



To: NJ Institutions of Higher Education
From: NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education
Date: October 15, 2025
Subject: Updates on Federal Actions Impacting NJ Institutions of Higher Education

Recent Federal Actions Regarding Higher Education

U.S. Department of Education Releases Guidance on the Use of Federal Tax Information, Free Application for Federal Student Aid Data, and Non-FAFSA Data

On September 30, 2025, the U.S. Department of Education released a new Dear Colleague Letter regarding the permitted use of FTI, FAFSA data, and non-FAFSA data by institutions of higher education, state agencies, and contractors. The letter is available online: [Guidance on the Use of Federal Tax Information \(FTI\), Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA®\) Data, and Non-FAFSA Data | Knowledge Center.](#)

New Jersey Updates

NJ Attorney General Joins Coalition Opposing Addition of “Admissions and Consumer Transparency Supplement” in IPEDS

A coalition of 18 attorneys general, including NJ Attorney General Platkin, submitted a comment letter opposing the “Admissions and Consumer Transparency Supplement” data collection through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The multi-state comment letter is available to view: <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/attachments/press-docs/10.14.2025%20IPEDS%20Letter.pdf>.

NJ Attorney General Platkin Joins Coalition Opposing Department of Homeland Security's Proposed Duration Rule

On September 29, 2025, NJ Attorney General Platkin joined 15 states in submitting public comment regarding the DHS Proposed Rule: Establishing a Fixed Time Period of Admission and an Extension of Stay Procedure for Nonimmigrant Academic Students, Exchange Visitors, and Representatives of Foreign Information Media. The multi-state comment letter is available to view: <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/attachments/press-docs/2025.09.29%20Multistate%20Comment%20Letter%20re%20DHS%20NPRM.pdf>

E-MAIL:
oshe@oshe.nj.gov

LOCATION:
1 John Fitch Plaza Trenton, NJ 08625
New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education

WEBSITE:
www.nj.gov/highereducation

Eight State Attorneys General Write “Colleges and Universities Must Pursue Every Legal Path to Ensure Diverse Student Bodies”

On October 6, 2025, NJ Attorney General joined seven other state attorneys general in an *Inside Higher Ed* opinion editorial, “[Colleges and Universities Must Pursue Every Legal Path to Ensure Diverse Student Bodies](#).” The article highlights considering race-neutral alternatives, such as socioeconomic and geographic indicators in college admissions.

Request for Updates on Federal Impact, if Applicable

The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education is continuing to compile information about any institutions who are experiencing issues with federal funding 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. Updates and resources regarding federal actions continue to be provided on the [NJ OSHE website](#).

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oshe@oshe.nj.gov

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