

Apr. 24, 2025

Dear Superintendents and BOCES leaders,

Today I am sharing the following updates:

- Updates on Title VI Certification Request and Court Rulings
- New executive orders related to K-12 education
- US Department of Education press release on new executive orders

Updates on Title VI Certification Request and Court Rulings

Today, a court in New Hampshire issued an order that said the [Title VI Dear Colleague Letter](#), its corresponding [FAQ](#), and the April 3 [Certification](#) Request cannot be enforced or implemented against any entity that employs a member of the National Education Association (NEA). Based on my conferral with Kevin Vick of the Colorado Education Association (CEA), I understand that there are NEA members in all Colorado school districts. Please consult with your legal counsel to assess the applicability of the [New Hampshire order](#) to your district.

CDE submitted the attached response to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) today along with our new OMB-approved assurances and the 2017 assurances that are still in effect. Additionally, we have posted all LEA assurances from the 2024-25 Consolidated ESEA Application [here](#), in case you would like access to what you submitted to CDE.

As a reminder, if you do not feel comfortable with CDE's course of action, you have the option to submit your own documents to OCR. They communicated the following to us: "LEAs that want to ensure that their certifications have been received by the Department may send their certifications to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights directly at OCR@ed.gov."

Also today, a court in Maryland issued an [order](#) that put a "stay" on the Title VI Dear Colleague Letter. We will continue to review all these new developments and provide updates as we have them.

New executive orders related to K-12 education

There are three new executive orders with connections to K-12 education systems:

- [Reinstating Common Sense School Discipline Policies \(4/23/25\)](#): This order directs the US Secretary of Education to "issue new guidance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and state educational agencies (SEAs) regarding school discipline and their

obligations not to engage in racial discrimination under Title VI in all contexts, including school discipline” within 30 days of the date of the order.

- [Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education for American Youth \(4/23/25\)](#): This order establishes the White House Task Force on Artificial Intelligence Education, which includes the US Secretary of Education. This task force is charged with creating and implementing a Presidential Artificial Intelligence Challenge and establishing public/private partnerships to increase resources for AI in education. The order also directs the US Secretary of Education to “take steps to prioritize the use of AI in discretionary grant programs for teacher training authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965...and Title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965.”
- [Preparing Americans for High-Paying Skills Trade Jobs of the Future \(4/23/25\)](#): This order directs multiple cabinet members, including the US Secretary of Education, to “review all Federal workforce development programs and submit to the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget a report setting forth strategies to help the American worker” within 90 days of the date of the order. The order further requires this group to create a plan to increase the number of active apprentices nationally.

US Department of Education press release on new executive orders

The US Department of Education [shared a press release](#) with Secretary McMahon’s statements on the executive orders listed above.

Warm regards,

Susana Córdova