



#HearOurEdStories Social Media Toolkit

Follow and Tag CEF (@edfunding) on X, Instagram, and Threads

Share Your Story of Why Education Funding Matters to You and Urge Congress to Support Investments in Education

Why this matters now

- **Education funding is in jeopardy.** Some want to eliminate the Department of Education while others are pushing to drastically cut its funding. The new Administration has unilaterally canceled and withheld funding Congress specifically provided for education research, teacher training, and more. Department of Education funding is already **more than \$16 billion BELOW the 2011 level in inflation-adjusted dollars.** Federal education funding helps all students – the main K-12 education program helps more than 90% of school districts hire teachers and purchase supplies, supporting both jobs and students. Special Education funding provides more than 7 million students with services and support they need, freeing up state and local education funding for other purposes. The Rural Education program funds small and low-income schools that face extra costs due to their location and size, and other programs focus on specific needs, types of schools, or students seeking career and academic skills to launch them into the future. Now is the time to urge Congress to invest in education, not cut it! It's #Time4EdFunding

What you can do

- **Make a short video or write a message** telling your two U.S. Senators and your Representative about your experience in the education community (your school, college, child care, or other education-related program). Tell Congress how a greater federal investment in education would make a big difference (see sample message below).
- **Share the video or written message on X, Facebook, or Instagram** (see sample post below).
- **Tag CEF (@edfunding on X, Instagram, and Threads; @cmte4edfunding on Facebook) and your Senators and Rep.**
 - Find your Members of Congress by typing your address at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>
 - [List of social media addresses for Members of Congress](#) is on [CEF's #HearOurEdStories website](#).
- **Use #HearOurEdStories** so we can find your message and share it!

Sample message to record or write out

My name is [INSERT YOUR NAME], I'm from [CITY, STATE] and I am a [PARENT, STUDENT, TEACHER, CHILD CARE PROVIDER, COUNSELOR, LIBRARIAN, ADMINISTRATOR, ETC.]. Federal education funding [OR INSERT SPECIFIC PROGRAM] helps me [INSERT HOW] and without it I [INSERT THE CONSEQUENCES OF LOWER THAN NEEDED FUNDING]. I urge Congress to invest in teaching and learning. This is my education story and I know I am not alone; polling shows a majority of the public wants more funding for public education and child care, and opposes cuts to these vital services. That is why I am asking my Representative and Senators to support investments in education and to reject the Administration's actions to withhold vital funding Congress has already provided.

Sample post to share your video or written story on X (similar on other platforms)

I'm urging my Members of Congress to education investments - funding that supports students and local jobs. [#HearOurEdStories](#) [@edfunding](#) @[address for your Rep] @[address for your Senator] @[address for your other Senator]

Tips for X (CEF account = [@edfunding](#)):

- Follow and tag CEF ([@edfunding](#)) on X, Instagram, and Threads

Instagram Tips (CEF account = [@edfunding](#)):

- Follow and tag CEF ([@edfunding](#)) on Instagram
- Make sure your video is under 60 seconds
- Mark your hometown as the location of the video so the Member of Congress knows you are a constituent!

Facebook Tips (CEF account = [@cmte4edfunding](#)):

- Follow CEF's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cmte4edfunding>
- Tag CEF and your Members of Congress and mention your hometown so they know you are a constituent!

Background Information

You can find your Members of Congress directly by typing your address at this site:

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>

Facts about education funding:

- Congress is working on funding bills for this year, so now is the time to make your voice heard!
- Congress needs to insist that the Administration provide the education funding that Congress enacted.
- Education investments support jobs in school districts, vital services for all students, and provides access to postsecondary education and workforce development.
- Funding for the Department of Education was stagnant for years, and was cut last year to a level that is \$16 billion below the 2011 level in inflation-adjusted dollars.
- Investments in education account for only about two percent of the regular federal budget, yet those investments have vital immediate and long-term returns that benefit society as a whole.
- You can find more information on education funding, the return on investment, and the need for greater federal support on CEF's website at <https://cef.org/>.
- See the table of federal funding for key education programs on the CEF website [here](#).

The Committee for Education Funding (CEF), the nation's oldest and largest education coalition, is a non-partisan and non-profit organization focused on the common goal of ensuring adequate federal financial support for education. CEF's more than 100 member organizations and institutions represent the continuum of education – early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, higher education, adult and career technical education, workforce development, and educational enhancements such as libraries and museums.