



# Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

November 10, 2025

Linda McMahon  
Secretary  
United States Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary McMahon:

As governor of Wisconsin, I write to demand that you immediately release federal Impact Aid payments for eligible schools in Wisconsin. This funding is critically important to many school districts in Wisconsin that receive reduced or no property tax revenues due to being located on federal lands. Refusal to fulfill your legal and statutory obligations by providing these payments to schools that support core operations is unacceptable and requires your urgent attention.

Twenty school districts located across Wisconsin, from Bayfield to Seymour to Black River Falls, received Impact Aid payments in federal fiscal year 2025, totaling over \$23 million. Most but not all eligible schools are operated by federally recognized Tribal Nations located in Wisconsin. Federal Impact Aid is one of the most flexible sources of funding allocated to eligible schools, enabling school districts to hire and pay teachers, purchase instructional materials, and support student transportation needs. This is especially important for eligible Wisconsin school districts, as many of these schools are in rural areas of the state and face unique transportation challenges.

Because of the critical support that federal Impact Aid payments provide for eligible school districts in Wisconsin, I was shocked to hear from several eligible school districts in Wisconsin that October Impact Aid payments have yet to be issued. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Education has provided no guidance or timeline for when school districts can expect to receive these payments. Less surprisingly, this delay seems to be completely unnecessary and entirely self-inflicted by the Trump Administration, as you have apparently terminated nearly all staff in the Impact Aid Program as part of your illegal efforts to completely dismantle and eliminate the U.S. DOE without Congressional approval, as reported by the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools in October. Wisconsin schools waiting to receive funding that has been inexplicably delayed is just the latest in a long list of examples of the real and harmful impacts you and your administration are inflicting on Wisconsin's kids and schools, particularly those in our rural communities.

Please take immediate action. Wisconsin kids rely on the resources provided by our schools and funded by this program.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tony Evers'.

Tony Evers  
Governor