HHS Launches Civil Rights Investigations into Alleged Discrimination in Medical Schools and Hospitals



5/1/2025

On March 7, 2025, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights announced investigations of four unnamed medical schools and hospitals for race or sex-based discrimination. The investigations aim to determine whether any of these institutions, which receive federal funding, have implemented race or sex-based criteria in ways that may violate federal anti-discrimination laws. The investigations are being conducted under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and are part of a broader federal initiative tied to Executive Order 14173, which directs agencies to reinforce merit-based practices and address alleged unlawful use of diversity, equity, and inclusion policies.

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For more information, contact:
Keith J. Roberts | 973.364.5201 | kroberts@bracheichler.com
Shannon Carroll | 973.403.3126 | scarroll@bracheichler.com
Vanessa Coleman | 973.364.5208 | vcoleman@bracheichler.com

Authors

The following attorneys contributed to this insight.



Keith J. Roberts

Member
Litigation, Healthcare Law

973.364.5201 · 973.618.5585 Fax

kroberts@bracheichler.com



Shannon Carroll

Member
Healthcare Law, Litigation

973.403.3126 · 973.618.5988 Fax

scarroll@bracheichler.com



Vanessa Coleman

Associate
Healthcare Law

973.364.5208 · 973.618.5566 Fax

vcoleman@bracheichler.com