

COMPLIANCE NEWSLETTER

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION REVERTS TO 2020 TITLE IX FRAMEWORK

On September 28, 2026, the U.S. Department of Education formally rescinded the Biden administration's 2024 Title IX regulations, officially restoring the 2020 framework instituted under the first Trump administration.

The department also incorporated adjustments to comply with new court orders. The new regulation sets a narrower definition of sex discrimination by removing explicit language that includes discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation. Another change restricts jurisdiction such that schools may only investigate cases that occurred on school grounds or during school-sanctioned events. This change also effects how cases are investigated and arbitrated and, in effect, give greater due process rights to those accused.

Civil rights and survivor advocacy groups express deep concern. The restored rules strictly limit Title IX enforcement to sex as an immutable biological classification at birth.

Colleges must now align campus policies with the restored standards while navigating upcoming federal regulatory changes.

READ MORE:

Read the U.S. Dept. of Education's official statement on the rescinding of Biden era Title IX rules:

- [U.S. Department of Education Formally Rescinds the Biden Administration's Illegal Title IX Rewrite, Reinstating the 2020 Regulation](#)

Read more about DHS's proposed OPT fee for international students:

- [DHS proposes \\$70K fee for initial OPT participation and \\$30K for extensions](#)

Read about the College's COI reporting process

- [Conflict of Interest | Office of the Vice President for Administration | Teachers College](#)

DHS PROPOSES \$70,000 OPT FEE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has proposed a new fee for colleges recommending international students for Optional Practical Training (OPT), threatening to shut down the program without it.

The proposal includes a \$70,000 fee when international students initially receive OPT work authorization and an additional \$30,000 fee for extensions.

DHS argues the cost will curb fraud and protect American workers from H-1B visa circumvention.

Higher education leaders warn the steep price tag, which schools may pass to students or employers, could severely hinder international recruitment, given that 92% of surveyed college leaders say students would choose other countries without OPT.

The proposal opens a 30-day public comment period before potential implementation.

TC POLICY & RESOURCE HIGHLIGHTS

(CLICK ON A RESOURCE TITLE TO LEARN MORE)

TC TITLE IX POLICY & PROCEDURES

The Title IX Policy details important definitions and procedures related to sex-based discrimination and sexual misconduct.

INSTITUTIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI) POLICY

The 2026 COI reporting period is open and runs through October 26. Employees must report potential Conflicts of Interest via Cayuse.