



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

March 16, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) is pleased to inform you of an exciting partnership between ED and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

ED and DOL developed this partnership through an interagency agreement (IAA) signed on September 30, 2025. Under the leadership of Secretaries McMahon and Chavez-DeRemer, ED and DOL recently announced additional steps to integrate the nation's higher education programs with its workforce development programs.¹ The Trump Administration is committed to better employment and earnings outcomes for postsecondary students and has taken several steps to improve these outcomes in unison with the President's reindustrialization agenda and America's Talent Strategy.² This partnership will:

- (1) enable administrative reforms to agency policies and programmatic requirements with the aim to provide greater flexibility and impact;
- (2) improve processes to enhance the experience for students, institutional stakeholders, and administrators, making the delivery of federal funds more efficient; and
- (3) connect ED programs with DOL programs to provide a coordinated federal approach to higher education and workforce development.

Overview:

Our commitment to providing exceptional service remains unchanged, as does the commitment to serve our grantees and stakeholders with the level of dedication and professionalism you have come to expect. Please note the following important information regarding grants and awards:

- You may continue to contact your assigned program specialist via the same email address for assistance or inquiries.
- All *new award opportunities* will continue to be posted on Grants.gov and in the Federal Register, but will be managed through GrantSolutions (DOL's grant management system).
- All *existing* grants will continue to be managed via ED's G5 system.
- Annual and Interim reports for current grantees will still be submitted via G5 or through existing program-specific reporting platforms.
- Information regarding Annual and Interim reports for new grantees will be shared at a later date.

¹ [U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Labor Take Next Steps to Implement Postsecondary Education Partnership | U.S. Department of Education](#)

² [America's Talent Strategy: Building the Workforce for the Golden Age](#)

GrantSolutions:

For new awards competed and awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2026, applicants will continue to submit a proposal using Grants.gov. However, ED will transition from G5 to GrantSolutions for grant management activities. GrantSolutions is a shared-service system provider supporting numerous federal agencies throughout the grant award lifecycle.

ED will soon provide additional detailed information and training opportunities on GrantSolutions for all interested grantees. We will keep you informed on upcoming GrantSolutions training courses and other helpful resources through our website at <https://www.ed.gov/about/ed-offices/ope/about-ope-higher-education-programs> and via email announcements.

Payment Management System:

Additionally, for new awards competed and awarded in FY 2026, the Department of Education will utilize Payment Management System (PMS), which offers centralized processing of grant payments for numerous federal agencies. PMS provides cash management services, centralized payment services, and personal grant accounting support services for awarding agencies and grant recipients.

As with GrantSolutions, ED will soon provide detailed information and training opportunities for all interested grantees. We will also keep you informed of available PMS training courses and other helpful resources through our website at <https://www.ed.gov/about/ed-offices/ope/about-ope-higher-education-programs> and via email announcements.

Again, for current and existing grantees, awards will continue to be monitored and managed via ED's current grants management system, G5.

We will continue to provide updates as we transition to the new systems. We appreciate your continued partnership, and we look forward to working together to achieve our shared goals. If you have any questions, please email us at OPE-HEP_Transition@ed.gov.

Interagency Programs:

For a full list of programs involved in this exciting partnership between ED and DOL, please utilize the interagency agreement, which can be found by the link below.

<https://www.ed.gov/media/document/ed-and-dol-interagency-agreement-postsecondary-education-partnership-september-30-2025-and-january-9-2026-addendum-113002.pdf>

Thank you,



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Henry Mack
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