



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

April 29, 2026

Sarah Parshall Perry
Vice President, Defending Education

Via e-mail only to: [REDACTED]

Re: Stanford University (CA) – OCR Case Number 09-26-2376

Dear Ms. Perry:

On March 16, 2026, the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received the complaint you filed against Stanford University (the University). The complaint alleged that the University's National Board Resource Center (NBRC) BIPOC cohort discriminated against applicants based on race.

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq., and its implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination based on race, color, and national origin by recipients of federal financial assistance. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department of Education, the University must comply with this law.

OCR evaluated this complaint in accordance with OCR's [Case Processing Manual \(CPM\) \(Feb. 19, 2025\)](#) and has decided to open the complaint for investigation. OCR will investigate the following issue: Whether the University's NBRC BIPOC cohort discriminated against applicants based on race through its criteria for admissions to the program.

Please note that opening an investigation does not mean that OCR has made a final determination with regard to the merits. During the investigation, OCR is neutral; OCR will collect and analyze the evidence it needs in order to make a decision about the complaint. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient in accordance with OCR's CPM. Additional information is available at [Complaint Processing Procedures](#). Please note that you may have the right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

If OCR determines during the course of the investigation that a complaint could be appropriate for mediation, OCR will contact the parties and offer this resolution option.

Recipients must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect,

to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information, that, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

OCR will communicate with you periodically during its investigation. When contacting the office about your case, please refer to the case number at the top of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me by e-mail at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anamaria Loya', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anamaria Loya
Chief Attorney