

## Funding Opportunities for Cognitive Scientists through the Institute of Education Sciences

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The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) provides opportunities for researchers to bring their knowledge of cognitive science and learning to bear on education practice. This poster describes the funding opportunities available through both the National Center for Education Research (NCER) and the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER). The presentation will also include information about the requirements for proposed research projects.

Although cognitive science has generated new and important knowledge on how people learn over the last 30 years, most of these research principles have not been incorporated into education practice. Two IES programs that focus on the application of fundamental knowledge of learning to education may be of particular interest to the Cognitive Science Society membership. NCER's "Cognition and Student Learning" aims to establish a scientific foundation for education by building on theoretical and empirical advances in cognitive science and applying them to education practice with the goal of improving student learning and academic achievement. NCSER's "Cognition and Student Learning in Special Education" seeks to apply recent advances in cognitive science to improve developmental outcomes for infants and toddlers with or at risk for disabilities and learning for students with or at risk for disabilities. Through each of these programs, the Institute supports research that utilizes cognitive science to develop, implement, and evaluate approaches intended to improve teaching and learning in authentic education settings.

In general, research funded by the Institute focuses on improving learning and academic achievement, as well as reducing the achievement gap between high- and low-performing students and increasing access to postsecondary education. The Institute funds research in a variety of ongoing and new grant programs relevant to cognitive processes in typical students and children with disabilities. Topics include autism spectrum disorders; reading, writing, and language development; mathematics and science education; early learning and intervention; education technology; and others. In addition to the development and evaluation of effective education programs, IES funds research that explores the underlying processes that may be enhancing or inhibiting learning outcomes, identifies the relations between education outcomes and malleable factors,

and examines the conditions that may mediate or moderate these relations. There are also funding opportunities for post-doctoral training grants, as well as Research and Development Centers that focus on specific topics in need of more research.

A number of members of the Cognitive Science Society have received funding from the Institute of Education Sciences. This poster presentation is intended as an opportunity for other members to learn more about the programs funded by the Institute and to encourage interested investigators to apply their research skills to the improvement of education and student achievement.

Dr. Amy Sussman, Program Officer for the Cognition and Student Learning in Special Education program, will be available to discuss the Institute's research programs with potential applicants.