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ABSTRACT

The distribution of Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) funds was investigated by the General Accounting Office. The SEOG program is a campus-based aid program that provides money to schools, which then distribute it to students. Attention was directed to the following concerns: the kinds of schools that receive SEOG funds, the family income of students receiving SEOG funds, the distribution of SEOG funds to different categories of institutions, and whether SEOG funds are going to students who receive Pell grants. The chief finding concerns the distribution of SEOG funds for dependent and independent students from different income categories. For dependent students (the larger group), the data show that in 1983-1984, the funds did not appear to be concentrated on students from lower income categories. SEOG dollars were awarded to students in all income categories, from the highest (\$25,000 or more) to the lowest (\$14,999 or less). This overall pattern held for all four groups of schools examined (private, public, private historically black, and proprietary), although in varying degrees. For independent students, SEOG recipients from all four groups of schools were concentrated in the lower income categories. Technical information on the sample and research methods is included. (SW)





UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

13 NOV 1985

B-221017

The Honorable Christopher Dodd United States Senate

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy United States Senate

The Honorable John Kerry United States Senate

The Honorable Spark Matsunaga United States Senate

The Honorable Howard Metzenbaum United States Senate

The Honorable Claiborne Pell United States Senate

The Honorable Paul Simon United States Senate

In your March 11, 1985, letter, you asked that we gather, review, and synthesize information from existing sources that would address questions you have on the schools and students who receive Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) funds. The SEOG program is one of the three campus-based financial aid programs that provide money to schools, which then distribute it to students.

This report presents the data we obtained and tabulated to respond to your inquiry about the distribution of SEOG funds. The data were provided according to our technical specifications by several higher education associations that maintain large data bases on the allocation of student financial aid from federal, state, local, and institutional sources. We did not verify the accuracy or appropriateness of the computer runs (or the data bases) the associations used to produce the data they gave to us. However, we did review their material very carefully, and we worked with association staff as necessary to correct errors.



Our chief finding concerns the distribution of SEOG funds for dependent and independent students from different income categories. For dependent students (the larger group), the data show that in 1983-1984, the funds did not appear to be concentrated on students from lower income categories. SEOG dollars were awarded to students in all income categories, from the highest (\$25,000 or more) to the lowest (\$14,999 or less). This overall pattern held for all four groups of schools examined--private, public, private historically black, and proprietary--although to varying degrees. For independent students, SEOG recipients from all four groups of schools were concentrated in the lower income categories.

As we arranged with Mr. William A. Blakey, who has coordinated this request, we are sending copies of this report to members of the higher education community. Copies will be made available to others who request them.

Please call Ms. Lois-ellin Datta at 275-1370 if you need any further information.

Eleanor Chelimsky

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SEOG FUNDS

Information on the Distribution of SEOG Funds to Students



FOREWORD OUR STUDY QUESTIONS AND METHODOLOGY

We were asked to address four questions regarding the institutions and students receiving aid under the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) program:

- 1. What kinds of schools receive SEOG funds?
- 2. What kinds of students, particularly in what income categories, receive SEOG funds?
- 3. How does the distribution of SEOG funds look for certain categories of institutions, particularly institutions with certain costs of attendance?
- 4. Are SEOG funds going to students who receive Pell grants or to students who do not receive Pell grants?

To answer these questions, we tabulated 1983-84 student financial aid survey data from several higher education associations. The National Institute of Independent Colleges and Universities (NIICU) provided data on private schools. The United Negro College Fund, in conjunction with NIICU, provided data on private historically black schools. The American Association of State Colleges and Universities, in conjunction with the American Council on Education, provided data on public schools. A consortium made up of the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools, the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, and the American Council on Cosmetology Education provided data on proprietary schools.

Each of these associations, or groups of associations, maintains a data base on the allocation of student financial aid from federal, state, local, and institutional sources. The samples of institutions and students drawn by each association (or group of associations) for its survey differ in that each association concentrates on its particular type of school. However, as we discuss in the appendix, the various samples have many structural similarities and are generally designed to produce national estimates of financial aid allocations. In addition, the associations use a common questionnaire. Hence, it is possible to obtain and tabulate comparable data.

We made contact with the associations after each received a letter, signed by several senators, requesting data. In conjunction with association staff, we designed the details of the data tabulations that would be required to address the questions. The associations prepared the computer runs to produce the data for the tabulations. All the data the associations provided are population estimates developed by applying weights to their samples. We did not verify the

accuracy or appropriateness of the programs the associations used for these computer runs, nor did we verify the accuracy or appropriateness of the survey data bases (or survey designs and data collection) to which the programs were applied. However, we did review very carefully the computer output that the associations provided us, and we worked with their staff to clarify all the ambiguities and correct all the errors we identified in this output. Further we reviewed the associations' sampling plans, and we have no significant concerns about their sampling procedures.

As requested by Mr. William A. Blakey, coordinator of this request, we did not give a draft copy of this report to the U.S. Department of Education for comment.

In the remainder of this document, we first provide an overall summary tabulation of SEOG funds distribution to dependent and independent students. Then, in the four remaining sections, we give detailed data on each of the four questions for private schools, private historically black schools, public schools, and proprietary schools. Data are not aggregated to provide totals across these four main types of schools, because the various survey samples were drawn separately for somewhat different purposes by the different associations. Further, we did not do tests of statistical significance on any differences in SEOG funds distribution patterns (for instance, between students with different income levels) within each type of We did not know detailed facts about the basic data sets (such as response rates and possible deviations from randomness), which are necessary for conducting statistical significance The percentages in the tables may not add to 100 because of rounding error.



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	ABBREVIATIONS	
AICS GAO NACCAS	Association of Independent Colleges and Schools U.S. General Accounting Office National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences National Association of Trade and Technical Schoo	1s
NIICU	National Institute of Independent Colleges and Universities	
SEOG	Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant	



1. SUMMARY OF SEOG FUNDS DISTRIBUTION TO STUDENTS

Overall, in 1983-84, SEOG dollars were awarded to students in all income categories. For dependent students, SEOG recipients were found with considerable frequency among both higher and lower income categories. However, for independent students, there was much more concentration of recipients in lower income categories (\$14,999 or less). These data are shown in tables 1 and 2 on pages 2 and 3. The percentage totals are as low as 68 percent because of nonresponse on the income question in the survey.

SEOG funds distribution patterns for dependent students varied across the four groups of schools--private, private historically black, public, and proprietary. In private schools, SEOG funds going to dependent students were distributed fairly equally across income categories and do not appear to have been targeted to the lower-income students. In public schools, SEOG funds going to dependent students were distributed in a similar but less even pattern, with apparently more targeting to the lower income categories. In private historically black schools and proprietary schools, SEOG funds going to dependent students were concentrated in the lower income categories but not to the exclusion of the higher income students.

SEOG funds distribution patterns for independent students were very similar across the four groups of schools. In each school group, SEOG recipients were concentrated in the lower income categories.



Table 1. Summary of dependent students receiving SEOG funds in 1983-848

	Studen	ts r	eceiving	SEOG	by incom	i e	SEOG \$ received by income						
School	\$14,999 or less		\$15,000- \$24,999 No. \$		\$25,00 or mor		\$14,99 or les		\$15,000- \$24,999 Million		\$25,000 or more Million &		
	110.	-		_	. —	_	<u> </u>	-		-		-	
Private ^b	67,229	33	53,781	27	74,130	38	\$55.6	34	\$42.5	26	\$64.3	39	
Private historically black ^b	10,916	64	2,637	21	2,125	13	8.4	59	3.4	24	1.9	14	
Publice	86,150	42	60,166	29	43,523	21ª	43.8	39	33.1	29	25.9	22đ	
Proprietary ^e	27,839	70	8,549	22	3,579	9	8.8	66	3.4	26	1.1	8	

in the survey.

*Includes all students who attended proprietary schools.



aThis table summarizes data contained in tables 4, 9, 13, and 18.
bIncludes all full-time students who attended universities, comprehensive schools, 4-year schools, community colleges, and specialized schools for 1 year.
Cincludes all full-time students who attended universities, comprehensive schools, and 4-year schools for 1 year. Community college and specialized school students are excluded.
depercentage totals are as low as 90 percent because of nonresponse on the income question

Table 2. Summary of independent students receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84

	Student	s rec	eiving S	EOG !	by inc	580	SEOG \$ received by income						
School	\$14,9 or le		\$15,0 \$24,9 No.		\$25, or m		\$14,99 or les <u>Million</u>		\$15,000 \$24,999 Million		\$25,000 or more Million	e	
Privateb	23,617	87	806	3	298	1	\$18.1	91	\$1.0	5	\$0.1	1	
Private historically black ^b	3,241	83	59	2	17	<1	2.6	80	0.1	3	0.01	<1	
Publice	54,648	67	1,279	1	0	0ª	32.5	68	0.9	2	0	0ď	
Proprietarye	48,794	98	762	2	417	1	17.8	98	0.1	1	0.2	1	

in the survey. eIncludes all students who attended proprietary schools.

aThis table summarizes data contained in tables 4, 9, 13, and 18.

bIncludes all full-time students who attended universities, comprehensive schools, 4-year schools, community colleges, and specialized schools for 1 year.

CIncludes all full-time students who attended universities, comprehensive schools, and 4-year schools for 1 year. Community college and specialized school students are excluded. decreentage totals are as low as 68 percent because of nonresponse on the income question in the survey.

2. DISTRIBUTION IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Question 1: What kinds of private schools received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 3 shows, 234,648 students in private schools received a total of \$191 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84. These SEOG recipients constituted 22 percent of all student recipients of federal aid in private schools.

Almost equal amounts (\$59 million to \$61 million) and proportions (31-32 percent) of SEOG dollars went to three types of private schools: universities (or 5-year-plus schools), comprehensive (or 5-year) schools, and 4-year schools. These three types of schools served a total of 207,377 (88 percent) of all SEOG recipients in private schools.

The size of individual SEOG grants to students varied considerably across the types of private schools. Students in universities generally received the largest grants (on average, \$1,248), and students in private 2-year schools generally received the smallest (on average, \$366).



Table 3. Private schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84

	SEOG \$ re	eceived & of	Student	s receiv	ing SEOG \$	SEOG \$ students received		
School ^b	Million	total	No.	* SEOG	aid	Average	Range	
University	\$ 61	32	48,912	21	5	\$1,248	\$100-\$2,465	
Comprehensive	59	31	76,737	33	7	771	200- 2,000	
4-year	59	31	81,728	35	8	725	110- 2,000	
2-year	6	3	15,431	7	1	366	200- 1,600	
Specialized	6	3	11,840	5	1	511	200- 1,300	
TOTALS	191	100	234,648	101	22	NA	NA	

aIncludes all SEOG recipients with no distinction as to dependence or enrollment



status.

because the data base was designed to reflect the student level rather than the school level. Universities are 5-year-plus schools that offer degrees beyond the masters; comprehensive schools are 5-year schools that offer masters degrees. Specialized schools are free-standing schools that have a specialized subject-matter concentration such as business or arts.

Question 2: What kinds of students in private schools, particularly in what income categories, received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 4 shows, 197,491 dependent students in private schools received \$164.7 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84. These dependent SEOG recipients were distributed relatively equally across all income categories.

Thirty-three percent (67,229) of the dependent recipients in private schools had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 38 percent (74,130) had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Similarly, 34 percent (\$55.6 million) of the SEOG dollars received by dependent students in private schools went to students with incomes of \$14,999 or less; 39 percent (\$64.3 million), to those with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Individual SEOG awards to dependent students in private schools averaged from \$754 (in the \$15,000 to \$19,999 income category) to \$1,026 (in the income category of \$35,000 and above).

As table 4 also shows, the pattern of SEOG funds distribution for independent students in private schools differed substantially from the pattern for dependent students. Eighty-seven percent (23,617) of the independent recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less, and 91 percent (\$18.1 million) of the SEOG dollars awarded to independent recipients in private schools went to these recipients.



Table 4. Students in private schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84ª

)

	R	eceived		SEOG		ived
•		% of	% of income		% of	·
Income ^b .	No.	total	<u>category</u> c	Million	total	Average
Dependent						
\$0 - \$4 , 999	22,698	11	29	\$18.7	11	\$ 825
5- 9,999	15,906	8	24	12.8	8	807
10-14,999	28,625	14	34	24.1	15	843
15-19,999	30,153	15	31	22.7	14	754
20-24,999	23,628	12	24	19.8	12	838
25-29,999	29,378	15	27	23.6	14	803
30-34,999	19,717	10	23	15.0	9	761
35,000 ±	25,035	13	11	25.7	16	1,026
Unknownd	2,351	1	18	2.3	1	990
TOTALS	197,491	99	NA	164.7	100	NA
Independent						
\$0-\$4,999	16,816	62	22	\$13.7	69	\$ 816
5- 9,999	4,391	16	15	2.6	13	593
10-14,999	2,410	9	17	1.8	9	755
15-19,999	806	3	21	1.0	5	1,181
20-24,999	0	0	0	0	Õ	0
25-29,999	298	1	8	0.1	1	400
30-34,999	0	Ó	Ō	0	Ò	0
35,000 ±	0	Ŏ	Ö	Ö	ŏ	ŏ
Unknownd	2,304	9	27	0.8	4	344
TOTALS	27,025	100	NA	20.0	101	NA

aIncludes only students attending full-time for 1 academic year, or 96 percent of all SEOG recipients in private schools.
bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.
cpercents are the portion of federal aid recipients in the income



category receiving SEOG funds and cannot be totaled. dNot reported by survey respondents.

Question 3: What kinds of students received SEOG funds in 1983-84 in private schools with varying costs of attendance?

As table 5 shows, less than 1 percent (\$0.3 million) of SEOG funds going to private schools went to students in private schools with a cost of attendance of \$5,000 or less. All these recipients had incomes of \$25,000 to \$29,999.

Fifty percent (\$93.2 million) of SEOG funds going to private schools went to students in private schools with a cost of attendance of \$5,001 to \$9,000. Thirty-seven percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 34 percent, \$25,000 or more.

Another 50 percent (\$93.4 million) of SEOG funds going to private schools went to students in private schools with a cost of attendance of \$9,001 or more. The incomes of 47 percent of these recipients were \$14,999 or less; of 30 percent, \$25,000 or more.

The associations provided tabulations that use cost-of-attendance categories that they believed more appropriate for the schools in their associations. In the private schools, 20 percent of SEOG funds went to students where the cost of attendance was \$7,180 or less; 40 percent went to students where the cost of attendance was \$7,181 to \$9,899; and 41 percent went to students where the cost of attendance was \$9,900 or more. From 35 to 48 percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less. From 24 to 37 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.



Table 5. Students receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84 in private schools with varying costs of attendance

					Perc	ent_o	frec	ipien	ts by	inco	me ca	tegor	Σp
Cost of attendancec	SEOG receiv		Total recipies		\$0 - \$4,999	-85,000-	\$14,999	\$15,000-	\$24,999	\$25,000	\$30,000-	\$35,000- or more	Unknown
\$5,000 or less	\$ 0.3	<1	312	<1	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
\$5,001- \$9,000	93.2	50	139,505	62	17	7	13	15	i1	15	10	9	1
\$9,001 or more	93.4	50	86,570	38	20	12	15	11	9	9	6	15	3
TOTALS	186.9	100	226,387	100	18	9	14	14	10	13	9	11	2
\$7,180 or less	\$ 36.5	20	49,438	22	24	10	14	15	11	12	8	4	2
\$7,181- \$9,899	73.9	40	111,919	49	17	6	12	16	11	15	11	11	2
\$9,900 or more	76.5	41	65,030	29	17	13	16	9	9	11	6	16	3
TOTALS	186.9	101	226,387	100	18	9	14	14	10	13	9	11	2

aIncludes all recipients who attended full-time for 1 academic year, or 96 percent of all SEOG recipients in private schools.

b"Unknown" column unreported by survey respondents.

CCost of attendance includes all budgeted student costs such as tuition and room



and board.

Question 4: Did SEOG funds in private schools in 1983-84 go to Pell grant recipients or to students not receiving Pell grants?

As table 6 shows, 137,740 students in private schools received both Pell and SEOG funds. Almost 2-1/2 times as many (351,035) received Pell but not SEOG funds, and about two thirds as many (88,647) received SEOG but not Pell funds.

Sixty percent of those who received both Pell and SEOG funds and 61 percent of those who received Pell but not SEOG funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 12 percent of both of these groups had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 12 percent of those who received SEOG but not pell funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 65 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 6. Pell and SEOG recipients in private schools in 1983-84^a

	Stude receivin		Receiving but not		Receiving SEOG but not Pell % of		
Incomeb	No.	total	No.	total	No.	total	
\$0-\$4,999	39,913	29	102,195	29	1,472	2	
5- 9,999	15,919	12	59,994	17	4,377	5	
10-14,999	26,340	19	51,239	15	4,696	5	
15-19,999	20,998	15	46,727	13	9,961	11	
20-24,999	12,994	9	36,173	10	10,634	12	
25-29,999	11,047	8	23,501	7	18,629	21	
30-34,999	4,044	3	11,022	3	15,673	18	
35,000 +	1,830	1	6,755	2	23,205	26	
Unknown ^C	4,655	3	13,429	4	0	0	
TOTALS	137,740	99	351,035	100	88,647	100	

aIncludes all full-time students who attended for 1 academic year, or 96 percent of all SEOG recipients in private schools. bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars. CNot reported by survey respondents.



Similarly, as table 7 shows, 72 percent of all Pell dollars that were awarded to students in private schools went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 7 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 40 percent of all SEOG dollars that were awarded went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 35 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 7. The distribution of Pell and SEOG dollars in private schools in 1983-84a

Pell and SEOG \$ awarded to students Total Pell \$ Total SEOG \$ receiving both awarded awarded % of % of % of Incomeb Million total Millions total Million total \$0-\$4,999 \$100.6 35 \$238.1 38 \$ 34.5 18 5- 9,999 37.6 13 112.5 18 15.4 8 10-14,999 55.8 19 97.6 16 26.0 14 15-19,999 36.5 13 68.4 11 23.7 13 20-24,999 21.1 7 42.1 7 19.8 11 25-29,999 7 18.9 22.2 23.7 13 30-34,999 5.9 2 10.1 2 15.0 8 35,000 +2.9 1 4.7 1 25.7 14 UnknownC 10.6 4 29.0 5 3.1 2 TOTALS 289.9 101 624.7 102 186.9 101

aIncludes all full-time students who attended for 1 academic year, or 96 percent of all SEOG recipients in private schools. bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars. CUnreported on survey.



3. DISTRIBUTION IN PRIVATE HISTORICALLY BLACK SCHOOLS

Question 1: What kinds of private historically black schools received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

The entire population of private historically black schools was surveyed. These institutions were not classified by type.

A total of 46,797 students received some form of federal aid in the private traditionally black schools. Of these students, a total of 23,109 (49 percent) received \$18.7 million in SEOG funds. Their average SEOG award was \$807. Awards ranged from \$50 to \$2,000.

Question 2: What kinds of students in private historically black schools, particularly in what income categories, received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 8 shows, 17,241 dependent students in private historically black schools received \$14.2 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84. These dependent SEOG recipients were distributed primarily across the lower income categories. Sixty-four percent (10,916) of the dependent recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 13 percent (2,125) had incomes of \$25,000 and above.

Similarly, 59 percent (\$8.4 million) of the SEOG dollars received by dependent students in these schools went to students with incomes of \$14,999 or less; 14 percent (\$1.9 million) went to those with incomes of \$25,000 and above.

Individual SEOG awards to dependent students in these schools averaged from \$754 (in the \$5,000 to \$9,999 income category) to \$949 (in the \$25,000 to \$29,999 income category).

As table 8 also shows, the pattern of SEOG funds distribution for independent students in private traditionally black schools differed substantially from the pattern for dependent students. Eighty-three percent (3,211) of the independent students had incomes of \$14,999 or less, and 81 percent (\$2.6 million) of the SEOG dollars awarded to independent recipients in the private traditionally black schools went to these recipients.



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Table 8. Students in private historically black schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84

		Received		SEOG	\$ rece	ived
•		% of	% of income		% of	
Incomeb	No.	total	categoryc	Million	total	Average
Dependent		•		•		
\$0-\$4,999	4,417	26	56	\$ 3.4	24	\$781
5- 9,999	3,241	19	55	2.4	17	754
10-14,999	3,258	19	54	2.6	18	792
15-19,999	2,017	12	51	1.9	13	944
20-24,999	1,620	9	53	1.5	11	948
25-29,999	1,179	7	52	1.1	8	949
30-34,999	471	3	50	0.4	3	909
35,000 ±	475	3 3 3	41	0.4	3	895
Unknownd	563	3	56	0.5	4	820
TOTALS	17,241	101	NA	14.2	101	NA
Independent						
\$0-\$4,999	2,791	72	41	\$ 2.2	69	\$ 788
5-9,999	336	9	39	0.3	9	983
10-14,999	84	2	20	0.1	3	1,086
15-19,999	49	1	29	0.1	3 3	1,045
20-24,999	10	<1	38	<0.1	<1	1,040
25-29,999	17	<1	26	<0.1	<1	375
30-34,999	0	0	0	0	0	0
35,000 ±	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknownd	599	15	48	0.5	16	889
TOTALS	3,886	100	NA	3.2	100	NA

^aIncludes only students attending full-time for 1 academic year, or 91 percent of all SEOG recipients in private historically black schools.

dNot reported by survey respondents.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

^CPercents are the portion of federal aid recipients in the income category receiving SEOG funds and cannot be totaled.

Question 3: What kinds of students received SEOG funds in 1983-84 in private historically black schools with varying costs of attendance?

As table 9 shows, 16 percent (\$2.9 million) of SEOG funds going to private historically black schools went to students in schools where the cost of attendance was \$5,000 or less. Sixty-eight percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 7 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Eighty-two percent (\$14.4 million) of SEOG funds going to private traditionally black schools went to students in schools whose cost of attendance was \$5,001 to \$9,000. Sixty-seven percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 11 percent, \$25,000 or more.

Two percent (\$0.3 million) of SEOG funds going to private traditionally black schools went to students in schools whose cost of attendance was \$9,001 or more. Seventy-nine percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 4 percent, \$25,000 or more.

As table 9 also shows, 19 percent of SEOG funds going to private traditionally black schools went to students in schools with a cost of attendance of \$5,254 or less; 51 percent, to students in schools with a cost of attendance of \$5,255 to \$6,944; and 30 percent, to students in schools with a cost of attendance of \$6,945 or more. From 65 to 70 percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less. From 8 to 11 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.



Table 9. Students receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84 in private historically schools with varying costs of attendance

					Per	cent c	of rec	cipie	its by	ince	me c	tego	ryb
Cost of attendance C	SEOG receiv Million		Tota recipie No.		\$0 \$4,999	\$9,999	\$10,000-	\$15,000-	\$20,000-	\$25,000-	\$30,000-	\$35,000- or more	Unknown
\$5,000 or less	\$ 2.9	16	3,716	18	39	17	12	10	8	5	2	0	8
\$5,001- \$9,000	14.4	82	17,023	81	33	17	17	10	8	6	2	3	5
\$9,001 or more	0.3	2	386	2	47	20	12	3	9	4	0	0	5
TOTALS	17.6 ^C	100	21,125	101	34	17	16	10	8	6	2	2	6
\$5,254 and less	\$ 3.3	19	4,230	20	38	17	13	10	7	6	2	0	7
\$5,255- \$6,944	8.9	51	10,651	50	33	17	15	11	8	6	2	2	6
\$6,945 or more	5.3	30	6,244	30	33	17	20	8	8	4	3	4	3
TOTALS	17.5ª	100	21,125	100	34	17	16	10	8	6	2	2	6

announces all recipients who attended full-time for 1 academic year, or 91 percent of all SEOG recipients in private historically black schools.

b"Unknown" column unreported by survey respondents.

CCost of attendance includes all budgated student costs such as tuition

and room and board.

dTotal dollars differ slightly because of rounding.

Question 4: Did SEOG funds in private historically black schools in 1983-84 go to Pell grant recipients or to students not receiving Pell grants?

As table 10 shows, 19,313 students in private historically black schools received both Pell and SEOG funds. About the same number (17,987) received Pell but not SEOG funds, and about one tenth as many (1,807) received SEOG but not Pell funds.

Seventy-two percent of those who received both Pell and SEOG funds and 74 percent of those who received Pell but not SEOG funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 5 percent of both of these groups had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 10 percent of those who received SEOG but not Pell funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 69 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 10. Pell and SEOG recipients in private historically black schools in 1983-84^a

	Stude receivir		Receivin but not		Receiving SEOG but not Pell % of		
<u>Income</u> b	No.	total	No.	total	No.	total	
\$0-\$4,999	7,109	37	7,179	40	99	5	
5- 9,999	3,544	18	3,097	17	33	2	
10-14,999	3,289	17	3,029	17	53	3	
15-19,999	1,868	10	1,817	10	197	11	
20-24,999	1,500	8	1,125	6	129	7	
25-29,999	682	4	626	3	514	28	
30-34,999	142	1	179	1	329	18	
35,000 +	54	<1	132	1	421	23	
UnknownC	1,130	6	803	4	32	2	
TOTALS	19,318	101	17,987	99	1,807	99	

aIncludes all full-time students who attended for 1 academic year, or 91 percent of all SEOG recipients in private historically black schools.

CNot reported by survey respondents.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

Similarly, as table 11 shows, 81 percent of all pell dollars that were awarded to students in these schools went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while just more than 2 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 63 percent of all SEOG dollars that were awarded to students in these schools went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 10 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 11. The distribution of Pell and SEOG dollars in private historically black schools in 1983-84

	Pell and awarded studed receiving	to its	Total Poaward	•	Total SEOG \$ awarded % of		
Incomeb	Million	total	Million	total	Million	total	
\$0-\$4,999	\$17.9	39	\$24.9	44	\$ 5.6	32	
5- 9,999	8.7	19	11.3	20	2.8	16	
10-14,999	7.6	17	9.5	17 📏	2.7	15	
15-19,999	4.1	9	4.6	8	2.0	11	
20-24,999	2.8	6	2.3	4	1.5	9	
25-29,999	1.2	3	1.0	2	1.1	6	
30-34,999	0.2	<1	0.2	<1	0.4	2	
35,000 +	0.1	<1	0.1	<1	0.4	2	
Unknownc	2.8	6	3.0	5	1.0	6	
TOTALS	45.4	99	56.9	100	17.5	99	

all full-time students who attended for 1 academic year, or 91 percent of all SEOG recipients in private historically black schools.

CNot reported by survey respondents.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

4. DISTRIBUTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Question 1: What kinds of public schools received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 12 shows, 382,503 students who attended public schools full-time for 1 academic year received a total of \$207.3 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84. These SEOG recipients constituted 22 percent of all student federal aid recipients who attended public school full-time for 1 academic year.

Almost equal amounts (\$82.5 million and \$78.9 million) and proportions (40 percent and 38 percent) of SEOG dollars went to universities and comprehensive (or 5-year) schools (respectively). These two types of schools served a total of 291,263 (76 percent) of all SEOG recipients who attended public schools full-time for 1 academic year. Universities received the largest amount (\$82.5 million) and proportion (40 percent) of SEOG dollars, but comprehensive schools served the largest number (161,090) and proportion (42 percent) of SEOG recipients.

The size of individual SEOG grants to students varied across types of public schools, with students in specialized schools generally receiving the largest grants (on average, \$760) and students in comprehensive schools generally receiving the smallest (on average, \$490).



Table 12. Public schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84a

	SEOG \$ re	eceived % of	Student	s receiv	ing SEOG \$		students ceived
School ^b	Million	total	No.	SEOG	aid	Average	Range
University	\$ 82.5	40	130,173	34	25	\$634	\$30-\$1,800
Comprehensive	78.9	38	161,090	42	26	490	100- 1,800
4-year	0.6	<1	1,004	<1	22	608	200- 1,000
2-year	43.1	21	87,406	23	16	493	90- 1,800
Specialized	2.2	1	2,830	1	21	760	365- 1,100
TOTALS	207.3	100	382,503	100	22	NA	NA

aIncludes all SEOG recipients who attended full-time for 1 academic year, with no



distinction as to dependence.

The number of schools of each type is not available, because the data base was designed to reflect the student level rather than the school level. Universities are 5-year-plus schools that offer degrees beyond the masters; comprehensive schools are 5-year schools that offer masters degrees. Specialized schools are free-standing schools that have a specialized subject-matter concentration such as business or arts.

Question 2: What kinds of students in public schools, particularly in what income categories, received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 13 shows, 209,293 dependent students in public universities and public comprehensive and 4-year schools received \$114.4 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84. These recipients were distributed across all income categories. However, they were concentrated in, and distributed relatively equally across, the income categories ranging from \$5,000 to \$29,999.

Forty-two percent (86,150) of the dependent recipients in these public schools had incomes of \$14,999 or less. Twenty-one percent (43,523) had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Similarly, 39 percent (\$43.8 million) of the SEOG dollars received by dependent students in these public schools went to students with incomes of \$14,999 or less; 22 percent (\$25.9 million), to those with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Individual SEOG awards to dependent students in these public schools averaged from \$490 (in the \$5,000 to \$9,999 income category) to \$653 (in the \$30,000 to \$34,999 income category).

As table 13 also shows, the pattern of SEOG funds distribution for independent students differed substantially from the pattern for dependent students. Sixty-seven percent (54,648) of the independent recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less, and 68 percent (\$32.5 million) of the SEOG dollars awarded to independent students in these public schools went to these recipients.



Table 13. Students in public schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84a

	R	eceived		SEOG	\$ rece	ived
		% of	% of income		% of	
<u>Income</u> b	No.	<u>total</u>	categoryc	Million	total	Average
Dependent				t .	-	
\$0-\$4,999	14,084	7	28	\$ 7.5	7	\$534
5- 9,999	32,977	16	34	16.1	14	490
10-14,999	39,089	19	33	20.2	18	518
15-19,999	33,125	16	32	17.1	15	516
20-24,999	27,041	13	27	16.0	14	5 9 3
25-29,999	20,455	10	21	11.9	10	580
30-34,999	10,035	5	16	6.6	6	653
35,000 ±	13,033	6	13	7.4	6	564
Unknown ^d	19,454	9	29	11.6	10	595
TOTALS	209,293	101	NA	114.4	100	NA
Independent						
\$0-\$4,999	40,316	49	26	\$21.5	45	\$535
5- 9,999	12,130	15	19	9.5	20	784
10-14,999	2,202	3	9	1.5	3	665
15-19,999	36 9	<1	3	0.1	<1	400
20-24,999	910	1	18	0.8	2	926
25-29,999	0	0	0	0	0	0
30-34,999	0	0	0	0	0	0
35,000 ±	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknownd	26,673	32	34	14.0	30	526
TOTALS	82,600	100	NA	47.4	100	NA

aIncludes all university, comprehensive, and 4-year students attending full-time for 1 academic year, or 98 percent of all SEOG recipients in these schools. Community college and specialized school students are excluded.

dNot reported by survey respondents.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

CPercents are the portion of federal aid recipients at these three types of public schools in the income category receiving SEOG funds and cannot be totaled.

Question 3: What kinds of students received SEOG funds in 1983-84 in public schools with varying costs of attendance?

As table 14 shows, 57 percent (\$93.1 million) of SEOG funds going to public universities and public comprehensive and 4-year schools went to students in schools where the cost of attendance was less than \$5,500. Forty-six percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 15 percent, \$25,000 or more.

Thirty-five percent (\$57.2 million) of SEOG funds going to these schools went to students whose cost of attendance was \$5,500 to \$9,000. Fifty-three percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 13 percent, \$25,000 or more.

Seven percent (\$11.8 million) of SEOG funds going to these schools went to students whose cost of attendance was higher than \$9,000. Forty-eight percent of these recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 21 percent, \$25,000 or more.

As table 14 also shows, 18 percent of SEOG funds going to these schools went to students in schools with a cost of attendance of \$4,355 or less; 28 percent, to students in schools with a cost of attendance of \$4,356 to \$4,900; 24 percent, to students in schools with a cost of attendance of \$4,901 to \$6,100; and 30 percent, to students in schools with a cost of attendance of more than \$6,100. From 43 to 56 percent of the SEOG recipients in these schools had incomes of \$14,999 or less. From 8 to 20 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.



Table 14. Students receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84 in public schools with varying costs of attendance

					Percent of recipients by income categoryb						b		
Cost of attendance C	SEOG receiv Million		Total recipies		\$4,999	-000-68	\$10,000	\$15,000-	\$20,000-	\$25,000-	\$30,000-	\$35,000- or more	Unknown
Less than \$5,500	\$ 93.1	57	185,453	63	14	15	17	14	11	8	4	3	14
\$5,500- \$9,000	57.2	35	89,499	31	28	16	9	7	7	5	3	5	19
\$9,000 +	11.8	7	17,315	6	23	20	5	4	10	8	1	12	18
TOTALS	162.1	99	292,267	100	19	15	14	11	10	7	3	4	16
\$4,355 or less	\$ 28.9	18	74,830	26	12	17	22	18	10	5	2	1	14
\$4,356- \$4,900	44.9	28	77,877	27	17	15	13	12	10	11	4	5	12
\$4,901- \$6,100	38.9	24	69,283	24	18	11	14	11	11	6	5	5	20
\$6,100 +	49.4	30	70,277	24	29	19	8	4	7	5	3	7	18
TOTALS	162.1	100	292,267	101	19	15	14	11	10	7	3	4	16

^aIncludes all recipients who attended university and comprehensive and 4-year schools full-time for 1 academic year, or 98 percent of all SEOG recipients in these schools. Community college and specialized school students are excluded. b*Unknown* column unreported by survey respondents.

CCost of attendance includes all budgeted student costs such as tuition and room and board.



Question 4: Did SEOG funds in public schools in 1983-84 go to Pell grant recipients or to students not receiving Pell grants?

As table 15 shows, 222,822 students in public universities and public comprehensive and 4-year schools received both Pell and SEOG funds. About 2-1/2 times as many (550,179) received Pell but not SEOG funds, and about one third as many (69,741) received SEOG but not Pell funds.

Fifty-four percent of those who received both Pell and SEOG funds and 55 percent of those who received Pell but not SEOG funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 7 percent and 10 percent, respectively, had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 31 percent of those who received SEOG but not Pell funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 41 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 15. Pell and SEOG recipients in public schools in 1983-84a

	Stude receivin		Receiving but not		Receivi	t Pell
Incomeb	No.	total	No.	total	No.	% of total
\$0-,4,999	45,185	20	125,467	23	9,319	13
5- 9,999	37,129	17	89,733	16	8,054	12
10-14,999	37,262	17	87,496	16	4,104	6
15-19,999	27,811	12	63,718	12	5,497	8
20-24,999	20,281	9	47,405	· 9	7,729	11
25-29,999	11,776	5	33,745	6	8,722	13
30-34,999	2,115	1	15,345	3	7,942	11
35,000 +	1,144	1	3,886	1	11,919	17
UnknownC	40,119	18	83,384	15	6,455	9
TOTALS	222,822	100	550,179	101	69,741	100

aIncludes all full-time students who attended universities, comprehensive schools, and 4-year schools for 1 academic year, or 98 percent of all SEOG recipients in these schools. Community college and specialized school students are excluded. bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars. CNot reported by survey respondents.



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Similarly, as table 16 shows, 59 percent of all Pell dollars awarded to students in public universities and public comprehensive and 4-year schools went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while slightly more than 4 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 47 percent of all SEOG dollars that were awarded to students in these schools went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 15 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 16. The distribution of Pell and SEOG dollars in public schools in 1983-84a

	Pell and awarded studen receiving	to its	Total Po		Total SEOG \$ awarded	
		% of	<u> </u>	% of	awal	% of
Incomeb	<u>Million</u>	total	Million	total	Million	total
\$0-\$4,999	\$79.2	22	\$217.9	. 25	\$ 29.1	18
5- 9,999	64.0	17	154.3	18	25.6	16
10-14,999	64.1	17	140.9	16	21.7	13
15-19,999	42.4	12	89.7	10	17.3	11
20-24,999	27.6	8	54.0	6	16.9	10
25-29,999	13.8	4	29.4	3	11.9	7
30-34,999	2.4	1	10.4	1	6.7	4
35,000 +	1.3	<1	4.0	<1	7.3	4
Unknownc	72.9	20	159.0	18	25.8	16
TOTALS	367.7	101	859.5	97	162.3	99

aIncludes all full-time students who attended universities, comprehensive schools, and 4-year schools for 1 academic year, or 98 percent of all SEOG recipients in these schools. Community college and specialized school students are excluded. bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars. CUnreported on survey.



5. DISTRIBUTION IN PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS

Question 1: What kinds of proprietary schools received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 17 shows, 92,262 students in proprietary schools received a total of \$32.6 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84.

Almost equal amounts (\$14.1 million and \$13.5 million) and proportions (43 percent and 41 percent) of SEOG dollars went (respectively) to proprietary schools accredited by the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools (AICS) and those accredited by the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools (NATTS). These two types of schools served 76,492 (83 percent) of the SEOG recipients in proprietary schools. The remaining 17 percent of the recipients attended proprietary schools accredited by the National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences (NACCAS). These students received 15 percent (\$5 million) of the SEOG funds awarded to recipients in proprietary schools.



Table 17. Proprietary schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-848

	SEOG \$ r	eceived % of	Student	s receiv	ing SEOG \$		students ceived
school ^b	Million	total	No.	\$ SEOG	aid	Average	Range
National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences	\$ 5	15	15,770	17	NA	NA	\$38-\$1,420
Association of Independent Colleges and Schools	14.1	43	40,708	44	NA	NA	6- 1,375
National Association of Trade and Technical Schools	13.5	41	35,784	39	NA	NA	29- 1,536
TOTALS	32.6	99	92,262	100	NA	NA	NA

aIncludes all SEOG recipients in proprietary schools with no distinction as to dependence or enrollment status.

bSchool type is defined in terms of a school's accrediting agent. The number of schools of each type is not available, because the data base was designed to reflect the student level rather than the school level.

Question 2: What kinds of students in proprietary schools, particularly in what income categories, received SEOG funds in 1983-84?

As table 18 shows, 39,967 dependent proprietary school students received \$13.3 million in SEOG funds in 1983-84. These dependent SEOG recipients were distributed primarily across the lower income categories. However, some recipients were found in the higher income categories.

Seventy percent (27,839) of the dependent SEOG recipients had incomes of \$14,999 or less; 9 percent (3,579) had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Similarly, 66 percent (\$8.8 million) of the SEOG dollars received by the dependent students in proprietary schools went to students with incomes of \$14,999 or less; 8 percent (\$1.1 million), to those with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

As table 18 also shows, the pattern of SEOG funds distribution for independent students in proprietary schools differed substantially from the pattern for dependent students. Ninety-eight percent (48,794) of the independent students had incomes of \$14,999 or less, and 98 percent (\$17.8 million) of the SEOG dollars awarded to the independent students went to these recipients.



Table 18. Students in proprietary schools receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84a

	Receive	ed SEOG	SEOG \$ received		
L		% of		% of	
Incomeb	No.	tota1 ^C	Million	totalc	
Dependent					
\$0-\$4,999	10,246	26	\$ 3.3	25	
5- 9,999	10,533	26	3.1	23	
10-14,999	7,060	18	2.4	18	
15-19,999	3,485	9	1.2	9	
20-24,999	5,064	13	2.2	17	
25-29,999	1,162	3	0.5	4	
30-34,999	1,159	3 3 3	0.3		
35,000 ±	1,258	3	0.3	2 2	
Unknownd	NA	NA	NA	NA	
TOTALS	39,967	101	13.3	100	
Independent					
\$0-\$4,999	36,102	72	12.5	69	
5- 9,999	9,325	19	2.9	16	
10-14,999	3,367	7	2.4	13	
15-19,999	762	2	0.1	1	
20-24,999	0	0	0		
25-29,999	417	1	0.2	0 1	
30-34,999	0	0	0	0	
35,000 +	0	0	0	Ō	
Unknownd	NA	NA	NA	NA	
TOTALS	49,973	101	18.1	100	

aIncludes all SEOG recipients in proprietary schools with no distinction as to enrollment status. Data on the portion of all aid recipients in the income category receiving SEOG funds and data on the average award in each income category were not available.

d_{Not} reported by survey respondents.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

CPercents are computed with the "unknown" income category excluded, because these data were not available.

Question 3: What kinds of students received SEOG funds in 1983-84 in proprietary schools with varying costs of attendance?

As table 19 shows, 15 percent (13,545) of the SEOG recipients in proprietary schools attended schools with a cost of attendance of \$4,720 or less. Twenty-five percent (23,343) of the recipients attended schools with a cost of attendance of \$4,721 to \$6,688. Twenty-eight percent (25,671) attended schools with a cost of attendance of \$6,689 to \$9,075. The remaining 32 percent (29,703) attended schools with a cost of attendance of \$9,076 or more.



Table 19. Students receiving SEOG funds in 1983-84 in proprietary schools with varying costs of attendance

Cost of	Tota recipie	
<u>attendance</u> b	No.	8
\$4,720 or less	13,545	15
\$4,721-\$6,688	23,343	25
\$6,689-\$9,075	25,671	28
\$9,076 or more	29,703	32
TOTALS	92,262	100

aIncludes all SEOG recipients in proprietary schools with no distinction as to enrollment status. Data on the SEOG dollars received by students in each cost-of-attendance category and data on the income distributions of the recipients in each cost-of-attendance category were not available.

bCost of attendance includes all budgeted student costs such as tuition and room and board.



Question 4: Did SEOG funds in proprietary schools in 1983-84 go to Pell grant recipients or to students not receiving Pell grants?

As table 20 shows, 81,163 proprietary school students received both Pell and SEOG funds. Almost four times as many (318,791) received Pell but not SEOG funds, and about one eighth as many (11,099) received SEOG but not Pell funds.

Eighty-five percent of those who received both Pell and SEOG funds and 87 percent of those who received Pell but not SEOG funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while just above 1 percent and 2 percent, respectively, had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 63 percent of those who received SEOG but not Pell funds had incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 27 percent had incomes of \$25,000 or more.

Table 20. Pell and SEOG recipients in proprietary schools in 1983-84a

	Stude receivii		Receiving but not	-		ng SEOG
Incomeb	No.	total	No.	total	No.	<pre>% of total</pre>
\$0-\$4,999	43,312	53	181,775	57	3,036	27
5- 9,999	18,071	22	60,721	19	1,787	16
10-14,999	8,176	10	36,043	11	2,251	20
15-19,999	4,065	5	21,329	7	182	2
20-24,999	4,985	6	7,671	2	79	1
25-29,999	563	1	3,442	1	1,016	9
30-34,999	4	<1	1,338	<1	1,155	10
35,000 +	364	<1	2,452	1	894	8
Unknown ^C	1,623	2	4,020	1	699	6
TOTALS	81,163	99	318,791	99	11,099	99

aIncludes all SEOG recipients in proprietary schools with no distinction as to enrollment status.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

CNot reported by survey respondents.

Similarly, as table 21 shows, 91 percent of all Pell dollars that were awarded went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while just more than 1 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 or more.

In comparison, 84 percent of all SEOG dollars that were awarded went to recipients with incomes of \$14,999 or less, while 5 percent went to recipients with incomes of \$25,000 and above.

Table 21. The distribution of Pell and SEOG dollars in proprietary schools in 1983-84

	Pell and awarde stude receivin	d to nts g both	Total Pe	ded	Total S	eđ
Incomeb	Million	% of total ^C	Million	% of total c	Million	% of total ^c
\$0-\$4,999	\$ 59.7	58	\$244.5	63	\$15.8	50
5- 9,999	23.8	23	75.1	19	6.0	19
10-14,999	9.6	9	35.7	9	4.8	15
15-19,999	4.0	4	19.2	5	1.3	4
20-24,999	4.1	4	5.8	2	2.2	7
25-29,999	0.5	<1	1.6	<1	0.8	3
30-34,999	<0.01	<1	0.8	<1	0.3	1
35,000 +	0.5	<1	2.5	1	0.3	1
Unknown ^d	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
TOTALS	102.2	98	385.2	99	31.5	100

aIncludes all SEOG recipients in proprietary schools with no distinction as to enrollment status.

^CPercents are computed with the "unknown" income category excluded, because these data were not available. dunreported on survey.



bIncome categories are in thousands of dollars.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The following information about the samples and methods the associations used in their surveys of student financial aid was provided by the associations and has not been verified by GAO.

The Samples

Each of the four surveys conducted by the associations used a two-stage procedure to draw an independent sample of students. The first stage involved the selection of schools; the second, the selection of students within the schools. Each of the four samples is outlined in the table below.

			1st-stage sample of schools				
Schools surveyed	Popul School	ation Student	Planned sample	Samprespo	•	2nd-stage sample of students ^a	
Private	1,006 with enrollment of 500 +	2.6 million	196	155	79	5,416	
Private historically black	56	58,000	₅₆ b	35	63	2,900	
Public	1,357 with enrollment of 500 +	2.8 million	270	216	80	10,200	
Proprietary	1,931	c	279	c	c	c	

aData on response rates in the second-stage sample of students are not available.

bPrivate historically black schools were not sampled. All these schools were surveyed.

CWe requested but have not received information.

The first-stage samples of schools for the private and public school surveys were stratified by school type and geographic region. (There was no first-stage sampling of private historically black schools. All 56 schools in the population were included in the survey.) Carnegie Commission classifications were used to categorize schools into five types: research universities, or 5-year-plus schools offering degrees beyond the masters degree; comprehensive universities, or 5-year schools offering the masters degree; liberal arts, or 4-year, schools; 2-year schools; and specialized schools, or schools



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that have a particular subject matter concentration such as business or art. The geographic regions for the private and public school survey samples were defined identically as North Central, Middle Atlantic, Northeast, Southeast, and West.

School size was also taken into account in the first-stage samples of private and public schools. The school type by geographic stratification yielded 25 type-by-region cells in the sampling frame. The population of schools within each cell was ranked according to size of enrollment. A random sample of schools within each cell was then drawn from the population of schools with a student enrollment of 500 or more, proportionate to the total number of schools in the 25 cells. The final private and public school samples constituted proportionate samples of approximately 20 percent for each cell.

The first-stage sample of proprietary schools was stratified by school type and size. School type classifications were defined according to the accreditation organization that accredited the schools. This yielded three proprietary school types: those accredited by the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools (AICS), those accredited by the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools (NATTS), and those accredited by the National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences (NACCAS). Size classifications varied by school type. For example, size classifications were defined differently for AICS-accredited schools than for NATTS-accredited schools.

Second-stage, or student, samples for all four surveys appear to have been drawn randomly by staff in the financial aid offices at each participating school. The staff were instructed to first compute the number of students to be included in the samples, based on the number of students in the school receiving financial aid and on the particular requirements of each survey. Next, the staff randomly selected 1 recipient from the first 10 recipients on the master list of financial aid recipients. Beginning with this randomly selected "first recipient," the staff selected recipients from the master list at a regular interval to complete the student sampling procedure. The size of the interval varied across and sometimes within the four survey samples, depending on the particular requirements of the survey. Data on differences between respondents and nonrespondents in both stages of the sampling procedure were not available.

Survey Methods

The same questionnaire was used for all four surveys. It was developed by the National Institute of Independent Colleges and Universities (NIICU) and has been used in several surveys since its original application by NIICU in 1978-79.

All four surveys were conducted by mail. Each participating school was sent a packet of material that included



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instructions for randomly drawing student samples and the questionnaires and instructions for completing them. Once the student samples were drawn by the financial aid staff at each participating school, the staff pulled the financial aid record for each sampled student from the files and extracted information from the record to complete the questionnaire.

Statistical Methods

All four survey samples appear to have been drawn randomly from their populations, as discussed above. All four survey samples were independent and cannot be combined. The data were weighted to yield national estimates for each student population. For all four surveys, weights were inflated to adjust for "no response" in both stages of the sampling procedure. This had the effect of including nonrespondents in the population estimates by making the assumption that the questionnaire answers that would have been given by the nonrespondents would not have differed from those of the respondents.



PAUL SIMON

Baited States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 11, 1985

Hon. Charles A. Bowsher Comptroller General of the United States GAO, General Accounting Office Bldg., 441 "G" St., N. W. Washington, D. C. 20548

Dear Mr. Bowsher:

The Committee on Labor and Human Resources is preparing for reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, including possible modifications of the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) program. The SEOG program is one of the three campus-based financial aid programs that give money to schools, which then distribute it to students. The SEOG program has seen little change over the past years as the goal has been to protect institutions receiving SEOG funds from shifts in funding levels. Recently, however, our concern has increased regarding the distributions of SEOG funds at both school and student levels.

Your Program Evaluation and Methodology Division (PEMD) recently assisted Senator Simon greatly in identifying existing sources of information on the schools and students that receive SEOG funds. We are now requesting that PEMD assist us further by undertaking a study to gather, review, and synthesize information from existing sources which would address questions we have on the schools and students that receive SEOG funds. The questions in which we are interested are in the attachment to this letter. We recognize that we have identified questions at a broad policy level, however, and request that your staff work closely with us in further refining the questions.

We also offer our assistance in requesting information from the Department of Education and from the various educational associations, particularly if new analysis of data need to be requested.

Findings from this study are needed this fall. Thank you for your cooperation in responding to this request. If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact David Evans or Bud Blakey of the Committee staff on 224-7666 or 224-2152, respectively.

Cordially,

Spark Matsunaga

John Kerry

Attachment - 1

Attachment

Attachment

Questions

- 1) What kinds of institutions receive SEOG funds? (And, how has the program changed over time, especially since 1979?)
- 2) What kinds of students, particularly what income categories, receive SEOG funds?
- 3) Are SEOG funds going to Pell Grant recipients or to students not eligible for Pell Grants because they have high incomes?
- 4) How do SEOG money distributions look for the following categories of institutions (e.g., what kinds of students get SEOG money?):
 - a) 'Typical" private institutions where tuition, room and board cost between \$5500-\$9000;
 - b) Black private colleges;
 - c) Very high-cost private colleges, such as Yale, University of Chicago, Harvard;
 - d) Proprietary schools;
 - e) Three types of public schools--
 - (1) White
 (2) Black;

 - (3) Land Grant schools costing \$5000-\$6000.



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