

U.S. Department of Education

U.S. Department of Education

 Print

 Close Window

 Print

 Close Window

Office for Civil Rights

Annual Report to Congress, FY 2001-2002

U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights

Annual Report
to Congress

Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002

July 2003

Mission:

*Ensuring equal access to education
and promoting educational excellence
throughout the nation through
vigorous enforcement of civil rights.*

U.S. Department of Education
Rod Paige
Secretary

Office for Civil Rights
Gerald A. Reynolds
Assistant Secretary

July 2003

This publication is in the public domain. Authorization to reproduce it in whole or in part is granted. The publication's citation should be: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, *Annual Report to Congress: Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002*, Washington, D.C., 2003.

To order copies of this publication, write:

ED Pubs
Education Publications Center
U.S. Department of Education
P.O. Box 1398
Jessup, MD 20794-1398

You may fax your order to: 1-301-470-1244 or send an e-mail request to: edpubs@inet.ed.gov.
(<mailto:edpubs@inet.ed.gov>)

You may also call toll-free: 1-877-433-7827 (1-877-4-ED-PUBS). If 877 service is not yet available in your area, call 1-800-872-5327 (1-800-USA-LEARN). Those who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a teletypewriter (TTY), should call 1-800-437-0833.

To order online, point your Internet browser to: <http://www.edpubs.ed.gov/webstore/Content/search.asp>
(<http://www.edpubs.ed.gov/>)

This publication is also available on the Department's Web site at [http://www.ed.gov/ocr \(/ocr/\)](http://www.ed.gov/ocr (/ocr/)).

Any updates to this publication will be available at this Web site. On request, this publication is also available in alternate formats, such as Braille, large print, audiotape or computer diskette. For more information, please contact the Department's Alternate Format Center at 1-202-260-9895 or 1-202-205-8113.

Foreword

Overview of OCR Compliance and Enforcement Program ([edlite-2002arc-2.html#_Toc42306684](#))

Organizational Structure (edlite-2002arc-2.html#_Toc42306685)
Complaint Resolutions (edlite-2002arc-2.html#_Toc42306686)
Compliance Reviews and Other Proactive Initiatives (edlite-2002arc-2.html#_Toc42306687)
Monitoring (edlite-2002arc-2.html#_Toc42306688)
Technical Assistance (edlite-2002arc-2.html#_Toc42306689)

Strategic Priorities (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306690)

Putting Reading First (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306691)
Moving English Language Learners to English Proficiency (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306692)
Promoting Informed Parental Choice and Innovative Programs (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306693)
Encouraging Safe Schools (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306694)
Encouraging Accountability (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306695)
New Statutory Responsibility (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306696)
Secretary of Education's Commission on Opportunity in Athletics (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306697)
Brown v. Board of Education 50th Anniversary Commission (edlite-2002arc-3.html#_Toc42306698)

Other Efforts to Enforce the Civil Rights Laws (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306699)

OCR Regulatory and Policy Guidance (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306700)
Magnet Schools Assistance Program (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306701)
Equal Opportunity in Vocational Education (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306702)
Higher Education Agreements (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306703)
Examples of OCR Case Resolutions (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306704)
Enforcement Action (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306705)

Measuring OCR's Work (edlite-2002arc-4.html#_Toc42306706)

Looking to the Future (edlite-2002arc-5.html#_Toc42306707)

Endnotes (edlite-2002arc-5.html#_Toc42306708)

Appendix A: FYs 2001 and 2002 Complaint Receipts by OCR Enforcement Offices (edlite-2002arc-5.html#_Toc42306709)

Foreword



The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is a law enforcement agency charged with protecting fundamental rights conferred in statutes that charge the federal government with the obligation to ensure that public monies do not support discrimination.

President George W. Bush announced to the nation, on his third day in office, that education was his highest domestic priority. With strong bipartisan cooperation, the 107th Congress enacted the president's education agenda, which centers on accountability for results, local control and flexibility, expanded parental options and doing what works to improve student performance. The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB Act) is the most comprehensive reform of federal education programs in more than three decades. Signed into law by the president on January 8, 2002, the NCLB Act contains specific provisions to ensure that all children will have access to a high-quality education regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, disability or socio-economic status. The NCLB Act embodies four key principles—

stronger accountability for results; greater flexibility for states, school districts, and schools in the use of federal funds; more choices for parents; and an emphasis on teaching methods that have been demonstrated to work. The Act also places an increased emphasis on reading, especially for young children, enhancing the quality of our nation's teachers, and ensuring that all children in American schools learn English.

This landmark legislation starts a new and exciting era in education, with firm commitment to the bold proposition that all children can learn. No longer will expectations vary on the basis of a child's race, ethnicity, sex, disability or socio-economic status. The NCLB Act insists on high standards for all children and the ending of what the president calls the "soft bigotry of low expectations" for children who face special challenges or who are not performing satisfactorily in the educational process.

"Now our challenge is to make sure that every child has a fair chance to succeed in life. That is why education is the great civil rights issue of our time."

*President George W. Bush
Radio Address to the Nation
January 19, 2002*

The challenge now is to align fair, effective and efficient enforcement of the civil rights laws with the implementation of the new education reform legislation so they are working hand-in-hand to prevent, identify and remedy discrimination.

This report covers the period from October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2002. The accomplishments that are described are another reminder of the importance of the OCR compliance and enforcement program—a program that can help provide opportunity for all of America's children to receive a world-class education.

I look forward to working with Congress to ensure that no child is left behind.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald A. Reynolds

 Print

 Close Window

 Print

 Close Window

Last Modified: 08/13/2014