



Artificial Intelligence: The National Regulatory Landscape

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Executive Orders

As no federal legislation regulating artificial intelligence (AI) has passed yet, the national regulatory landscape is primarily defined via Executive Orders (EO). On January 23, 2025, the second Trump Administration released its first AI EO. EO 14179, "[Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence](#)," ordered the development of an AI action plan to achieve the Administration's policy goals. While waiting on the action plan, the Administration released four additional AI EOs:

1. EO 14192 on "[Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation](#)" is broad in scope, covering many more regulatory programs beyond AI, but it directs federal agencies to identify and repeal regulations that increase costs for businesses and consumers.
2. EO 14277 on "[Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education for American Youth](#)" establishes a national framework to promote AI literacy and proficiency among American students and educators.
3. EO 14278 on "[Preparing Americans for High-Paying Skilled Trade Jobs of the Future](#)" aims to realign federal workforce development. It mandates that the

Secretaries of Labor, Commerce, and Education review existing federal workforce programs and prepare a strategy report that includes opportunities to invest in the upskilling of incumbent workers.

4. EO 14306 on "[Sustaining Select Efforts to Strengthen the Nation's Cybersecurity and Amending Executive Order 13694 and Executive Order 14144](#)" amends previous EOs to focus on defending American digital infrastructure against foreign cyber threats. It also emphasizes industry guidance and the role of AI in transforming cyber defense.

AI Action Plan

On July 23, 2025, the Administration released "[America's AI Action Plan](#)," which recommends policy actions across three pillars:

- Pillar I: Accelerate AI Innovation;
- Pillar II: Build American AI Infrastructure; and
- Pillar III: Lead in International AI Diplomacy and Security.

The plan outlines several ways in which the federal government intends to interact with states and influence state-level AI policies. It discusses removing "red tape and onerous regulation," leveraging state funding to

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influence local regulations, and partnering with states to develop the AI workforce. More specifically, the federal government plans to use its financial influence to discourage “burdensome” state-level AI regulations and to partner with state and local governments to train (or retrain) the American workforce for an AI-driven economy.

In tandem with the AI action plan, the White House also released three AI EOs on July 23, 2025:

1. EO 14318 on “[Accelerating Federal Permitting of Data Center Infrastructure](#)” eases the regulatory path for building AI data centers and the supporting infrastructure required for these centers.
2. EO 14319 on “[Preventing Woke AI in the Federal Government](#)” establishes new standards for how federal agencies procure and use Large Language Models.
3. EO 14320 on “[Promoting the Export of the American AI Technology Stack](#)” establishes a national program to drive the global adoption of American AI technologies.

Additional Executive Orders

Towards the end of 2025, the Trump Administration released two additional AI EOs:

1. EO 14363 on “[Launching the Genesis Mission](#)” establishes a new national initiative to accelerate AI-driven scientific discovery and seeks to solve challenging global problems through AI.
2. EO 14365 on “[Ensuring a National Policy Framework for Artificial Intelligence](#)”¹ aims to centralize AI regulation by reviewing and preempting state laws that the Administration deems “onerous and excessive” to innovation. This EO singles out Colorado for its “law banning ‘algorithmic discrimination,’” in reference to [Senate Bill 24-205](#) on “Consumer Protections for Artificial Intelligence.”

Given emerging tension between EO 14365 on “Ensuring a National Policy Framework for Artificial Intelligence” and state-level legislation, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) held [a webinar with experts](#) in January 2026 to assist state legislators and legislative staff in understanding the implications of this order.

Ultimately, experts on the NCSL webinar concluded that while EO 14365 creates administrative obstacles for states, the EO is likely to be litigated, which could affect the enforceability of the state law preemption.

¹ A draft version of this EO had the title, “Eliminating State Law Obstruction of National Artificial Intelligence Policy.” The White House still uses this draft title in the

EO URL, and some media reports on the EO reference the old title.