

ADOPTED BY THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL

October 8, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 24018

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS; OPPOSING TARGETED FEDERAL INTERFERENCE AND DISINVESTMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND DEFENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA AGAINST THE PROPOSED “COMPACT FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION.”

WHEREAS, the University of Arizona (UA) is among the nation’s most respected public research institutions, serving as Arizona’s land-grant university and a federally recognized Hispanic-Serving Institution, preparing generations of students as a champion of academic excellence, discovery, and opportunity for all to the benefit of Tucson, the State of Arizona, and the world; and

WHEREAS, UA has earned the trust of Arizona families through its commitment to access, research, and service, while contributing to the economic vitality, cultural richness, and innovation of our state as a leader in science, technology, medicine, water, space exploration, food, agriculture, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, President Trump and the Federal Administration has sought to insert political mandates into local higher education by offering a “Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education” to nine U.S. universities, including the University of Arizona, wherein preferential access to federal funding would be conditioned on compliance with partisan mandates—with significant financial penalties and withdrawal of benefits for noncompliance; and

WHEREAS, this attempt to tie local universities to federal political agendas represents significant overreach into Tucson's community, threatening not only the University of Arizona's mission as a land grant university and but also as a Tier One research institution; and

WHEREAS, President Trump and the Administration have already advanced sweeping cuts to higher education – including funding, visas for international students, TRIO programs, Hispanic-Serving Institution grants, STEM initiatives, and student- parent childcare support - demonstrating that disinvestment persists even when institutions comply, and that the true risk lies in submission to federal interference; and

WHEREAS, these cuts directly harm Tucson families, reduce opportunity for economic mobility, and weaken the workforce pipeline critical to Arizona's competitiveness, while undermining the educational access and equity that residents rightly expect from their public institutions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA:

1. The City of Tucson opposes President Trump and Administration's "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education" as an unacceptable act of federal interference that undermines local control, academic freedom, and opportunity for our residents.
2. The City of Tucson affirms its confidence in the University of Arizona's leadership to reject the Compact and to continue its responsibility as a land-grant institution that champions access, independence, and opportunity for all.
3. The City of Tucson calls upon Arizona's congressional delegation to oppose federal interference and disinvestment in higher education, recognizing that such actions

undermine Tucson's families, diminish opportunity, and weaken our region's economic competitiveness.

4. Mayor Romero, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, will send a letter and a copy of this Resolution to the President of the University of Arizona, the Arizona Board of Regents, Arizona's congressional delegation, and the Governor of Arizona.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, October 8, 2025.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REVIEWED BY:

INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY

CITY MANAGER

RL/dg
10/6/25