

USAID Basic Education and Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

RESULTS requests \$1.15 billion for International Basic Education, including \$200 million for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in FY26.

Over the past twenty years, low-income countries made incredible strides in improving education access for young learners. Governments partnered with donors to abolish school fees, build infrastructure, and train teachers. The results of this commitment are clear: more kids than ever before are in school.

But over 250 million children are still out of school, and access to school alone does not equal learning. Foundational reading and math skills are the launch pad for future learning, growth, and development. Too many children are not able to access the quality basic education they need and deserve. **As a result, 70 percent of 10-year-olds in low- and middle-income countries are experiencing “learning poverty” and are unable to read and understand a simple story.**

Children in rural areas, low-income communities, and countries affected by conflict and crisis are more likely to be left behind by the education system. This affects their future and the economic growth of their countries. Each school year completed [increases future wages](#) by an average of 10 percent. With increased U.S. leadership, we can partner with governments to reach more students and teachers. All children have a right to education, starting with basic literacy and numeracy.

USAID and GPE leadership

The U.S. has been a leader in addressing the global learning crisis. Now, bold bipartisan commitment is needed urgently. USAID, low-income countries, and multilateral partners like the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) aim to cut learning poverty in half by 2030.

USAID has committed to making international basic education programming more inclusive for the most marginalized students, including girls and students with disabilities. In FY23, **USAID literacy, numeracy, and other basic education programs reached 44 million students around the world, thanks to strong bipartisan congressional support.**

USAID also increases its reach through investments in GPE. GPE has spent nearly 20 years helping governments invest in innovative solutions to get all children in school and

learning. Since 2022, [GPE grants have reached 253 million children](#). With full funding, GPE and its partners can support millions more.

Why funding matters

A strong financial commitment from the U.S. is needed to reach children who are out of school due to economic hardship, environmental crisis, conflict, or displacement. USAID also aims to support students who need additional support within schools to reach learning goals. With full funding, USAID and GPE can:

- **Ensure access to quality basic education**, providing the resources needed for basic reading and math. Those skills are essential baselines for lifelong learning and economic development.
- **Further the reach of U.S. investments in key regions**, assist an expanded list of priority countries to strengthen education systems and fill learning gaps.
- **Support effective training and curriculum resources for teachers**, increasing access to proven effective teaching methods.
- **Leverage investments in GPE** to support sustainable, country-led improvement of early learning and learning outcomes for girls and youth with disabilities.

RESULTS' request and funding history

Members of Congress can show their support by submitting a formal appropriations request to SFOPS Subcommittee of Appropriations leadership. Please contact cnicovich@results.org for more information.

| Account | FY23 | FY24 | FY25 | RESULTS' FY26 Request |
|--|---------------|-----------------|------|-----------------------|
| USAID International Basic Education | \$970 million | \$922 million | TBD | \$1.15 billion |
| Of which, GPE | \$130 million | \$121.6 million | TBD | \$200 million |