



MAACS
MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF CAREER SCHOOLS



Fostering Strong Regulatory Relationships

Christopher D. Lambert
BCC Advisory

goals.

- Provide an Overview of the Ever-Shifting Higher Education Landscape
- Discuss How Attitudes are Changing
- Share Best Practices for Sustained Success
- Q and A

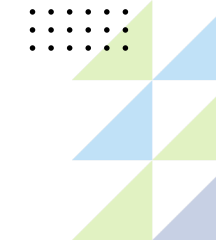


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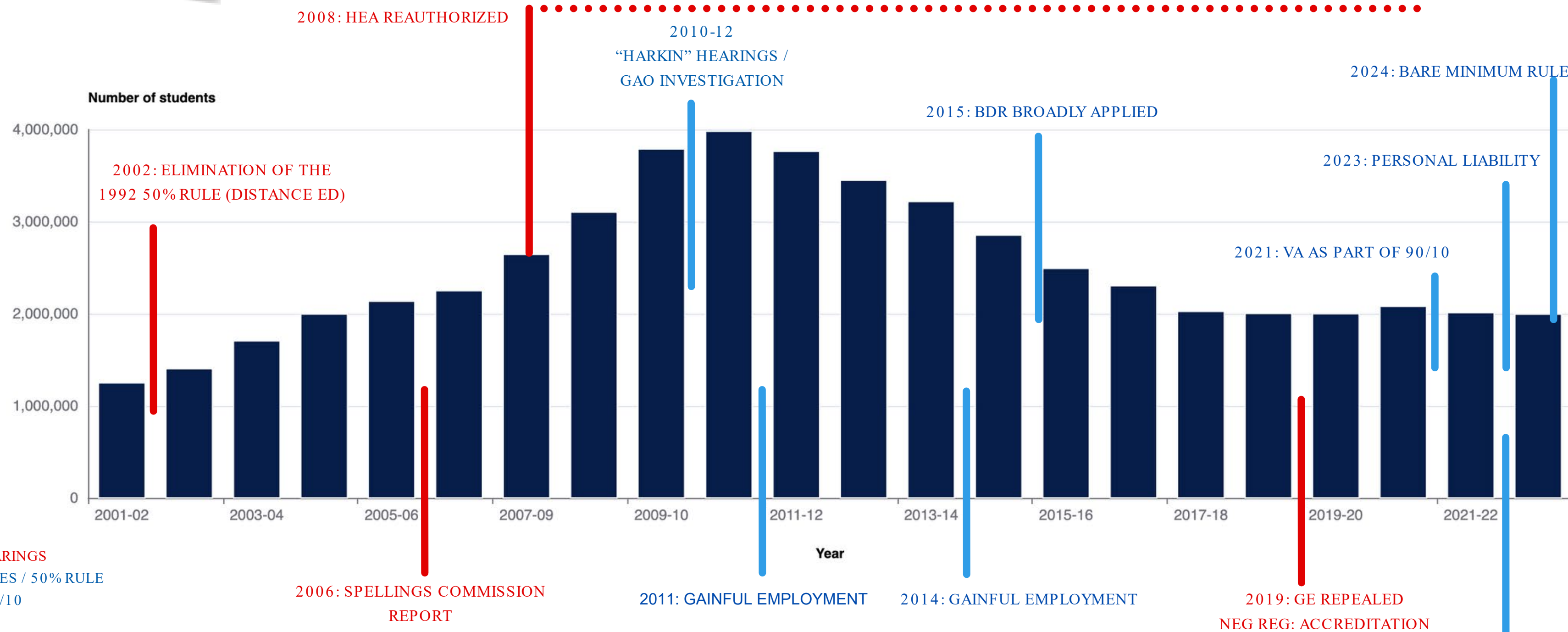


THE EVER SHIFTING
HIGHER
EDUCATION
LANDSCAPE





1990: NUNN HEARINGS
1992 HEA: DEFAULT RATES / 50% RULE
1998 HEA: 90/10



Checking In on the Biden Administration's Higher Education Regulatory Agenda

By Michael Brickman

AEIdeas

July 11, 2024



Agency	Agenda Stage of Rulemaking	Title	RIN
ED/OESE	Proposed Rule Stage	Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority	1810-AB60
ED/OESE	Proposed Rule Stage	Office of Indian Education Professional Development Program	1810-AB70
ED/OESE	Final Rule Stage	Impact Aid Program	1810-AB66
ED/OSERS	Proposed Rule Stage	Amendments to Definitions Under the Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program and Related Provisions of That Program and to the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program	1820-AB83
ED/OSERS	Final Rule Stage	Individuals With Disabilities Education Act	1820-AB82
ED/OCTAE	Proposed Rule Stage	Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006	1830-AA33
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Documentation of Foreign Source Gifts and Contracts	1840-AD50
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Federal TRIO Programs	1840-AD68
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Accreditation and Related Issues	1840-AD82
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	State Authorization	1840-AD83
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Return to Title IV	1840-AD85
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Cash Management	1840-AD86
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Third-Party Servicers and Related Issues	1840-AD87
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Distance Education	1840-AD92
ED/OPE	Proposed Rule Stage	Student Debt Relief Hardship	1840-AD95
ED/OPE	Final Rule Stage	Direct Grant Programs, State-Administered Formula Grant Programs	1840-AD72
ED/OPE	Final Rule Stage	Public Service Loan Forgiveness – Employer Eligibility	1840-AD91
ED/OPE	Final Rule Stage	Student Debt Relief	1840-AD93
ED/OPE	Final Rule Stage	National Resource Centers Program and Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships Program	1840-AD94
ED/FSA	Proposed Rule Stage	Cybersecurity Standards for Institutions of Higher Education to Comply With EO 13556 and NIST 800-171	1845-AA25
ED/OCR	Proposed Rule Stage	Discrimination Based on Shared Ancestry or Ethnicity in Response to EO 13899 on Combating Anti-Semitism and EO 13985 on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities	1870-AA15
ED/OCR	Proposed Rule Stage	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex and Disability in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance	1870-AA17
ED/OCR	Proposed Rule Stage	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance From the Department of Education	1870-AA18
ED/OPEPD	Proposed Rule Stage	Protection of Pupil Rights Amendments	1875-AA13
ED/OPEPD	Proposed Rule Stage	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	1875-AA15
ED/OPEPD	Final Rule Stage	EDGAR Revisions	1875-AA14
ED/OS	Final Rule Stage	Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards	1894-AA11

13 Proposed or Final Rules out of the Office of Postsecondary Education

<https://www.aei.org/education/checking-in-on-the-biden-administrations-higher-education-regulatory-agenda/>



Accreditation Peer-Review

REGULATORY TRIAD:
STUDENT CENTERED QUALITY
ASSURANCE

ACADEMIC QUALITY



FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

STUDENT EDUCATIONAL
EXPERIENCE

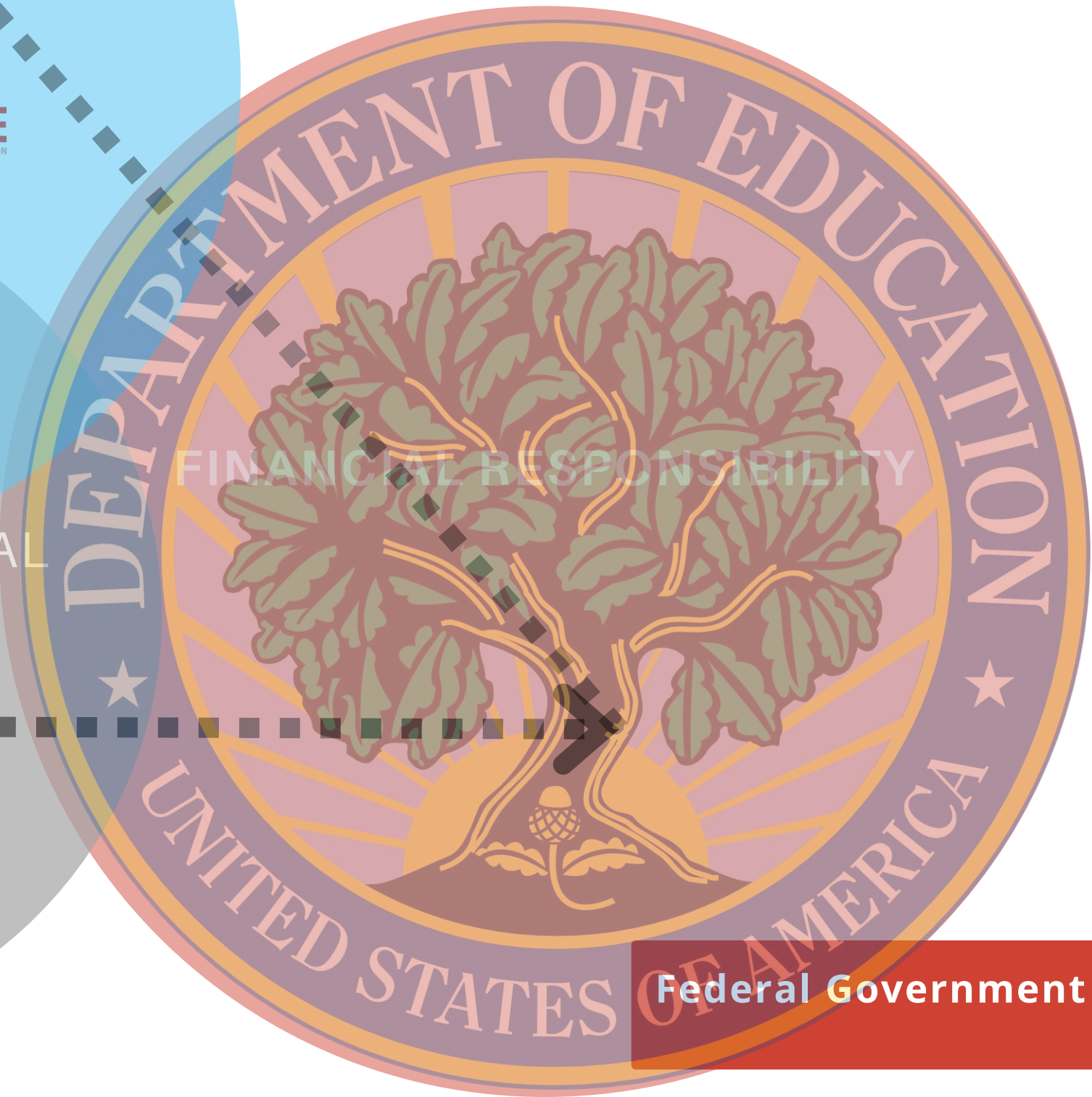
CONSUMER PROTECTION



Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania

State Government

Federal Government

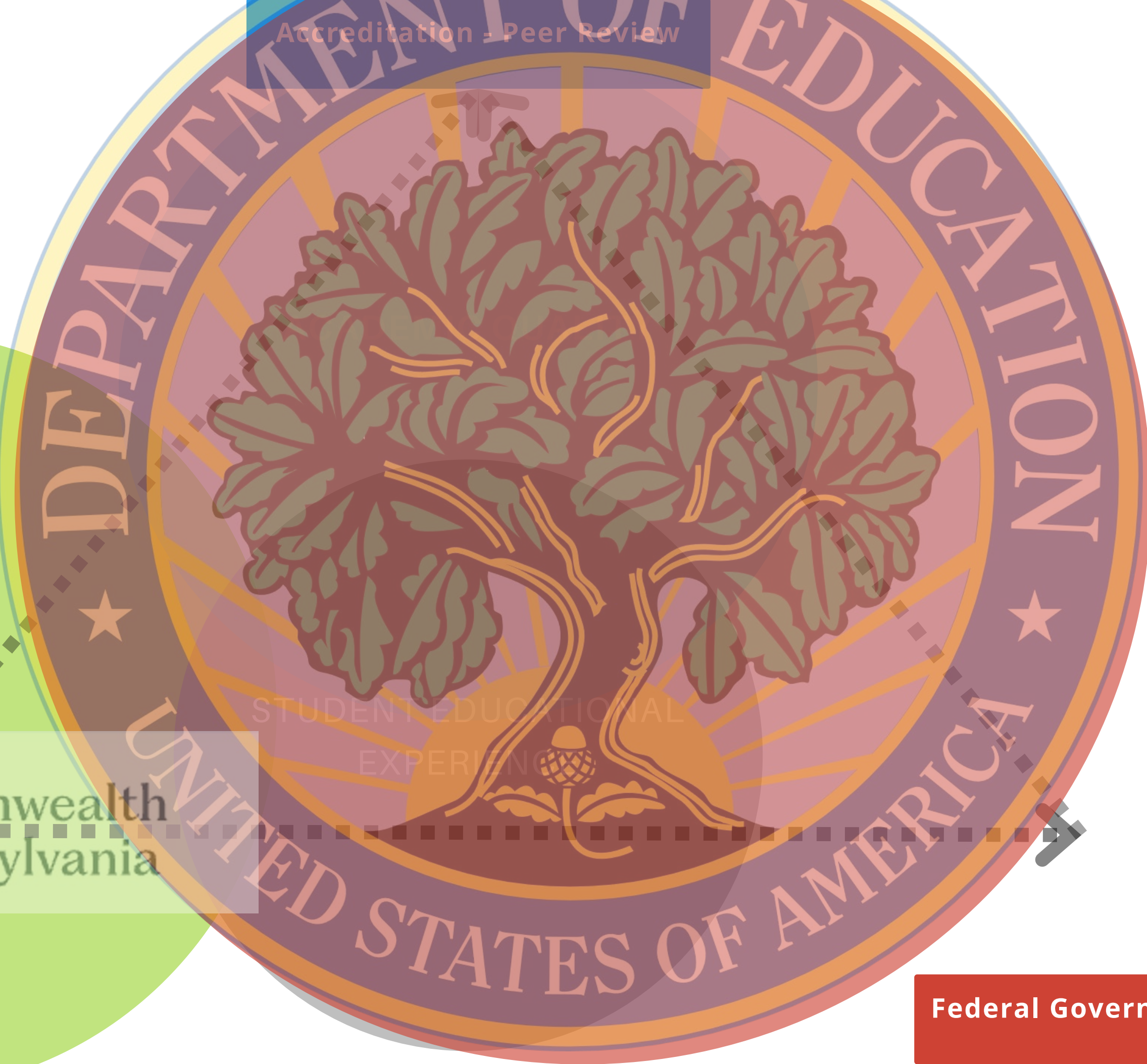


Accreditation + Peer Review



Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania

State Government



Federal Government

Accreditation - Peer Review



Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania

State Government

Federal Government



State Licensure



Accreditation



Federal Funding



THE REALITY

NC-SARA

Consumer Protection?

State Licensure

Consumer Protection



Progressive “Think Tanks”

Consumer Protection, Value of Education, Accreditors Have Failed



Accreditors

Quality of Education and Increasingly, Consumer Protection



Consumer Advocates

Consumer Protection



Plaintiff Attorneys

Consumer Protection

CFPB

Consumer Protection

Veteran Affairs

Consumer Protection



The 4th Estate

Consumer Protection

Federal Government

Access (FAFSA)
Financial Responsibility
Consumer Protection



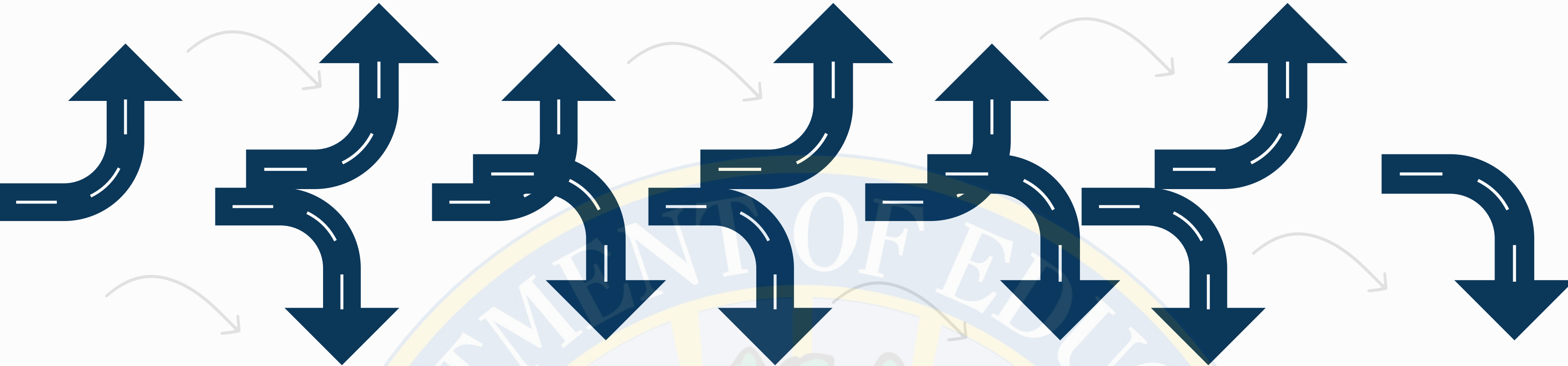
Congress

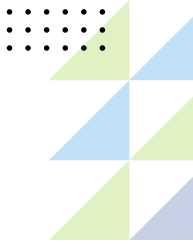
Consumer Protection

OIG

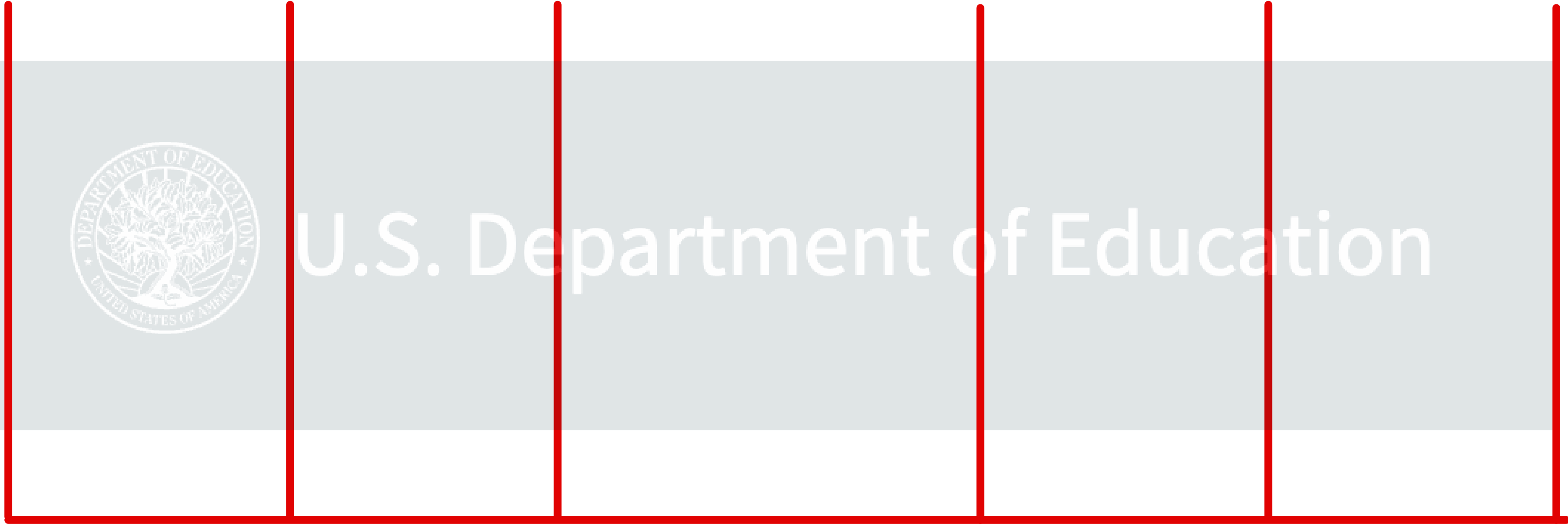
FTC

Consumer Protection





MARCH 3RD	MARCH 11TH	MARCH 20TH	APRIL 5TH	APRIL 22ND	MAY 1ST
LINDA MCMAHON CONFIRMED AT SECRETARY OF ED	INITIATED A REDUCTION IN FORCE (RIF) IMPACTING NEARLY 50% OF STAFFING	INTENTION TO ELIMINATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: FINANCIAL AID	RESUME COLLECTION OF DEFAULTED STUDENT LOANS	EO: EXPANDING ACCREDITATION OPTIONS





“When I return to the White House, I will fire the radical Left accreditors that have allowed our colleges to become dominated by Marxist maniacs and lunatics.”

“We will then accept applications for new accreditors who will impose real standards on colleges once again and once and for all.”

~ DJT - July 2023



PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

REFORMING ACCREDITATION TO STRENGTHEN HIGHER EDUCATION

Executive Orders | April 23, 2025



Unfortunately, accreditors have not only failed in this responsibility to students, families, and American taxpayers, but they have also abused their enormous authority.

Some accreditors make the adoption of unlawfully discriminatory practices a formal standard of accreditation, and therefore a condition of accessing Federal aid, through “DEI”-based standards of accreditation





PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

REFORMING ACCREDITATION TO STRENGTHEN HIGHER EDUCATION

Executive Orders | April 23, 2025



- (i) resume recognizing new accreditors to increase competition and accountability in promoting high-quality, high-value academic programs focused on student outcomes;
- (ii) mandate that accreditors require member institutions to use data on program-level student outcomes to improve such outcomes, without reference to race, ethnicity, or sex;



Secretary of Education Linda McMahon Statement on President Trump's FY 2026 Skinny Budget

MAY 2, 2025



The federal government has invested trillions of taxpayer dollars into an education system that is not driving improved student outcomes – we must change course and reorient taxpayer dollars toward proven programs that generate results for American students.

The President's Skinny Budget reflects funding levels for an agency that is responsibly winding down, shifting some responsibilities to the states, and thoughtfully preparing a plan to delegate other critical functions to more appropriate entities.



Accreditation - Peer Review

STATES AND ACCREDITORS
STEPPING INTO THE FEDERAL VOID



Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania



STUDENT EDUCATIONAL
EXPERIENCE



State Government

Federal Government



BCC Advisory

AN ERA OF CHANGING ATTITUDES





FORBES > LEADERSHIP > CAREERS

How To Entice The ‘Toolbelt Generation’ To Join The Trades, According To McKinsey

Jack Kelly Senior Contributor

Jack Kelly covers career growth, job market and workplace trends.

Follow



May 16, 2024, 06:00am EDT



Gen-Z has been deemed the “Toolbelt Generation” for its open-mindedness in embracing the trades over ... [\[+\]](#) GETTY



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NEWSLETTERS SIGN IN NPR SHOP

NEWS

CULTURE

MUSIC

PODCASTS & SHOWS

SEARCH

NATIONAL

Many in Gen Z ditch colleges for trade schools. Meet the 'toolbelt generation'

APRIL 22, 2024 · 5:02 AM ET

By [Windsor Johnston](#)

Q&A

Could Gen Z be the next toolbelt generation?

Contractors can recruit this group of workers with benefits like tuition reimbursement, mental health counseling and even pet insurance, according to an industry executive.

Published Oct. 3, 2024



[Zachary Phillips](#)
Editor





DIVE BRIEF

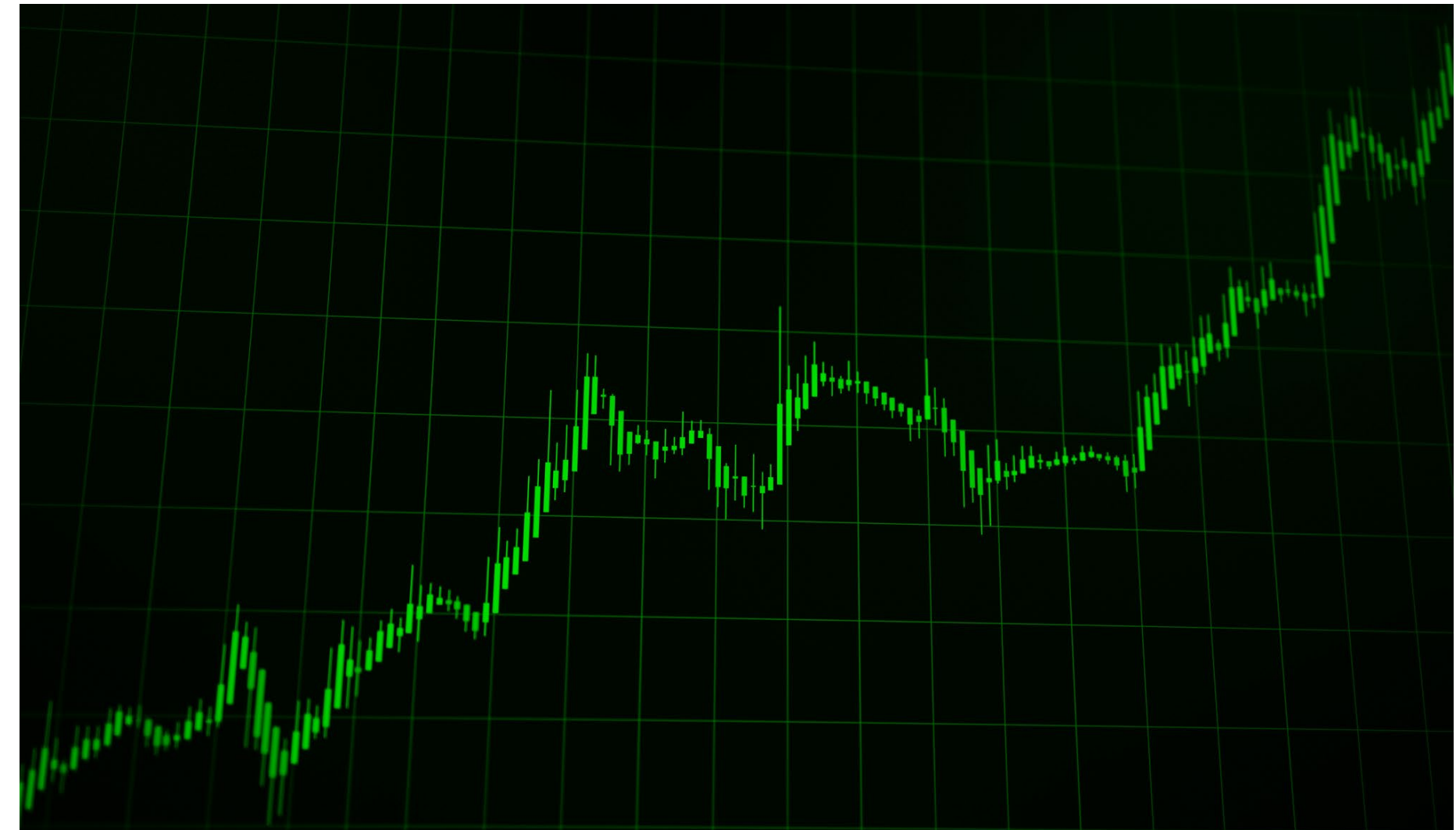
First-year student enrollment spiked 5.5% in fall 2024

The final data from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center comes a week after the group retracted preliminary findings showing a decline.

Published Jan. 23, 2025



Natalie Schwartz
Senior Editor



- All sectors enjoyed enrollment increases.
- For-profit, four-year institutions had the largest enrollment growth, with headcounts rising **7.5%** in fall 2024 compared to the year before.
- Public two-year institutions and public primarily associate-degree granting baccalaureate institutions, saw similar levels of growth — **5.8% and 6.3%**, respectively.



Factors influencing Gen Z's interest in vocational education

Cost

Vocational schools are more affordable than traditional four-year colleges.

Job market

There is demand for skilled trades workers in fields like plumbing, HVAC, and welding.

Technology

Gen Zers see manual labor as less vulnerable to automation than white-collar jobs.

Purpose

Gen Zers want to find work that is meaningful and contributes to their community.



Many in Gen Z ditch colleges for trade schools. Meet the 'toolbelt generation'

Benefits of vocational education

Real-world experience

- Vocational education provides hands-on learning and practical skills.

Quick entry into the workforce

- Vocational schools can lead to well-paying jobs with a quicker entry into the workforce.

Secure job track

- Vocational jobs can offer a secure job track with steadily growing earnings.

<https://bit.ly/3EokWgR>

Gen Z ditching college for trade school

Could the next generation bridge the labor gap?

By Nicole Krawcke



BEST PRACTICES

FOR SUSTAINED
SUCCESS



engage.

- **Support Accreditation** - non-government, peer-review, meaningful self-evaluation.
- **Participate in State Advocacy / Legislative Initiatives**
- **Attend Industry Events, Conferences, Hearings, Webinars**
 - Support Professional Development of Your Staff
- **Share Your Experience and Knowledge**
 - Within Your Own Organization
 - Within Your Network
- **Don't Make it Worse** - Be part of the Solution.



be authentic.

- **Be Authentic with Your Engagements**
 - Regulations vs. Relationships
 - Talk is Cheap
 - Actions Resonate
- **Be Transparent and Open**
 - No Surprises
 - Fully Disclose
 - Don't Get Cute
 - Don't Make it Worse
- **Be proactive, rather than reactive.**
 - Disclose Early, Disclose Often
- **Tell Your Story Through Your Students' Success**



be realistic.

If you **see** something, **do** something.
Because Your Regulator Will.

Student Achievement: Retention, Graduation, Licensure,
Certification, Employment

Student Satisfaction: Student Feedback, What do you do with it?

Student Support: Academic, SAP, Career Services, Soft-Skills;
Increasingly Mental Health

Financial Viability : Looming Specter of Closures & Teach-Outs

- 250,000+ student borrowers were affected by over 1,100 school closures from 2010-2020 (CECU).



be strategic.

Student Centered Viability

- Graduation Rate Trends
- Certification / Licensure Pass Rates
- Employment Rates

Ensuring Success Through Continuous Assessment and Planning

- Self-Evaluation
 - How are things going?
 - How can things improve?
 - What needs to change?
 - What can we build on?

What actions do you take based on feedback?
(Data, Student, Employer)



be decisive.

The Importance of Due Process & When to Take Decisive Action

Institution Initiated Action: Take Control

- Program Viability
- Supporting Growth
- Financial Stability

Expect Definitive Actions – Earlier in the Process

- With the Department's "downsizing", increasing pressure on accreditors and state regulators to act sooner, more decisively, and fill that gap
- Expect increasing rigor. Not less. Expect. MORE.
 - Over-correction?
 - Due Process



be known...

for the right reasons

- Reputation is Everything
 - Are you a Flagship School?
- “Don’t Make Your Problems, My Problems”
- Student/Community Facing Communications



Celebrate Success.

- Remember Why You Do What You Do
- Celebrate Everyday Successes
- Support One Another
- Student Centric in All Things
 - An Opportunity to Showcase Your Institution
- Embrace the Opportunity to Improve



Q a n d A

BCC





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Thank You!



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