



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

February 15, 2018

Charles Bartlett  
President  
World Baptist Fellowship  
3001 W. Division  
Arlington, TX 76012

Dear Rev. Bartlett:

I write in response to your December 22, 2015 letter to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in which you requested a religious exemption for Arlington Baptist (College) of Arlington, TX, from Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. § 1681. On May 10, 2016, OCR responded, requesting additional information. OCR requested that the College provide a written statement from its highest-ranking official, as required by 34 C.F.R. § 106.12(b), and specify the provisions of Title IX that conflict with the tenets of the controlling religious organization.

Please note that the Title IX regulation does not require that a recipient institution submit a written statement to OCR in advance of claiming a religious exemption. Primarily, the written "request" for exemption from an institution is a request for assurance from OCR of exemptions to certain sections of the regulation. Religious institutions that have neither sought nor received prior written acknowledgement from OCR may still invoke their exemption after OCR receives a Title IX complaint. If, however, the College would like written acknowledgement from OCR of its exempt status, the College may submit a statement from its highest-ranking official that identifies the provisions of Title IX that conflict with the specific tenets of the controlling religious organization.<sup>1</sup>

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Candice Jackson".

Candice Jackson  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

400 MARYLAND AVE. S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202-1100

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the Title IX exemption for religious institutions, visit <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/docs/t9-rel-exempt/index.html>.  
*The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.*