

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST., 37TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60604

REGION V ILLINOIS INDIANA IOWA MINNESOTA NORTH DAKOTA WISCONSIN

May 3, 2023

Dr. Stanley Goldfarb Chair Do No Harm

Sent via email only to:

Re: OCR Case #05-23-2094

Dear Dr. Goldfarb:

This is to notify you that the U.S. Department of Education (Department), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has completed its evaluation of the above-referenced complaint, which OCR received from you through Laura L. Morgan on November 14, 2022, against the University of Wisconsin-Madison (University). The complaint alleges that the University's School of Medicine and Public Health- Department of Pediatrics Visiting Pediatrics Rotation Scholarship discriminates on the basis of race and/or national origin by excluding from eligibility individuals who do not meet the criteria of "racial and ethnic populations that are underrepresented in the medical profession." 1

OCR enforces Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d–2000d-7, and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 100, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin by recipients of federal financial assistance. As a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Department, the University is subject to Title VI and its implementing regulation. Additional information about the laws OCR enforces is available on our website at http://www.ed.gov/ocr.

OCR is opening an investigation into the complaint allegation. Please understand that opening an investigation does not mean that OCR has made a decision about the complaint. During the investigation, OCR is neutral; OCR will collect and analyze the evidence it needs in order to make a decision about the complaint.

When appropriate, a complaint may be resolved when, prior to the point when OCR completes its investigation, the recipient expresses an interest in resolving the complaint. In such cases, a resolution agreement signed by the recipient and submitted to OCR must address all of the allegations that OCR determines are appropriate to resolve before the conclusion of an investigation. Information about this is in the enclosure to this letter.

¹ Visiting URM Student Scholarship – Department of Pediatrics – UW–Madison (wisc.edu)

You may file a lawsuit in Federal court regardless of whether OCR finds a violation. It is important for you to understand that the laws OCR enforces also prohibit the University from harassing, coercing, intimidating, or discriminating against you because you filed a complaint or participated in the complaint resolution process. If this happens, you may file another complaint against the University 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, we will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information, which, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

We will communicate with you periodically regarding the status of your complaint. If you have any questions, please contact

Sincerely,

Dawn R. Matthias

Dawn Matthias Team Leader

Enclosure