

State Control Levers: How Anti-CRT Bans Persist After Court Rulings

Despite First Amendment injunctions against anti-CRT laws, states maintain restrictions through structural and financial controls. Below are the main levers states use:

Control Lever	Examples
I. Legislative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cut DEI funding (e.g., Florida SB 266)• Mandate 'Western Civ' curriculum• Ban majors (e.g., Gender Studies)• Tie funding to compliance
II. Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Politicized Boards approve/deny programs• Replace university presidents• Restrict Gen-Ed course approval
III. Administrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal policy keeps restrictions• Hiring & tenure pressure• Syllabus language review
IV. Federal & Accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace accreditors opposing state policy• Encourage litigation from students/parents
V. Public Messaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governor's public pressure• Target professors to amplify fear

Flow: Court strikes down law → States pivot to funding, boards, curriculum mandates → Universities self-censor → De facto ban remains.