UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

October 22, 2026

Via email only to: contact@legalinsurrection.com, and Robert.Fox@legalinsurrection.com

William A. Jacobson, Esq., President
Robert Fox, Attorney
Legal Insurrection Foundation

Re: Seattle University, OCR Case Number 10252238

Dear William A. Jacobson and Robert Fox:

On June 4, 2025, the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), received your complaint against the Seattle University (the University) alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, and sex. OCR understands your allegations to be as follows. The University promotes the Sinegal Fellowship program which limits eligibility to "underrepresented minority Costco scholars" and the University defines "minority" to mean ethnic or racial minority students. Additionally, the University promotes the Justice Mary I. Yu Endowed Scholarship which identifies a preference for "women of color" and the Women of Seattle University Endowed Scholarship which indicates a preference for women.

OCR has authority to enforce Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq., and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination based on race, color, and national origin under any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (the Department). OCR also has authority to enforce Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq., and its implementing regulation, at 34 C.F.R. Part 106, which prohibit discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department, the University is required to comply with Title VI and Title IX.

OCR processes complaints in accordance with its Case Processing Manual (CPM) (Feb. 2025). OCR is opening an investigation to examine whether the University discriminates based on race, color, national origin and sex by promoting and/or administering the Sinegal Fellowship program, the Justice Mary I. Yu Endowed Scholarship, and the Women of Seattle University Endowed Scholarship which limit eligibility or indicate a preference based on race, color, national origin, or sex.

OCR's initiation of an investigation is not itself evidence of a violation of federal civil rights laws and regulations. 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.

Please be advised that the University 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.

If you have any questions about this letter, please call our office at [redacted] or me at [redacted].

Sincerely,



Anamaria Loya
Chief Attorney