



November 9, 2022

**Via FOIA Portal**

U.S. Department of Education  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
FOIA Service Center  
400 Maryland Avenue SW, LBJ 7W106A  
Washington, DC 20202-4536

**Freedom of Information Act Request: Qatari Influence Operations in the United States**

Dear FOIA Officer:

America First Legal Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization working to promote the rule of law in the United States, prevent executive overreach, and ensure due process and equal protection for all Americans, all to promote public knowledge and understanding of the law and individual rights guaranteed under the Constitution and laws of the United States. To that end, we file Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests on issues of pressing public concern, then disseminate the information we obtain, making documents broadly available to the public, scholars, and the media. Using our editorial skills to turn raw materials into distinct work, we distribute that work to a national audience through traditional and social media platforms. AFL's email list contains over 33,900 unique addresses, our Facebook page has over 83,000 followers, our Twitter page has 23,100 followers, the Twitter page of our Founder and President has over 280,600 followers, and we have another 31,400 followers on GETTR.

To help expose Qatari influence and propaganda operations in the United States, AFL requests the following records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552(a).

**I. Records Requested**

- A. All records, including but not limited to (1) emails and (2) submissions or reports made by institutions of higher education pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1011f, Section 117 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, containing the word "Qatar." The time frame for this item is January 1, 2018, to the present.

611 Pennsylvania Ave SE #231  
Washington, DC 20003

B. All records relating to or regarding the processing of the above item.

## **II. Custodians**

A. Office of the General Counsel

B. Office of Federal Student Aid

## **III. Fee Waiver Request**

Per 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii), AFL requests a waiver of all search and duplication fees.

## **IV. Processing and Production**

Processing should occur in strict compliance with the processing guidance in the Attorney General's Memorandum on Freedom of Information Act Guidelines.<sup>1</sup> If you have any questions about our request or believe further discussions regarding search and processing would facilitate a more efficient production of records of interest to AFL, then please contact me at FOIA@aflegal.org. Also, if AFL's request for a fee waiver is not granted in full, then please contact us immediately upon making that determination.

Finally, to accelerate your release of responsive records, AFL welcomes production on an agreed rolling basis. If possible, please provide responsive records in an electronic format by email. Alternatively, please provide responsive records in native format or in PDF format on a USB drive to America First Legal Foundation, 611 Pennsylvania Ave SE #231, Washington, DC 20003.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael Ding  
America First Legal Foundation

---

<sup>1</sup> U.S. DEP'T JUST. (Mar. 15, 2022), <https://bit.ly/3zvpxb6>.