

different in a state like Texas, where many students speak Spanish, than in a state like Minnesota, where language barriers are not as big an issue. The disadvantage of block grants is that the national government does not have as much control over the money and states might "waste" the free money that the federal government gave them. That would mean that the national government was not a good steward of its money.

- In all, the politics of intergovernmental relations is fascinating and reflects partisan differences as well as policy preferences. Categorical and block grants illustrate those differences very well.