



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

SPRING 2025 FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE

The following summaries outline key actions underway to address federal policy changes, support the AU community, and advance our core values.

Supporting international students amid changes to federal immigration policies and practices and providing resources to faculty and staff traveling internationally.

- The [International Student and Scholar Services](#) team closely monitors immigration information in the SEVIS database and immediately engages with students when changes to their visa status occur.
- We provide proactive and comprehensive support to any affected students, including academic advising, health and wellness resources, and direction to immigration and/or legal resources if such assistance is required for their individual situations.
- As the university [immigration guidance](#) issued on February 6 notes, unless authorized by the student, confidential student records of undocumented students will not be released without a warrant, subpoena, court order, or other legal requirement.
- Updated international travel guidance is in development and will be issued soon.

Advancing our ongoing inclusive excellence commitment.

- In an April *Mosaic* inclusive excellence newsletter, the [Office of Inclusive Excellence](#) outlined our updated and sustaining approach to fostering an inclusive, welcoming AU community for all.
- The Office of Inclusive Excellence, working through its [IE network of advisors](#) and five task forces on topics ranging from inclusive hiring and training to scholarships and awards, is collaborating with partners across the organization to support and update our work.

Supporting AU's federal research endeavors and the faculty and staff who lead this vital scholarship.

- The Office of Sponsored Awards and Research Administration (OSARA) provides direct support for faculty and staff working on federal grants and contracts that have been paused or otherwise impacted by policy changes.
- The [OSARA website](#) provides ongoing updates to the faculty research community and a working group of principal investigators meets regularly.

Engaging the AU community in this important work.

- Two community-based working groups are underway to help inform our engagement—a Federal Policy Operational Working Group and a Faculty Strategic Advisory Group.
- We are dedicating additional work to enhance online and community resources. An updated federal policy updates website is now online with information for the community in a single, easy-to-use location. A regular weekly federal update will publish in *AU Now* (Wednesdays) to provide the latest information.
- For a timely discussion on these topics, join us for our [next The Civic Life event on Wednesday, April 23](#) when noted scholar, political thinker, and AU alumnus Yuval Levin comes to campus.

Responding to federal inquiries.

- The Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) included American University on a list of 60 universities under review.
- AU’s Office of General Counsel, collaborating with partners across the university, provided a comprehensive response to OCR’s request for information about our university-wide work to support our community, uphold our values including academic freedom and freedom of expression, and comply with our Title VI requirements.
- American University’s matter only involves a January 2024 complaint filed with OCR by an external organization. No new or additional topics are part of OCR’s review.