



April 25, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you of recent developments regarding federal directives aimed at restricting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives in educational institutions.

On April 24, 2025, three federal judges issued preliminary injunctions blocking the enforcement of executive orders from the Trump administration that sought to limit DEI programs in K-12 and higher education. These rulings were in response to lawsuits filed by educators and civil rights organizations challenging the legality of the orders.

Notably, U.S. District Judge Dabney Friedrich in Washington, D.C., ruled that the Department of Education's requirement for educational agencies to certify compliance with the executive orders was unconstitutionally vague. Judge Friedrich's injunction prevents the enforcement of this certification requirement, which was linked to the continuation of federal funding.

These decisions affirm the importance of academic freedom and the ability of educational institutions to engage in meaningful discussions about race, identity, and systemic inequities.

At Cerritos College, we remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering an inclusive environment where every student, faculty, and staff member feels valued and supported. Our DEI initiatives are central to our mission of promoting equity and excellence in education.

We will continue to monitor legal developments related to this matter and provide updates as necessary. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Thank you for your continued dedication to creating a welcoming and inclusive community at Cerritos College.

Thank you,

Jose

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent
Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd
Norwalk, CA 90650