


# Shock and Awe 2025: Higher Education's Tortured Era

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# SHOCK and AWE

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## Framework for Today's Presentation

- Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education
- President Trump's Executive Orders
- The Future of the U.S. Department of Education
  - Office for Civil Rights
- What to Watch in the States
- Where Do We Go From Here?

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## Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education



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### Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education

On Wednesday, October 1, the administration sent the Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education to 9 institutions:

Brown University,	University of Southern California,
Dartmouth College,	University of Texas,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,	University of Virginia, and
University of Arizona,	Vanderbilt University
University of Pennsylvania,	

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### Colleges Expressing Willingness to Sign the Compact

- Grand Canyon University,
- New College of Florida,
- Saint Augustine's University, and
- Valley Forge Military College.

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## Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education

1. Equality in Admissions
2. Marketplace of Ideas & Civil Discourse
3. Nondiscrimination in Faculty and Administrative Hiring
4. Institutional Neutrality
5. Student Learning

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## Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education

6. Student Equality
7. Financial Responsibility
8. Foreign Entanglements
9. Exceptions
10. Enforcement

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## The Trump Administration— Making Sense of the Trump Executive Orders



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Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI)

- [EO 14151](#) Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing
- [EO 14173](#) Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity
- [EO 14190](#) Ending Radical Indoctrination in K–12 Schooling
- [EO 14279](#) Reforming Accreditation To Strengthen Higher Education
- [EO 14280](#) Reinstating Commonsense School Discipline Policies

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Anti-Semitism

- [EO 14188](#) Additional Measures To Combat Anti-Semitism
- Task Force to Combat Anti-Semitism

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Freedom of Expression

- [EO 14253](#) Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History
- [EO 14341](#) Prosecuting Burning of the American Flag

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# The Future of the U.S. Department of Education



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## Executive Orders and the U.S. Department of Education

[EO 14242](#) Improving Education Outcomes by Empowering Parents, States, and Communities



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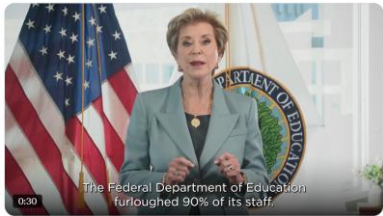
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Secretary Linda McMahon  
@EDSecMcMahon

43 days of a government shutdown, and schools stayed open, students went to class, and teachers got paid.

Makes you wonder...do we really need @usedgov at all?



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## Interagency Agreements (IAAs)

On November 18, the U.S. Department of Education announced 6 new interagency agreements (IAAs):

- Elementary and Secondary Education Partnership
- Postsecondary Education Partnership
- Indian Education Partnership
- Foreign Medical Accreditation Partnership
- Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) Partnership
- International Education and Foreign Language Studies Partnership

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## Executive Orders and the U.S. Department of Education

[EO 14279](#) Reforming Accreditation To Strengthen Higher Education

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## Office for Civil Rights



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# Office for Civil Rights

- Leadership and Staffing
- Title IX
- Title VI

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# Gender Identity Executive Orders

- [EO 14168](#)    Defending Women From Gender Ideology  
Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the  
Federal Government
- EO 14201    Keeping Men Out of Women’s Sports

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# Important Developments in the States

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## Important Developments in the States

- Anti-DEI Legislation
- Attacks on Freedom of Expression

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? Where ?  
do we go  
? from ?  
here?

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