

U.S. Census Bureau Description of Instruction

Classifications of Expenditures

Function

The function describes the activity for which a service or material object is acquired. The functions of a school district are classified into five broad areas: instruction, support services, operation of noninstructional services, facilities acquisition and construction, and debt service. Functions are further classified into subfunctions. Each classification is presented by a code number followed by a description.

- 1000⁵ **Instruction.** Instruction includes the activities dealing directly with the interaction between teachers and students. Teaching may be provided for students in a school classroom, in another location such as a home or hospital, and in other learning situations such as those involving cocurricular activities. It may also be provided through some other approved medium, such as television, radio, computer, the Internet, multimedia, telephone, and correspondence, that is delivered inside or outside the classroom or in other teacher-student settings. Included here are the activities of aides or classroom assistants of any type (graders, teaching machines, etc.) who assist in the instructional process. If proration of expenditures is not possible for department chairpersons who also teach, include department chairpersons who also teach in instruction. Expenditures for full-time department chairpersons should be reported in function 2490 Other Support Services – School Administration. (Used with all programs 100–900.)
- 2000 **Support Services.** Support services provide administrative, technical (such as guidance and health), and logistical support to facilitate and enhance instruction. These services exist as adjuncts for fulfilling the objectives of instruction, community services, and enterprise programs, rather than as entities within themselves.
- 2100⁵ **Support Services—Students.** Activities designed to assess and improve the well-being of students and to supplement the teaching process.
- 2110 **Attendance and Social Work Services.** Activities designed to improve student attendance at school that attempt to prevent or solve student problems involving the home, the school, and the community. Registration activities for adult education programs are included here. Some examples of other services to be reported within this function code are supervision services, attendance services, and student accounting services. (Used with all programs 100–900.)
- 2120 **Guidance Services.** Activities involving counseling with students and parents; consulting with other staff members on learning problems; evaluating the abilities of students; assisting students as they make their own educational and career plans and choices; assisting students in personal and social development; providing referral assistance; and working with other staff members in planning and conducting guidance programs for students. Guidance services may include supervision services, counseling services,

⁵Account codes that are necessary for NCES reporting.