

## NACAC Applauds Court Ruling That Rejects Trump's Funding Freeze on Harvard

In [\*President and Fellows of Harvard College v. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services\*](#), the court ruled that the Trump administration ignored the law in pursuing politically motivated attacks on Harvard and other institutions. Judge Allison Burroughs struck down the \$2.2 billion funding freeze, finding that the administration's actions violated the First Amendment, the Administrative Procedure Act, and Title VI. The court also issued a permanent order preventing the administration from imposing unfair conditions, cutting or freezing funds, and denying future grants in retaliation for protected rights or without following federal rules.

The court's ruling emphasized the importance of academic freedom and free speech, concluding that the government's actions jeopardized critical research and disregarded constitutional and statutory rights. It further found that allegations of antisemitism at Harvard were used as a "smokescreen for a targeted, ideologically motivated assault on this country's premier universities," and that the freeze irresponsibly halted vital research projects with national and global implications.

NACAC and 28 other higher education associations [signed an amicus brief](#), submitted by ACE, in June 2025 that urged the administration to stop its harmful and politically motivated withholding of funds. These harmful actions not only threatened constitutional protections but also put at risk life-saving research, from cancer prevention and treatment to suicide prevention among veterans. that urged the administration to stop its harmful and politically motivated withholding of funds. These harmful actions not only threatened constitutional protections but also put at risk life-saving research, from cancer prevention and treatment to suicide prevention among veterans.

We urge the administration to abandon any further attacks and instead restore the longstanding partnership that has made colleges and universities the engine of American innovation and discovery for decades.