

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Linda McMahon
Secretary of Education
United States Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary McMahon:

We are writing to express deep concern over the decision to withhold nearly \$7 billion in Congressionally appropriated funding for public education programs. This abrupt and unprecedented freeze is already inflicting significant harm on school districts, teachers, students, and families across the country, particularly those in high-need and underserved communities.

These funds were lawfully approved by Congress and are essential for supporting a wide range of programs, including Title II-A for teacher training, Title IV-B for after-school and enrichment programs, Title III-A for English language learners, and Title I-C for migrant education, among others.¹ The interruption of these funds not only undermines Congressional intent but also disrupts critical services that countless students rely on to succeed.

State and local education agencies have planned their budgets with the expectation that these funds would be distributed on time, as they have been in previous years. Withholding them now, at the start of a new fiscal year, places schools in an impossible position, forcing program cancellations, staff layoffs, and reductions in student support.² This decision disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations, including low-income families, English learners, and adults seeking literacy and workforce training.

The consequences are already severe. The school district we serve in Florida, Broward County Public Schools, alone has over \$30.6 million in federal grant funding now in limbo, with more than 260 employees either fully or partially impacted. Over half, or \$16.6 million, of the total award amount supports salaries and benefits for Broward District employees.³ Without immediate restoration, districts face widespread disruption of services, staff layoffs, and the loss of after-school, literacy, and English language programs.

¹ Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I-C, 20 U.S.C. 6391 et seq., Title II-A, 20 U.S.C. 6611 et seq., Title III-A, 20 U.S.C. 6812 et seq., Title IV-A, 20 U.S.C. 7111 et seq., Title IV-B, 20 U.S.C. 7171 et seq.; <https://www.npr.org/2025/07/01/nx-s1-5453457/trump-school-funding-grants>

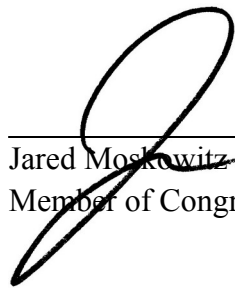
² <https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/blog/states-face-uncertainty-k-12-funding-remains-unreleased>

³ Broward County Public Schools. (2025). Federal Hold on Education Grants.

We respectfully urge the immediate release of the full amount of funding as directed by Congress, and restore stability and trust in our education system. Delays in distribution of this funding not only violate the intent of the law but also risk long-term damage to student outcomes and community well-being.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We trust that you will take these concerns seriously and work to ensure that our nation's students and educators receive the support they need and deserve.

Sincerely,



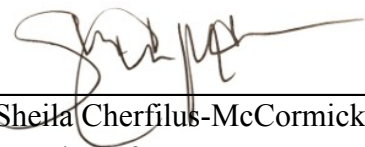
Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress