



Nebraska Association of School Boards
1311 Stockwell St.
Lincoln, NE 68505

July 7, 2025

Congressman Mike Flood
343 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Flood,

On behalf of the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) and the locally elected board members we represent across the state, I am writing to express our deep concern over the U.S. Department of Education's decision to withhold \$6.9 billion in funding for six essential formula grant programs for Fiscal Year 2025. This abrupt and unexplained action is already causing disruption in Nebraska schools and communities — and we respectfully urge you to contact both the Department of Education and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to demand immediate release of these critical funds.

The programs affected by this decision include:

- Title II-A Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants
- Title IV-A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- English Language Acquisition Grants
- Migrant Education State Grants
- Adult Education and Family Literacy Grants

Each of these investments supports local school districts in their efforts to recruit and retain great teachers, provide afterschool and summer learning opportunities, support English learners and migrant students, and create safe, well-rounded learning environments. Nebraska districts had already received FY 2025 allocation estimates of nearly \$40 million from the Department of Education.

The timing of this funding interruption could not have been worse. Instead, many districts are now being forced to pause or revise their plans on the first day of their fiscal year and just weeks before students return. School boards across Nebraska have integrated and planned for the expenditure of these funds and made budget and staffing plans as a result. We can provide you with many examples of how the reversal of these grant funds will negatively impact students in Nebraska.

There is no legal ambiguity surrounding these funds. The full year continuing resolution enacted by Congress and signed into law by President Trump clearly provides for continued funding for these programs. In fact, three of the affected programs have funding levels explicitly specified in statute. Yet, states received only a brief, unsigned e-mail from the Department of Education on June 30 suggesting that "decisions have not yet been made" regarding program awards. That assertion contradicts the plain text of the law — and leaves Nebraska schools and learners bearing the consequences of unlawful inaction.

We urge the delegation to work swiftly to:

1. Contact the Department of Education and OMB and call for the immediate release of these appropriated funds;
2. Request a full explanation for the withholding of funds already authorized and allocated under federal law; and
3. Ensure that Nebraska districts, schools, and students are not left in limbo due to an unjustified delay in delivering education funding.

Thank you for your leadership and support for Nebraska's public schools. NASB remains committed to working with you to ensure that federal education programs are implemented with the transparency, consistency, and timeliness our students and communities deserve.

Sincerely,



Colby Coash

Associate Executive Director/Director of Government Relations



John Spatz

Executive Director

CC: Josh McGuire