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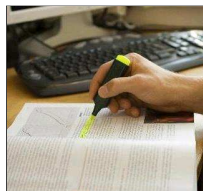
## More education = sound economy?

Pete Chagnon - OneNewsNow - 7/16/2009 6:30:00 AM



President Obama has suggested pumping billions of dollars into community colleges to help the economy.

According to the Obama administration, America needs to educate its way to a better economy. Therefore the White House has suggested pumping as much as \$12 billion into community colleges over the next decade in order to graduate five-million more students.



Neal McClusky, who is with the Cato Institute's [Center for Educational Freedom](#), says this will just add to the already hundreds of billions of dollars being wasted on other foolish Obama administration programs, such as the economic stimulus.

"Nine-billion dollars will be sent to colleges as grants to [let] them do whatever they want, whatever the department of education will say is innovative. And then about \$2.5 billion is going to be used for renovation and construction," he notes. "About \$500 million will be used by the federal government to develop online courses and material -- courses that essentially will belong to the federal government."

McClusky adds that the Obama administration has the wrong idea in thinking that all America needs is more people with college degrees. He says that according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, most of the new jobs will require on-the-job-training, not college degrees.



McClusky

He contends that another drawback to the program is that while it appears to be a one-shot deal, he foresees that once colleges get the funding, they will complain when the funding runs out and beg for more. The Cate Institute spokesman fears that could lead to the program becoming permanent.

McClusky adds that the program does nothing to lower skyrocketing tuition costs and only adds more money to an already bloated system.



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