



To: NJ Institutions of Higher Education
From: NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education
Date: April 2, 2025
Subject: Updates on Federal Actions related to the U.S. Department of Education

Statement from New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education Bridges on President Trump's Executive Order to Dismantle the U.S. Department of Education (issued March 24, 2025)

In response to the Executive Order, "*Improving Education Outcomes by Empowering Parents, States, and Communities*," New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education Brian Bridges issued a statement highlighting the critical role the Department has played in safeguarding the rights and resources of students. The full statement and links to statements from other Murphy Administration leaders: <https://www.nj.gov/highereducation/news/press/2025/04242025.shtml>

Attorney General Platkin Continues the Fight to Stop Trump from Shutting Down the U.S. Department of Education (issued March 24, 2025)

Attorney General Platkin, alongside a coalition of 21 other attorneys general files a motion for a preliminary injunction as part of their on-going lawsuit to stop the dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education. This is part of the lawsuit filed on March 13 in response to the reduction in force at the Department, and in response to the March 20 Executive Order directing the dismantling of the Department and March 21 announcement from President Trump on transferring the student loan management and special education services outside of the Department. The full press release: <https://www.njoag.gov/attorney-general-matthew-j-platkin-continues-the-fight-to-stop-trump-from-shutting-down-the-u-s-department-of-education/>

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.