

Chris Soto joined the U.S. Department of Education in July 2021 after serving as the director of innovation and partnerships at the Connecticut State Department of Education. Chris held previous roles in state government as the Lamont Administration's director of legislative affairs and served as state representative for New London, Connecticut, in the Connecticut General Assembly. Following his active-duty service in the U.S. Coast Guard, Chris founded and led Higher Edge, a college-access organization that serves first-generation college-bound students on their postsecondary journeys. He holds a master's degree in public administration from Brown University and a bachelor's degree from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Mr. Soto now serves as a Senior Advisor in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Education.