

May 18, 2026

The Honorable Linda McMahon
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Secretary McMahon and Director Vought:

We, the 97 undersigned organizations, write to express our deep concern regarding the status of FY25 funding for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) and to urge immediate action to ensure that these funds are fully apportioned and obligated before they lapse on September 30, 2026.

Congress provided FY25 funding to IES that, based on statute, the agency has two years to spend. However, based on publicly available data, approximately \$289 million of FY25 IES funding has not yet been apportioned to program accounts and does not appear to be on track for timely obligation. ***Approximately 36 percent (\$289 million) of FY25 IES funding could lapse on September 30, 2026, if swift action is not taken.***

While the funding expiration date is approaching quickly, there is still time for OMB and ED to act. Prompt action is necessary to ensure sufficient time to responsibly plan and execute funding opportunities and awards, preserving the administration's ability to design and run grant competitions that reflect its priorities and respond to the needs of states.

IES plays a critical role in supporting education research, data collection, evaluation, and technical assistance that informs decision-making for states, school districts, and educators nationwide. If FY25 funding is allowed to lapse, the consequences will be immediate and far-reaching: states will lose out on services they rely upon, teachers will not have the tools needed to improve student outcomes and parents will be left without critical data about their child's education.

These are not abstract losses, but real gaps in knowledge, support, and progress for students, teachers, and schools in every state. Put simply, if funding lapses, students and families will pay the price. Therefore, we respectfully urge ED and OMB to take immediate steps to apportion and obligate the remaining FY25 funding for IES consistent with enacted appropriations.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. We stand ready to work with you to ensure that these resources are deployed effectively and as intended to support students, teachers and families across the U.S.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Rachel Dinkes rdinkes@knowledgeall.net.

Sincerely,

Knowledge Alliance
AACTE (American Association of Colleges for
Teacher Education)
Advance Illinois
Advanced Education Research and
Development Fund (AERDF)
AFT: Education, Healthcare, Public Services
Agora Education Research
Alliance for Learning Innovation (ALI)
America Forward
American Chemical Society
American Educational Research Association
American Library Association
American Mathematical Society
American Psychological Association Services
American Statistical Association
AnLar
Association for Career and Technical
Education
Association for Education Finance and Policy
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant
Universities
Association of Public Data Users
CAST
Center for Outcomes Based Contracting
COABE
Coalition for Community Schools
College of Education + Human Development
University of Minnesota

Consortium of State School Boards
Associations
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for Learning Disabilities
Council of Administrators of Special
Education
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates
(COPAA)
Council of Professional Associations on
Federal Statistics
Data Quality Campaign
Digital Promise Global
Earth Force
EDGE Consulting Partners
EdTrust
Education Knowledge Broker Network at U.
Delaware
Education Reform Now
Education Reform Now Advocacy
Educational Research & Consulting
EduDream
ETS
Every Hour Counts
Evidence Advocacy Center
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and
Brain Sciences
Getting Smart
Improvement Scholars Network
InnovateEDU
Institute for Educational Leadership
Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

International Literacy Association
Johns Hopkins University
LaerningForge LLC
Leadership Lady
LEARN Coalition
Lehigh University
Literacy Council of North America
National Academy of Education
National Association for Family, School and
Community Engagement (NAFSCE)
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School
Principals
National Center for Learning Disabilities
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON MEASUREMENT IN
EDUCATION
National Council on Teacher Quality
National Down Syndrome Congress
National Education Association
National Parents Union
National Rural Education Association
New York University
Parents of Autistic Children of Northern
Virginia (POAC-NoVA)
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
reDesignED
Rural Schools Association of New York
SERP Institute

Society for Research in Child Development
(SRCD)
Society for Research on Educational
Effectiveness
Teach For America
Teacher Education Division of the Council
for Exceptional Children
Teachley, LLC
The Center for Learner Equity
The Learning Agency
The Study Group
The Workforce Vault Corporation
Threadwell Solutions
Transcend
UC Riverside School of Education
UCLA
University of California System
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of Houston College of Education
University of Kansas
University of Oregon
University of Washington College of
Education
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University School
of Education
Wolf Research and Evaluation