



Federal v. State Powers Chart

Instructions: Imagine you are a committee within the U.S. Department of Education that is reviewing civics education in the country. The Department is considering mandating that all states require a civics course in order to graduate from high school. The Department has asked you to evaluate this issue and decide whether the federal mandate would violate state powers. Review the resources provided and collect information that supports arguments that it DOES and DOES NOT violate state powers. Then, answer the questions below.

Resources

- [Government 101: State Governments](#)
- [The Role of Federal Government in Education](#)
- [A Look at Civics Education in the United States](#)
- [Pros and Cons of Federal Involvement in Education](#)

Federal Mandate DOES Violate State Powers

Federal Mandate DOES NOT Violate State Powers



Conclusion

1. Does the federal government have the power to mandate a civics course? Explain your reasoning.

2. Is a federal mandate necessary? Explain your reasoning.

3. Based on your answers to the previous questions, should the federal government mandate a civics course for all high school students? Explain your reasoning.