

Is ed.gov legit? TrustSniffer's high-trust assessment: 90/100

ed.gov

Verdict

90

OUT OF 100

HIGH TRUST

ed.gov appears legitimate.

Our checks found nothing pointing to fraud. Ordinary care still applies when you pay or sign in.

Not Scam

Low Risk

Assessed 2026-08-13 by automated analysis. Classification confidence 75%.

What this site appears to be

Official U.S. Department of Education homepage offering resources on higher education, financial aid, grants, K-12 policy, student privacy (FERPA), news and guidance. Contains feedback and complaint/contact forms and many navigational links to government services.

Evidence status and limitations

- Evidence completeness: UNKNOWN
- The real-world operator identity was not independently verified.
 - Module-level completeness metadata is unavailable for this legacy report.

At a glance

The checks that decide most of this verdict.

Malware engines	None flagged it VirusTotal	CLEAR
Google Safe Browsing	Not listed Google	CLEAR
Abuse reports on the host	2% confidence AbuseIPDB, 2 reports; shared hosting inflates reports	CLEAR
Domain age	29 years old Registered history	CLEAR
Web archive	Archived since 1997 5000 snapshots	CLEAR
Certificate	Encrypted connection Issued by GeoTrust TLS RSA CA G1	NOTED

The page as captured

No screenshot is retained for this report.

Key findings

- Automated classification: Not Scam.
- Domain age: more than 10 years (registration continuity).
- Public web-archive history exists since 1997.
- VirusTotal and Google Safe Browsing had no flags for this domain; its hosting IP carries AbuseIPDB reports below the confidence level TrustSniffer treats as a flag.

Full analysis

Overview

This website is the official U.S. Department of Education public-service portal, presenting information and services covering higher education, Federal Student Aid and FAFSA, grants, K–12 education, student privacy, civil rights, research, and education-related complaints; its apparent purpose is non-commercial public information and access to government resources.

Scam/Impersonation Risk

No contradictions were observed. The homepage identifies itself as the U.S. Department of Education, explains the official-government status of the .gov domain, and provides coherent public-service content rather than commercial offers or deceptive engagement mechanisms. External security checks found no malicious, phishing, impersonation, or blacklist indicators. A limited abuse-report signal is associated with shared Microsoft delivery infrastructure rather than specifically attributed to this website, so it does not establish site-level abuse. The site appears legitimate and established, although the real-world operator identity remains independently unverified.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage is titled “Home | U.S. Department of Education” and states that it is an official website of the United States government.
- The site’s historical record contains 5,000 archive snapshots spanning 1997–2016, with 20 years tracked.
- The domain was registered on 1997-10-02 and is approximately 28.88 years old.
- External checks recorded no malicious or suspicious detections, no phishing warning, and no blacklist hit.

Regulatory Verification Notes

The website presents a clear governmental purpose and identifies the U.S. Department of Education, with content focused on public guidance and access to federal education services. It does not operate as a commercial financial or brokerage service, and no commercial licensing claim is presented; therefore, a financial-services license is not the relevant verification issue for the observed business model. The available evidence supports an apparently legitimate government portal, but it does not independently prove the real-

world operator identity. The site's transport security is established through a Domain Validation certificate issued by GeoTrust TLS RSA CA G1, valid through 2026-11-07.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage provides higher-education, Federal Student Aid, grants, K–12, FERPA, civil-rights, research, feedback, and complaint resources.
- The homepage contains three forms—feedback, search, and contact/complaint—and no sensitive login form or untrusted form destination was detected.
- The site's hosting resolves to AS8075, Microsoft Corporation, US.
- TLS uses a DV certificate issued by GeoTrust TLS RSA CA G1, valid to 2026-11-07.

What to Verify Next

Before credential submission or any interaction involving sensitive personal information, independently confirm that the intended service is reached through the official government domain and that any follow-up contact channel is published through an independently sourced government directory. Where a linked service involves payments, confirm the applicable service terms and available payment-protection mechanisms before proceeding.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage itself explains how to recognize official .gov websites and secure HTTPS connections.
- The site offers public feedback and complaint channels rather than directing users to an unexplained commercial process.
- No password form, wallet connection, hidden sensitive form, clipboard activity, or external password submission was detected during technical interaction testing.

Summary Verdict

The available evidence is consistent with an established, apparently legitimate website with a high-trust, low-risk posture and no observed scam or impersonation contradictions. Its public-service content, sustained historical presence, clean security findings, and coherent government identity support normal informational use, while independent confirmation of the real-world operator identity remains outstanding.

Infrastructure Integrity

The site is protected by Microsoft CDN/WAF infrastructure, with observed edge services on AS8075 and Microsoft Corporation identified as the hosting provider. This distributed protective layer is a mitigating security control and helps reduce direct exposure of the service infrastructure, but it is not, by itself, proof of legitimacy.

EVIDENCE

- Observed edge IPs include 13.107.226.67, 13.107.253.67, 2603:1061:14:64::1, and 2620:1ec:29:1::67, all associated with AS8075.
- The infrastructure record identifies Microsoft Corporation, US, and confirms CDN presence with WAF protection.
- The observed transport certificate is DV-validated and issued by GeoTrust TLS RSA CA G1.

Closing Assessment

Ordinary informational use is appropriate; before entering credentials or disclosing sensitive information, standard independent checks of the relevant government service and its published contact and payment arrangements should be completed.

Written analysis generated 2026-08-13 by the TrustSniffer Analysis Engine from the evidence in this report.

What the analysis found

No rule findings contributed to this verdict.

Signals weighed against the site

- AbuseIPDB: 2 reports on hosting IP 2603:1061:14:135::1 (Microsoft Corporation, Content Delivery Network), 2% confidence. The reports are attributed to shared infrastructure, not specifically to this website.

Identity verification

Status	UNVERIFIED
Identity score	55/100
Identity verification confidence	30%

- Identity verified on page

Identity verification measures whether the site can be independently connected to a real-world brand or person. It is separate from the classification confidence.

What TrustSniffer observed

First-party facts recorded during the assessment of ed.gov.

- The request stayed on ed.gov. It was not redirected to another domain. CLEAR
- Registration is published under get.gov. CLEAR
- DNS for this domain is served by akam.net, across 6 name servers. NOTED
- The registration is paid up to 2027-08-13. NOTED
- The earliest public archive of this site is from 1997-05-18. CLEAR
- It is hosted on MICROSOFT-CORP-MSN-AS-BLOCK, from a server in US. NOTED

Domain intelligence

Registrar	get.gov
Hosting	MICROSOFT-CORP-MSN-AS-BLOCK - Microsoft Corporation, US
Country	US
Server IP	2603:1061:14:135::1
Name servers	a1-100.akam.net, a10-67.akam.net, a13-64.akam.net, a28-65.akam.net, a3-65.akam.net, a6-64.akam.net
SSL issuer	GeoTrust TLS RSA CA G1

SSL expiry	2026-11-07
Domain age	29.23 years (continuous registration)
Domain expiry	2027-08-13
Archive first seen	1997-05-18
Archive snapshots	5000
Reputation	VirusTotal: 0 flagged AbuseIPDB: 2% confidence, 2 reports Google Safe Browsing: 0 matches

About this assessment

A trust score summarises the evidence TrustSniffer could collect about ed.gov at assessment time. It is a starting point for your own judgement, not a guarantee: a high score means the signals were consistent with a legitimately operated site, a low or critical score means several risk patterns were present.

TrustSniffer assesses a website from the evidence it can collect at a point in time: domain registration and age, hosting and certificate, the content the site served, and third-party reputation feeds. A score is a summary of that evidence, not a guarantee and not a legal finding. There is no human rating and no user review in it. A site can change after it is assessed.

This report online: <https://trustsniffer.com/report/ed.gov> · assessed 2026-08-13