

WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION?



THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN ENSURING ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION.



Federal funding makes up about **14%** of public school budgets, helping to close gaps in underfunded districts.



Dismantling and defunding the Department of Education will mean major funding losses for states, impacting students and schools nationwide.

CLOSING OR DEFUNDING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WOULD LEAD TO...



Larger class sizes & lower wages for teachers and support staff



Schools losing **essential programs and staff**, such as behavioral and mental health support



Protections against discrimination based on race, gender, and disability at risk.



Loans could be privatized or transferred to a separate agency, **leading to higher rates and fewer forgiveness options.**



Predatory for-profit universities could more easily exploit low-income students, trapping them in debt.

BUT THE PUSH TO DISMANTLE EDUCATION ISN'T NEW!

Ronald Reagan tried and failed to shut down the Department of Education

The Trump administration reportedly preparing an executive order to dismantle the Department from within*



**This follows the Project 2025 playbook, whose primary goals are to dismantle and defund the Department of Education and its programs, or transferring programs to other agencies.*



From Reagan to Project 2025, the pattern is clear: weakening federal education funding and oversight has long been a right-wing priority—threatening schools, students, and public education as a whole.