



America's Leading Research Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
The George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Indiana University
The Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Michigan State University
New York University
Northwestern University
The Ohio State University
The Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rice University
Rutgers University – New Brunswick
Stanford University
Stony Brook University –
State University of New York
Texas A&M University
Tufts University
Tulane University
University at Buffalo –
State University of New York
The University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
The University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Florida
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
The University of Iowa
The University of Kansas
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Missouri, Columbia
The University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
The University of Texas at Austin
University of Toronto
The University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of Washington
The University of Wisconsin - Madison
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Yale University

June 16, 2025

Chris Wright, Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
c/o David Taggart
Office of the General Counsel
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Wright,

On behalf of the Association of American Universities – an association of 69 major U.S. research institutions – I am writing to endorse the American Council on Education's position expressed in a letter dated June 16, 2025, regarding the five Direct Final Rules (DFRs) issued on May 16, 2025 by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

The proposed rules will inevitably lead to significantly increased burden and confusion, impacting millions of students, staff and faculty at U.S. colleges and universities. It is highly irregular for DOE to seek to amend regulations on key civil rights protections through the DFR process, which is reserved for uncontroversial or insignificant changes.

We request that DOE withdraw these rules immediately and pursue any further action through appropriate administrative processes that allow for adequate public notice and comment.

Sincerely,

Barbara R. Snyder
President