



Angela Sierra

SENIOR COUNSEL

WASHINGTON, DC

PHONE: 202.378.2362

EMAIL: ANGELA.SIERRA@HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

OVERVIEW

Angela helps a variety of postsecondary schools and accreditors navigate the complex regulatory and accreditation requirements that shape higher education.

Angela's interest in higher education law is rooted in her own lifelong passion for learning and grew as she developed deep experience in the field during her nine years at the U.S. Department of Education. There, as an attorney specializing in postsecondary education law, she advised on issues ranging from compliance issues identified during program reviews, audits, and accreditor recognition matters to litigation involving the Title IV federal student aid programs.

Today, Angela draws from her nearly 25 years of combined federal and state regulatory experience in advising higher education stakeholders about all aspects of the ever-evolving federal and state compliance landscape. The most rewarding aspect of legal practice to Angela is helping clients navigate complex regulatory challenges and achieve positive outcomes. She also counsels institutions through the accreditation process, assists accrediting agencies in developing and interpreting accreditation standards, and helps clients identify, prevent, and respond to compliance issues. With her experience across multiple federal and state agencies, including the Education Department, the Kentucky Attorney General's Office, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, she brings a deep understanding of government processes, regulatory priorities, and compliance considerations to provide clients with informed guidance on complex matters. Her counsel helps clients manage

Industry

Education

Services

False Claims Act

Higher Education

State Attorneys General Practice

regulatory risk, maintain compliance, and support continuity for educational institutions and the students they serve.

Her approach is grounded in careful listening, thorough preparation, and a deep understanding of the law. Angela examines the statutory and regulatory history that, over time, has formed the complex challenges higher education clients confront today. She combines careful analysis with a collaborative approach to develop practical solutions to evolving regulatory challenges. Angela is particularly drawn to the intersection of law and policy in higher education, where thoughtful regulatory guidance can help clients address practical challenges while fulfilling their missions and supporting students' access to quality educational opportunities.

Education

- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center
 - *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*
- B.A., Vanderbilt University
 - Political Science and English
 - *magna cum laude*

Admissions

- Illinois
- Kentucky

Application to practice in the District of Columbia pending; practice limited pursuant to D.C. App R. 49(c)(8), with supervision by Kyle Gilster, member of the D.C. Bar.