

THE CHRONICLE

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About Betsy DeVos

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President-elect Trump announced his pick for education secretary last week: **Betsy DeVos**, a prominent advocate for school choice. The appointment sends a clear signal for the K-12 world, but [what about higher ed?](#) No one really knows where Ms. DeVos stands, but here are a few educated guesses:

- **Margaret Spellings**, former education secretary and president of the University of North Carolina system, suggested in an interview that Ms. DeVos might prioritize support for community colleges and working to streamline the path between secondary and postsecondary education.
- Ms. DeVos's support for privatization in education may suggest a hard turn away from one of the Obama administration's top priorities on higher ed — the crackdown on for-profit colleges.
- The charitable foundation Ms. DeVos runs with her husband has been a reliable source of gifts to conservative causes. One that may have relevance for colleges: In 2013, the foundation gave \$25,000 to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, which supports legal challenges to free-speech restrictions on campuses.

For much more on Ms. DeVos, [read this](#).