



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on May 7, 2025

Education Secretary McMahon: No More Money for Harvard

U.S. Education Secretary Linda McMahon has informed far-left Harvard University that its free ride on the taxpayers' gravy train is over. The once-respected university will no longer receive federal funding.

Citing its mostly tax-free, more-than-\$50 billion endowment, the rise of hate on its campus, poor financial management, and myriad plagiarism scandals among top officials, McMahon told university President Alan Garber that the anti-American campus will not receive new federal money.

In April, the administration pulled more than \$2 billion in federal subsidies to the school, which then sued because the administration had, it argued, broken the law.

That's doubtful. But even if not, Americans can at least know that no more of their hard-earned money will be thrown away on the disgraced university in the future.



APCortizasJr/iStock/Getty Images Plus

Dear [@Harvard](#): pic.twitter.com/XmMimXfkX0

— Secretary Linda McMahon (@EDSecMcMahon) [May 5, 2025](#)

Plagiarism, Far-left Democratic Clowns Teaching, Bad Financial Position

"Harvard University, despite amassing a largely tax-free [\\$53.2 billion ... endowment](#) (larger than the GDP of 100 countries), receives billions of dollars of taxpayer largess each year. Receiving such taxpayer funds is a privilege, not a right," McMahon wrote. "Yet instead of using these funds to advance the education of its students, Harvard is engaging in a systemic pattern of violating federal law."

The next two sentences were non sequiturs. But that error aside, McMahon's documentation of Harvard's race to the bottom of academia clarified a truth few would admit. The only thing valuable about a Harvard education is the university's name on the diploma. Academic standards have plummeted.

"Harvard University has made a mockery of this country's higher education system," McMahon wrote:

It has invited foreign students, who engage in violent behavior and show contempt for the United States of America, to its campus. In every way, Harvard has failed to abide by its legal obligations, its ethical and fiduciary duties, its transparency responsibilities, and any semblance of academic rigor. It [has] scrapped standardized testing requirements and a



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on May 7, 2025

normalized grading system. This year Harvard was forced to adopt an embarrassing “remedial math” program for undergraduates. Why is it, we ask, that Harvard has to teach simple and basic mathematics, when it is supposedly so hard to get into this “acclaimed university”? Who is getting in under such a low standard when others, with fabulous grades and a great understanding of the highest levels of mathematics, are being rejected?

McMahon noted its plagiarism scandals, again, as well as the university’s “hateful discrimination.” Amusingly, she observed that “Harvard hired failed Mayors Bill De Blasio and [Lori Lightfoot](#), perhaps the worst mayors ever to preside over major cities in our country’s history, to supposedly teach ‘leadership’ at their School of Public Health. This is like hiring the captain of the Titanic to teach navigation to future captains of the sea.”



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

May 5, 2025

Dr. Alan Garber
Office of the President
Harvard University
Massachusetts Hall
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dr. Garber,

The Federal Government has a sacred responsibility to be a wise and important steward of American taxpayer dollars. Harvard University, despite amassing a largely tax-free \$53.2 billion dollar endowment (larger than the GDP of 100 countries), receives billions of dollars of taxpayer largess each year. Receiving such taxpayer funds is a privilege, not a right. Yet instead of using these funds to advance the education of its students, Harvard is engaging in a systemic pattern of violating federal law. Where do many of these “students” come from, who are they, how do they get into Harvard, or even into our country—and why is there so much HATE? These are questions that must be answered, among many more, but the biggest question of all is, why will Harvard not give straightforward answers to the American public?

Harvard University has made a mockery of this country’s higher education system. It has invited foreign students, who engage in violent behavior and show contempt for the United States of America, to its campus. In every way, Harvard has failed to abide by its legal obligations, its ethical and fiduciary duties, its transparency responsibilities, and any semblance of academic rigor. It had scrapped standardized testing requirements and a normalized grading system. This year Harvard was forced to adopt an embarrassing “remedial math” program for undergraduates. Why is it, we ask, that Harvard has to teach simple and basic mathematics, when it is supposedly so hard to get into this “acclaimed university”? Who is getting in under such a low standard when others, with fabulous grades and a great understanding of the highest levels of mathematics, are being rejected?

Harvard has even been embroiled in humiliating plagiarism scandals, exposed clearly and plainly in the media, with respect to your then University President, who was an embarrassment to our Nation. Much of Harvard’s hateful discrimination was revealed, last year, by the great work of Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, and her Committee. As if it were trying to embarrass itself even further, Harvard hired failed Mayors Bill De Blasio and Lori Lightfoot, perhaps the worst mayors ever to preside over major cities in our country’s history, to supposedly teach “leadership” at their School of Public Health. This is like hiring the captain of the Titanic to teach navigation to future captains of the sea.

This incomprehensible failure becomes more understandable after reviewing Harvard’s management. The Harvard Corporation, which is supposed to competently and professionally manage Harvard’s vast academic, financial, and physical resources, is run by strongly left-leaning Obama political appointee Penny Pritzker, a Democrat operative, who is catastrophic and



running the institution in a totally chaotic way. Harvard alumnus and highly successful hedge fund manager Bill Ackman noted that, under her leadership, Harvard has become “a political advocacy organization for one party.”

Ackman has called for the resignation of Pritzker, concluding that the “[t]he mismanagement here is Penny Pritzker” and noting that any serious corporation would have removed her after a litany of recent failings and the fact that, incredibly, “Harvard is not in a good financial position.” According to Ackman, one of the world’s foremost finance experts, Harvard’s so-called \$53 billion endowment is “massively overstated as far as what it’s really worth,” and Harvard has irresponsibly taken out \$8 billion in debt.

If this is true, it is concerning evidence of Harvard’s disastrous mismanagement, indicating an urgent need for massive reform—not continued taxpayer investment. If Harvard prefers not to change, then Harvard should have no problem using its overflowing endowment to fund its bloated bureaucracy.

At its best, a university should fulfill the highest ideals of our Nation, and enlighten the thousands of hopeful students who walk through its magnificent gates. But Harvard has betrayed this ideal.

Perhaps most alarmingly, Harvard has failed to abide by the United States Supreme Court’s ruling demanding that it end its racial preferencing, and continues to engage in ugly racism in its undergraduate and graduate schools, and even within the Harvard Law Review itself. Our universities should be bastions of merit that reward and celebrate excellence and achievement. They should not be incubators of discrimination that encourage resentment and instill grievance and racism into our wonderful young Americans.

The above concerns are only a fraction of the long list of Harvard’s consistent violations of its own legal duties. Given these and other concerning allegations, this letter is to inform you that Harvard should no longer seek GRANTS from the federal government, since none will be provided. Harvard will cease to be a publicly funded institution, and can instead operate as a privately-funded institution, drawing on its colossal endowment, and raising money from its large base of wealthy alumni. You have an approximately \$53 Billion head start, much of which was made possible by the fact that you are living within the walls of, and benefiting from, the prosperity secured by the United States of America and its free-market system you teach your students to despise.

The Administration had previously been willing to maintain federal funding to Harvard, so long as Harvard committed to complying with long-settled Federal Law, including to protect and promote student welfare and the landmark decision of our Supreme Court against racial preferencing. The proposed common-sense reforms – which the Administration remains committed to – include a return to merit-based admissions and hiring, an end to unlawful programs that promote crude identity stereotypes, disciplinary reform and consistent accountability, including for student groups, cooperation with Law Enforcement, and reporting compliance with the Department of Education, Department of Homeland Security, and other



Federal Agencies. The Administration's priorities have not changed and today's letter marks the end of new grants for the University.

These requests will advance the best interests of Harvard University, so it can reclaim its status as a respected educational institution for the future leaders of America. Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda McMahon", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Linda E. McMahon
Secretary of Education



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on May 7, 2025

McMahon also attacked the university because a far-left Democrat, Penny Pritzker, headmistress of the Harvard Corporation's board [as "senior fellow,"](#) is running the board in a "totally chaotic way." Commerce Secretary for former President Barack Hussein Obama, Pritzker is the sister of crackpot leftist Governor J.B. Pritzker of Illinois. [He thinks](#) that Republicans are "Nazis."

"Harvard alumnus and highly successful hedge fund manager Bill Ackman noted that, under her leadership, Harvard has become 'a political advocacy organization for one party,'" McMahon wrote:

Ackman has called for the resignation of Pritzker, concluding that the "[t]he mismanagement here is Penny Pritzker" and noting that any serious corporation would have removed her after a litany of recent failings and the fact that, incredibly, "Harvard is not in a good financial position." According to Ackman, one of the world's foremost finance experts, Harvard's so-called \$53 billion endowment is "massively overstated as far as what it's really worth," and Harvard has irresponsibly taken out \$8 billion in debt.

If this is true, it is concerning evidence of Harvard's disastrous mismanagement, indicating an urgent need for massive reform — not continued taxpayer investment. If Harvard prefers not to change, then Harvard should have no problem using its overflowing endowment to fund its bloated bureaucracy.

Breaking the Law

Yet "most alarmingly," McMahon wrote, in rejecting the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in [Students for Fair Admissions v. President and Fellows of Harvard College](#), Harvard "continues to engage in ugly racism in its undergraduate and graduate schools, and even within the Harvard Law Review itself." [Harvard concomitantly claimed](#) it would follow the Court's decision yet continue its policy of discriminating on the basis of race.

Thus, "Harvard should no longer seek GRANTS from the federal government, since none will be provided," McMahon wrote:

Harvard will cease to be a publicly funded institution, and can instead operate as a privately-funded institution, drawing on its colossal endowment, and raising money from its large base of wealthy alumni. You have an approximately \$53 Billion head start, much of which was made possible by the fact that you are living within the walls of, and benefiting from, the prosperity secured by the United States of America and its free-market system you teach your students to despise.

Last month, the Trump administration [froze \\$2.2 billion](#) in federal funds and a \$60 million contract with the university because it refused to abide by [reforms the administration demanded](#). Those included ending DEI hiring and viewpoint discrimination in hiring. [Harvard then sued](#) the administration.

An example of the university's mulish refusal to follow even normal academic standards, and its own [honor code](#), is the continued employment of at least three employees, including former president [Claudine Gay](#), [after credible allegations](#) of plagiarism.

Tuition, room, and board for students who don't receive financial aid [is \\$86,926](#) per year.



Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative, non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.

Subscribe