



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Performance Results Report for FY 2025



Office of Inspector General

January 2026

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Please Note:

Previous Performance Results Reports are available on the [ED OIG website](#).

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Message from the Acting Inspector General

In accordance with the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010, I am pleased to present the U.S. Department of Education (Department) Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Performance Results Report. This report highlights key accomplishments and outcomes from our audit, investigative, and oversight activities completed through FY 2025 and the results of our efforts to meet or exceed our annual performance measures. As you will see in the pages of this report, thanks to the hard work and effort of the OIG staff, we successfully met or exceeded our targeted measures for 15 of our 16 FY 2025 performance goals.

This report also outlines our performance measures and targets for FY 2026. Through these performance measures, we look to ensure that the OIG is operating effectively

and efficiently to ensure that the Department programs operate in compliance with applicable laws and requirements, that Federal education funds reach their intended recipients, and that programs achieve their intended outcomes. In addition, we will continue to strengthen our fraud awareness efforts to assist stakeholders and the public in identifying, reporting, and preventing fraud, and to investigate allegations of fraud and public corruption involving Federal education funds and programs.

We look forward to continued collaboration with our stakeholders throughout FY 2026 as we work to achieve our goals and fulfill the OIG's statutory mission.

Mark E. Priebe
Acting Inspector General



FY 2025 Performance Results Snapshot

Investigative Accomplishments

23

Investigative
Cases Open

58

Investigative
Cases Closed

109

Active
Investigations at
the End of the FY

\$29.1m

Financial Impact
of OIG
Investigations

Audit-Related Accomplishments

31

Audit-Related
Reports Issued

120

Recommendations

\$15m

Other Monetary
Results Based on
OIG Audit-Related
Work

\$21.3m

Financial Impact
of OIG Audit
Related Reports

Other Accomplishments

68

Quality Control and
Desk Reviews

22

New Products
For the Public

437

Fraud Awareness
Outreach Efforts Held



Performance Results for FY 2025

In the following pages, you will find a summary of our performance highlights and the results of our performance measures for fiscal year (FY) 2025, where we successfully met 15 of our 16 performance goals, exceeding our targeted measurements for 13 of those 16 goals.

15/16



Measures Met

Performance Highlights

Audits

We issued 31 reports and related reviews, identifying approximately \$21.3 million in unsupported and questioned costs. These reports covered a myriad of issues and Department programs—including pandemic relief aid, K-12 and Federal student aid programs and operations, and the Department's compliance with Federal statutes (including the consolidated financial statement audit of the Department, the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA), and improper payments). These reports made some 120 recommendations for corrective actions to address the weaknesses and issues identified by our work. This included a recommendation that the Governor of Wisconsin either return more than \$20 million in Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools pandemic grant funds that our audit found the Wisconsin Department of

Public Instruction used for ineligible nonpublic schools or take other remedial actions as appropriate. Further, in FY 2025, Navient agreed to pay \$15 million to settle a dispute arising from a 2009 OIG audit that found the student lender Sallie Mae (which later became Navient) and its subsidiary Nellie Mae, did not comply with regulations related to loans eligible for special allowance payments at the 9.5 percent floor, resulting in the lender receiving overpayments of about \$22.3 million. You will find [all of our reports](#) on our website.

The OIG also completed 68 quality control and desk reviews of required audits submitted by recipients of Department funding. This statutory work helps ensure that recipients of Federal education funds comply with laws, regulations, and other requirements that are material to the Federal awards they received. Additionally, the OIG issued a report to provide non-Federal audit stakeholders with information on the



OIG's non-Federal audit oversight activities for calendar year 2024. Find this [non-Federal summary report](#) on our website. The OIG also brought together Department officials and State and local oversight entities for a summit focused on auditing Federal student aid funds through single audits. Together, participants explored how to align audit efforts with the Department's future direction—prioritizing risk reduction and financial accountability, with a goal of helping shape future audit guidance to strengthen oversight and accountability. Learn more about the OIG's non-Federal audit activities by visiting our [Non-Federal Audits page](#).

Investigations

In our investigative work, we closed 58 investigations involving fraud or corruption and secured more than \$29 million in restitution, settlements, fines, recoveries, forfeitures, and estimated savings. As a result of our investigative work, criminal actions were taken against numerous people, including current and former school officials—people in positions of trust to educate students but who instead chose to cheat their students and America's taxpayers. This included a guilty plea by another of four former Indiana school officials who were previously indicted for their roles in a \$44.6 million charter school enrollment fraud scheme, and a former chief operating officer of the Houston Independent School District (HISD) and a HISD contractor whom a jury found guilty of operating a 9-year, multimillion-dollar fraud scheme. This included the contractor overbilling HISD by some \$6 million. Further, our investigations into student aid fraud led to a prison sentence for a nurse practitioner in New York who orchestrated an \$11.2 million Total and Permanent Disability Discharge fraud scam, and to prosecutive actions against leaders and participants in student aid fraud rings that targeted millions in Federal student aid. This included the arrest of 2 people for allegedly running separate 10-year schemes in Michigan

involving more than 1,200 people, 100 schools in 24 States, and more than \$12 million in Federal student aid; and a 5-year prison sentence for the leader of a North Carolina-based ring who recruited about 80 people to participate in the scam that targeted some \$4.7 million in Federal student aid. Read more about our investigations in our [Semiannual Reports to Congress](#).

New Products for the Public

The first step in stopping education-related fraud is learning how to identify it. The second step is knowing how to report it. That is why our fraud awareness efforts are so important. In FY 2025, the OIG issued 22 new and updated brochures, flyers, and information sheets aimed at helping our stakeholders and the general public identify, avoid, and report education-related fraud to the OIG. This included new flyers on the [OIG Hotline](#) and [whistleblower protections](#); and student aid fraud and [student aid debt collection scams](#). We also issued a new publication titled, "[Fraud Watch](#)" that highlights new and emerging areas of potential fraud, waste, or abuse involving Federal education programs, operations, and funding. We also issued two more issues of our [FraudGram newsletter](#), designed to educate and alert the public to education-related schemes and scams, provide information on free resources available to the public related to identifying and reporting fraud, and news on OIG investigations. Visit the [Resources page](#) of our website for all of our free materials.

Fraud Awareness Outreach Efforts

In FY 2025, the OIG Special Agents conducted 437 fraud awareness efforts. This included trainings, discussions, briefings, panel sessions, one-on-one meetings, and social media campaigns—to help school officials at the K-12 and post-secondary levels, as well as State



and local law enforcement and prosecutive entities identify and report Federal education fraud to the OIG. These efforts are vital in our fight to stop Federal education fraud, as many of our investigations started with a call to the OIG by a person who suspected fraud. You will find copies of our [free fraud awareness and prevention training videos and more](#) on our website.

OIG Hotline Wizard

In FY 2025, the OIG launched a new feature on its website aimed at helping the public get their questions, concerns, or suspicions of fraud, waste, and abuse addressed more efficiently. Called the OIG Hotline Wizard, it prompts the individual to answer a few very short questions and based on their responses, guides them to the appropriate source to address their concern, be it the OIG Hotline or other Department office or agency. The Hotline Wizard's tagline is "Let's Get Your Concern to the Right Place" as that's exactly what it does. You can reach the [OIG Hotline Wizard](#) on our website.

Interviews

In FY 2025, OIG Assistant Inspector General for Investigation Services Jason Williams was a featured guest on two Gray TV Watching Your Wallet segments. The first focused on [K-12 fraud](#), providing the public with information on the types of fraud the OIG is seeing at the K-12 level, and sharing information on how to identify and report it to the OIG. The second involved [student aid fraud, emphasizing "ghost students"](#)—how criminals are operating these schemes and what is being done to stop them. The features ran in more than 100 media markets. Assistant Inspector General Williams also participated in a panel discussion for FraudKast, a podcast hosted by LexisNexis, [that focused on student aid fraud](#). All of these events provide the OIG with the opportunity to raise awareness of fraud involving Federal education

programs and the ability to reach a wide and diverse audience. These and other [interviews with OIG staff](#) are available on our website.

Whistleblower Protection Training

On National Whistleblower Day (July 30), the OIG held a voluntary, Department-wide session on whistleblower protections. The session was led by an OIG subject matter expert attorney and the OIG's designated Whistleblower Protection Coordinator, a statutorily required role within the OIG tasked with, among other responsibilities, educating agency employees and managers about prohibitions on retaliation for a protected class. The session covered the role of the OIG and the Whistleblower Protection Coordinator; who qualifies as a protected whistleblower; what a protected disclosure is; what retaliation means; reporting retaliation; retaliation investigations; and confidentiality requirements. The OIG also conducted a week-long campaign on its social media platforms, solely focused on the importance of whistleblowers and whistleblower protections. Information on [whistleblowing and whistleblower protections](#) are available on our website.

Working with our Partners

OIG staff led or participated in some 40 intergovernmental task forces and work groups, sharing our knowledge, experience, and perspectives on proposed and draft legislation, regulations, and guidance for those who receive Federal funding and those who oversee that funding. This included work through the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC), the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), the Association of Government Accountants Partnership for Management and Accountability, and other intergovernmental forums across the country. Through these efforts, we work



to improve performance and accountability by ensuring open communication between Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governmental oversight organizations. We also continued to participate in investigations-focused task forces and work groups, including

those focused on cybercrime, grant fraud, disaster fraud, and anti-corruption. You can find more on these task forces and work groups in the pages of our [Semiannual Reports to Congress](#).





Performance Results for FY 2025

The following table presents our FY 2025 performance measures, targets, and results, including those specific to the following OIG components: Audit Services (AS) and Investigation Services (IS).

#	Performance Measure	FY 2025 Target	FY2025 Results
1	Audits, inspections, flash reviews, and investigations were initiated in accordance with policy and focused on areas of high risk or significant importance.	AS 85% IS 85%	AS 100% IS 96%
2	Recommendations in reports resolved during the fiscal year were accepted by the Department and corrective action plans agreed to by OIG management.	90%	100%
3	Audits, inspections, and flash reviews are completed in accordance with applicable policy and within agreed-on dates.	75%	92%
4	Draft audits, inspections, and flash review reports were evaluated and approved by OIG senior management in accordance with policy and within agreed-on dates.	75%	96%
5	Preliminary inquiries, investigations, and hotline complaints of fraud, waste, and abuse are completed and processed in accordance with applicable policy and within agreed-on dates.	80%	93%
6	Preliminary inquiries were converted to full investigations by OIG management and resulted in a criminal, civil, or administrative action; a monetary result; or an actionable referral to the Department.	70%	92%
7	Data analytics products were completed in accordance with policy and delivered to and accepted by the requestor within agreed-on dates.	85%	99%
8	IT security documentation, assessments, plans of action, and milestones for OIG IT systems were completed in accordance with policy and accepted by OIG management or the Department within agreed-on dates, as reported by the Cyber Security Framework scorecard.	80%	80%
9	Requests for forensic or analytical assistance were completed in accordance with policy, including applicable quality standards, and within established time frames.	80%	84%



#	Performance Measure	FY 2025 Target	FY2025 Results
10	Counsel work products were completed with minimal corrections by the supervisor and delivered to stakeholders within required or agreed-on deadlines.	85%	85%
11	Simple Freedom of Information Act responses were processed in accordance with statutory requirements and delivered to requestors within required deadlines (20 business days).	75%	39%
12	Complex Freedom of Information Act requests were acknowledged within 20 business days and delivered to requesters with an estimated completion date in accordance with policy.	75%	84%
13	Quality assurance and internal control review recommendations were accepted by OIG management and corrective action plans were tracked through completion.	80%	100%
14	Products related to OIG budget were developed, executed, and delivered to Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, the Department, OIG leadership, and other applicable stakeholders within agreed-on time frames.	95%	100%
15	Products related to OIG administrative operations (e.g., Human Resources and Facilities) were developed, executed, and delivered to the Office of Personnel Management, the Office of Management and Budget, the Department, OIG leadership, and other applicable stakeholders within agreed-on time frames.	95%	100%
16	OIG budget (personnel and non-personnel) resources were executed against critical operations and business requirements within 90% of total annual appropriation.	90%	92%





Performance Measures for FY 2026

For FY 2026, we combined and refined some of our measures for efficiency and to provide a better assessment of performance given our statutory mission. The following table presents our key performance measures and targets for FY 2026.

#	Performance Measure	FY 2026 Target
1	Audits, inspections, flash reviews, and investigations initiated in accordance with policy and focused on areas of high risk or significant importance.	AS 85% IS 85%
2	Recommendations in reports resolved during the fiscal year accepted by the Department and corrective action plans agreed to by OIG management.	85%
3	Audits, inspections, and flash reviews completed in accordance with applicable policy and within agreed-on dates.	75%
4	Preliminary inquiries, investigations, forensic and analytic assistance, and hotline complaints of fraud, waste, and abuse completed and processed in accordance with applicable policy and within agreed-on dates.	80%
5	Preliminary inquiries converted to full investigations by OIG management and resulted in a criminal, civil, or administrative action; a monetary result; or an actionable referral to the Department.	70%
6	Responses to congressional requests completed within established timelines and as approved by the IG or DIG.	90%
7	Freedom of Information Act responses processed in accordance with statutory requirements and OIG policy and delivered to requesters within required deadlines.	75%
8	OIG budget (personnel and non-personnel) resources executed against critical operations and business requirements within 85% of total annual appropriation.	85%





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HOTLINE
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