

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](mailto: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

Comparative and International Education  
Society (CIES)  
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)  
Project Evident  
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