Trump has admitted that American taxpayers will be paying for the wall upfront—"...any money spent on building the Great Wall (for sake of speed) will be paid back by Mexico later."

Donald Trump tweet, January 6, 2017.

$15 – $25 billion

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$18 billion

to fully fund IDEA

Remove barriers for students with special needs. Fulfill the promise. Fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Sources: border wall cost estimate—Bernstein Research http://fronterasdesk.org/sites/default/files/field/docs/2016/07/Bernstein-%20The%20Trump%20Wall.pdf; and, IDEA full funding cost estimate—NEA calculations using data from the U.S. Department of Education Budget Service. On average, the cost of educating children with disabilities is twice the cost (measured as the national average per pupil expenditure) of educating other children. Under the original legislation for special education, Congress determined that the federal government would pay up to 40 percent of this "excess" cost, which is referred to as full funding. The federal share of the excess costs of special education services in 2016 is 16 percent, or well below the 40 percent federal commitment. States and school districts must make up the difference—$17.9 billion in 2016—often by raising taxes or making cuts to other education programs and services. Insufficient federal special education funding strains the ability of states and school districts to provide services mandated under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). These services must be provided regardless of a state’s or district’s fiscal condition. For more information, contact Tom Zembar at 202.822.7109 or TZembar@nea.org.