



441 G St. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20548

May 26, 2026

Congressional Requesters:

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has initiated work in response to your February 19, 2026, request for a review of the impacts of transferring responsibilities for carrying out various programs from the Department of Education (Education) to other federal agencies. This letter is to affirm GAO's intent to initiate additional workstreams reviewing other interagency agreements announced by Education, consistent with the request letter. Specifically, once staff are available this summer, we plan to start work reviewing the transference of student loan default collections from Education to the Department of the Treasury, as announced by Education in March 2026. We will initiate additional reviews as staff become available and in consultation with you.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Cindy Brown Barnes, Managing Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security at 202-512-7215 or Ms. Sara Pelton, Assistant Director, Congressional Relations, on my staff at 202-512-8856.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Powner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Powner  
Acting Managing Director  
Congressional Relations

Attachment

Attachment: List of Requesters

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Vice Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate

The Honorable Bernard Sanders  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
United States Senate

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senate