



BARACK OBAMA ON EDUCATION

BARACK OBAMA SUPPORTS 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS FOR A 21ST CENTURY DEMOCRACY

Expand Early Childhood Education

Barack Obama will enact a comprehensive \$10 billion a year “Zero to Five” plan to provide support to young children and their parents. This plan will help states adopt universal pre-k programs and expand the Head Start and Early Head Start programs

Reform and Fund No Child Left Behind

Obama will reform and fund NCLB. He will work with the states to improve the assessment system to ensure that teachers are not forced to spend the academic year preparing students to fill in bubbles on standardized tests. Obama will also improve NCLB’s accountability system so that we are supporting schools that need improvement, rather than punishing them

Recruit, Prepare, Retain, and Reward America’s Teachers

Obama believes in supporting teachers at all stages of their careers. He will create Teacher Service Scholarships that cover four years of undergraduate or two years of graduate teaching education. He will create Teaching Residency programs to prepare high-quality teachers to work in high-needs schools. He will expand mentoring programs for experienced teachers to share best practices with new recruits. And Obama will work with teachers to develop innovative ways to increase teacher pay

Expand High-Quality Afterschool and Summer Learning Opportunities

Barack Obama will double federal funding for the 21st Century Learning Centers program, allowing one million more children to attend afterschool programs. Obama will also support partnerships between schools, community groups, and faith-based organizations to provide summer opportunities to an additional 1 million children

Make Higher Education Affordable for All

Obama’s American Opportunity Tax Credit will provide a fully refundable tax credit that will ensure that the first \$4,000 of a college education is completely free for most Americans. Recipients of this credit will be required to conduct 100 hours of public service a year. He will streamline the financial aid process by eliminating the current federal financial aid application and enabling families to apply by checking a box on their tax form.



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