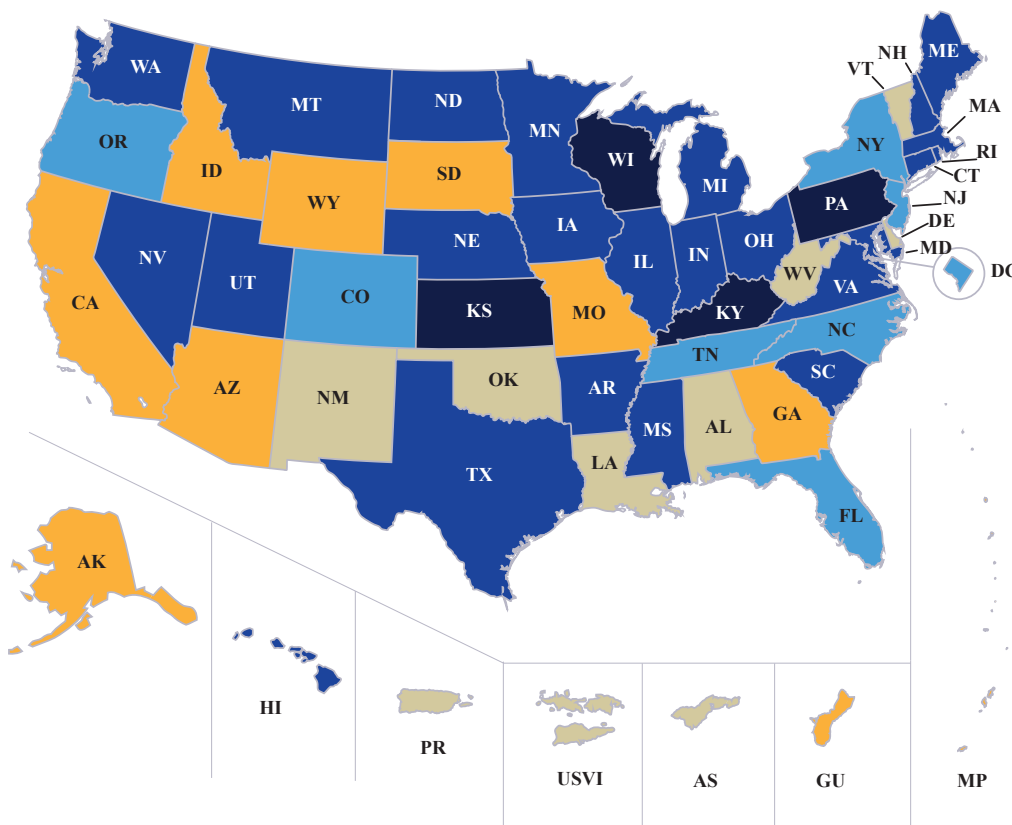
**56**

state and territory  
grantees

**\$934  
million**

in total grants  
awarded

Number of SLDS  
grants received




## SLDS Grants Over Time

**2006**

**14**  
grantees

**\$3.7M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**  
K12 data




**2007**

**13**  
grantees

**\$4.8M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**  
K12 data



**2009**

**27**  
grantees

**\$5.6M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**  
K12 data **plus** one of the following:

- Prekindergarten data;
- Postsecondary data; or
- Workforce data

**or**

- Teacher-student data link

**2009**  
**American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)**

**20**  
grantees

**\$12.5M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**

- Prekindergarten data;
- K12 data;
- Postsecondary data; or
- Workforce data

**and**

- Teacher-student data link

**2012**

**24**  
grantees

**\$4.1M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**

- Prekindergarten data;
- K12 data;
- Postsecondary data; or
- Workforce data

**2015**

**16**  
grantees

**\$6.5M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**  
Data use in **one** or **two** of the following areas:

- Fiscal equity and return on investment
- Educator talent management
- Early learning
- College and career
- Evaluation and research
- Instructional support

**2019**

**28**  
grantees


**\$3.3M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**  
**One** of the following areas:

- Infrastructure
- Equity
- Education choice

**and optional**

- School-level poverty measures project



**2023**

**28**  
grantees

**\$3.9M**  
average award

**Grant Focus**  
**One** of the following areas:

- Infrastructure and interoperability
- College and career
- School finance
- State policy questions

**and optional**

- Common Education Data Standards (CEDS) Open Source Community project

