# POSITION DESCRIPTION

# Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, Department of education

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| **OVERVIEW** |
| Senate Committee | Health, Education, Labor and Pensions |
| Agency Mission | To promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access |
| Position Overview | The director of the Institute of Education Sciences conducts, supports and disseminates research on education practices that improve academic achievement, statistics on the condition of education in the United States and evaluations of the effectiveness of federal and other education programs. |
| Compensation | Level II $179,700 (5 U.S.C. § 5313)[[1]](#endnote-1) |
| Position Reports to | Secretary of Education[[2]](#endnote-2) |
| **RESPONSIBILITIES** |
| Management Scope | In fiscal 2015, the Institute of Education Sciences had a budget of $622 million and 183 employees.[[3]](#endnote-3) |
| Primary Responsibilities | * Conducts, supports and disseminates research on education practices that improve academic achievement, statistics on the condition of education in the United States, and evaluations of the effectiveness of federal and other education programs
* Coordinates the work of the institute with related activities carried out by other agencies within the department and the federal government
* Advises the secretary on research, evaluation and statistics relevant to the department’s work
* Engages in activities to encourage the use of scientifically based research in education policy and decision-making throughout the United States[[4]](#endnote-4)
* Serves as nonvoting ex officio member of the National Board for Education Sciences (20 U.S.C. § 9516) and the National Assessment Governing Board
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| Strategic Goals and Priorities | [Depends on the policy priorities of the administration] |
| **REQUIREMENTS AND COMPETENCIES** |
| Requirements | * Nationally recognized and respected expertise in education research, assessment, statistics or evaluation
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| Competencies | * Ability to communicate in writing and verbally with diverse audiences
* Leadership experience, including ability to work with a wide range of stakeholders (preferred)
* Management skills (helpful)
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| **PAST APPOINTEES** |
| John Q. Easton (2009 to 2014): Executive Director, Consortium on Chicago School Research; Director, Department of Research, Analysis and Assessment, Chicago Public Schools, City of Chicago, Illinois; Deputy Director, Consortium on Chicago School Research[[5]](#endnote-5) |
| Grover J. Whitehurst (2002 to 2008): Committee Decision Maker, National Board for Education Science, Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education; Assistant Secretary, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Department of Education; Department Chairman, Department of Psychology, State University of New York, Stony Brook University[[6]](#endnote-6) |

1. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31, May 5, 2017), contains a provision that continues the freeze on the payable pay rates for certain senior political officials at 2013 levels during calendar year 2017. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. https://ed.gov/about/offices/or/index.html [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Leadership Directories [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. OPM PD [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. Leadership Directories [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. Leadership Directories [↑](#endnote-ref-6)