

Judge finalizes \$25 million settlement for 'victims of Donald Trump's fraudulent university'

Trump University attendees are getting paid back.

By [Aaron Katersky](#) and [M.L. Nestel](#)

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Trump University: The Basics Find out about the \$40 million lawsuit against Trump and Trump Entrepreneur Initiative, LLC.

[Trump University](#) attendees are getting paid back.

A federal judge in the Southern District of [California](#) on Monday finalized a \$25 million settlement to be paid to attendees of the now-defunct real estate seminar called Trump University.

Judge Gonzalo Curiel's decision came after an appeals court rejected arguments from a [Florida](#) woman who attended Trump University and said she wanted to pursue a separate lawsuit.

New York Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman called the settlement a victory for Trump U. "victims."

"Judge Curiel's order finalizing the \$25 million Trump University settlement means that victims of Donald Trump's fraudulent university will finally receive the relief they deserve," he said in a statement, adding that the amount surpassed the initial number the class-action suit initially negotiated.

"This settlement marked a stunning reversal by President Trump, who for years refused to compensate the victims of his sham university," the statement added. "My office won't hesitate to hold those who commit fraud accountable, no matter how rich or powerful they may be."

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Trump University was a for-profit series of courses about real estate and entrepreneurship that also pushed people to buy Trump's books.



Students enter a Holiday Inn hotel to take the free intro class taught by the professors of Trump University, as in Donald Trump's University, Sept. 22, 2009.

Sarah L. Voisin/The Washington Post via Getty Images, FILE



Senya Merchant holds a sign against President-elect Donald Trump's now-defunct Trump University, Nov. 18, 2016, in San Diego, Calif. Trump agreed Friday to pay \$25 million to settle several lawsuits alleging that his former school for real estate investors defrauded students who paid up to \$35,000 to enroll in... [Show more](#) ✓

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The courses themselves claimed to teach attendees Donald Trump's secrets to success in real estate. Plaintiffs accused Trump University of false advertising.

Within weeks of Trump's ascending to the presidency, Trump University agreed to settle the claims for \$21 million, plus another \$4 million for the New York Attorney General's office.

Schneiderman first sued Trump in 2013 for allegedly defrauding thousands of Trump University attendees out of millions of dollars.

The \$25 million settlement will recover about 90 percent of the costs of those who attended Trump University, which, as part of the settlement, did not admit to wrongdoing.

The Trump Organization spokesman said when the lawsuit was filed that he had "no doubt" Trump University would prevail if the case went to trial, but a "resolution of these matters" was a priority so Trump could focus on the running the country.



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