

Welfare at the request of President Kennedy to study the Nation's needs in the fields of vocational and technical education. The Panel spent several months collecting and studying the problems and needs of occupational training and in November 1962 submitted a report which included specific recommendations.

1963: Largely as a result of the Panel's recommendations, on December 18, 1963, the Congress passed the Vocational Education Act of 1963, Public Law 88-210. Funds to carry out the act's provisions were first appropriated in September 1964.

The Act gives authority for two separate appropriations. First, it authorizes a permanent program (in addition to the permanent programs authorized in the Smith-Hughes and George-Barden Acts); secondly, it authorizes funds for two 4-year programs.

Permanent programs of vocational education were established for—

- (a) Persons attending high school.
- (b) Persons who have completed or left high school but are free to study full time in preparing for a job.
- (c) Persons who have already entered the labor market but need training or retraining, either to hold their jobs or to get ahead, but who are not already receiving training allowances under the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962, the Area Redevelopment Act, or the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.
- (d) Persons who have handicaps—academic, socioeconomic, or other—which prevent them from succeeding in the regular vocational education program.

In addition, funds were authorized for the construction of area vocational education school facilities and for ancillary services and activities to assure quality in all vocational education programs.

Four-year authorizations were made for (a) work-study programs for vocational education students and (b) residential vocational education schools.

Although programs under this act could not be implemented until State plans were developed and approved subsequent to the passage of the appropriations act, evidence from States indicates substantial changes in program direction and in the planning and construction of essential area vocational education facilities. Moreover, there has been a dramatically increased interest in providing vocational and technical education for all persons of all ages in all communities.

4. *Level of operations.* (See table 1.)

Program: Vocational education.

Department or agency, and office or bureau: Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; Office of Education; Bureau of Adult and Vocational Education.