



<i>Subject:</i> U.S. Department of Education takes Action to Eliminate DEI	<i>Legal Reference:</i>
<i>Date Issued:</i> February 4, 2025	

The U.S. Department of Education (“USED”) has taken action to eliminate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives, including references to them in public-facing communication channels and its associated workforce, in accordance with the following executive orders signed by President Trump:

- [Ending Radical And Wasteful Government DEI Programs And Preferencing](#)
- [Ending Illegal Discrimination And Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity](#)
- [Defending Women From Gender Ideology](#)

As recipients of federal funding, New Hampshire school districts should carefully review these executive orders. Further details regarding recent actions by the USED can be found at [U.S. Department of Education Takes Action to Eliminate DEI](#) and [U.S. Department of Education to Enforce 2020 Title IX Rule Protecting Women](#).

USED has also issued a “Dear Colleague” letter to K-12 schools advising that the department will return to enforcing Title IX protections based on biological sex in schools. The letter can be found on USED’s website: [Title IX Enforcement Directive DCL \(PDF\)](#).

In addition to these steps, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has also announced that it has dismissed 11 complaints relating to the removal of age-inappropriate, sexually explicit or obscene material from local school districts ([U.S. Department of Education Ends Biden’s Book Ban Hoax | U.S. Department of Education](#)). NHED encourages all District leadership and local school boards to establish commonsense processes by which to evaluate and remove age-inappropriate materials, and ED 306.08(a), to provide “a developmentally appropriate collection of resources.”

As federal policies evolve, NHED remains committed to high-quality, inclusive education for all students. We encourage school leaders to take proactive steps in reviewing and adapting policies while ensuring compliance with both federal and state laws. SAU administrators and local school boards should carefully evaluate whether existing DEI-focused training, programs or curriculum materials utilized in their districts align with the new federal directives and consult with legal counsel to ensure that districts are complying with state and federal law.

NHED will continue to provide updates and support as more details emerge. **For Questions related to this Technical Advisory, please contact:**

Elizabeth A. Brown, Esq.
Counsel for NHED
Email: Elizabeth.A.Brown@doe.nh.gov