



To: NJ Institutions of Higher Education
From: NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education
Date: March 6, 2025
Subject: Federal Updates: New Multistate Guidance on DEIA, NJ AG Injunction on Medical and Public Health Research Actions & NJ OSHE Impact Information Request for NJ IHEs

I. New Multistate Guidance Concerning Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Policies in Schools

The Attorneys General of multiple states, including New Jersey, have issued joint guidance regarding the Supreme Court's 2023 decision in *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. V. President and Fellows of Harvard College (SFFA)* to clarify the legal landscape for institutions of higher education in light of recent federal actions, including executive orders, the Dear Colleague Letter (issued February 14, 2025), and the Frequently Asked Questions on Dear Colleague Letter about Racial Preferences (issued March 1, 2025). The guidance includes a legal overview of *SFFA* and frequently asked questions regarding guidance to improve postsecondary access and success with a focus on institutional missions, admissions, and recruitment practices and programs.

Information is available on the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General website:

- **Press Release:** <https://www.njoag.gov/attorney-general-platkin-issues-multistate-guidance-for-schools-on-diversity-equity-inclusion-and-accessibility-initiatives/>
- **Guidance:** https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases25/2025-0305_Updated-Joint-Guidance-re-School-Programs-Multistate.pdf

II. NJ Attorney General Secures Preliminary Injunction Regarding Defunding of Medical & Public Health Innovation Research

Attorney General Platkin, alongside a coalition of 21 other attorneys general secured a nationwide preliminary injunction against the Trump Administration for Defunding Medical and Public Health Innovation Research. The order prevents the Trump Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from cutting funds for public health research at universities. The full press release is available here: <https://www.njoag.gov/attorney-general-platkin-secures-nationwide-preliminary-injunction-against-trump-administration-for-defunding-medical-and-public-health-innovation-research/>

III. Request for Updates on Federal Impact if Applicable

In addition, the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education is continuing to compile information about any institutions who are experiencing issues with frozen federal funding, canceled federal contracts, or other impacts due to federal action. Please submit a brief summary of issues to Stefani.Thachik@oshe.nj.gov if applicable to your institution.