

Jefferies

Jefferies Financial Group

Locations: New York (HQ)
Industries: Diversified Financials

RISK LEVEL:



Medium Risk

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DESCRIPTION:

Jefferies Financial is Medium Risk. The company often yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company implements race and identity-based policies that replace merit, excellence, and integrity with preferential treatment and outcomes. The company occasionally embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues at times. This approach fails to safeguard free exercise, free speech, and free enterprise.

Corporate Weaponization

Has canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries. Medium Risk

Jefferies is a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investment, incorporating ESG issues into investment analysis, decision-making, and other business practices (1)(2). The company integrates ESG into its business practices. From its Supplier Code of Conduct: "Suppliers are encouraged to have a management plan in place that addresses the reduction of direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions, including those embodied in the products and services throughout business operations" (3). The company promotes divisive sex and gender policies. Its Supplier Code of Conduct requires international vendors to include sexual orientation and gender identity in their nondiscrimination policy (4). However, the company has not canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs (5).

Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs. High Risk

Jefferies will only give to religious organizations that provide non-sectarian services (1). The company likely uses Benevity as its charitable giving platform. Benevity vets charities according to the Southern Poverty Law Center's Hate List, which includes mainstream libertarian, conservative, family, and religious advocacy organizations (2)(3)(4).

Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are ideological in nature. High Risk

Jefferies appears to prioritize diversity over merit in its leadership composition. From its Corporate Governance Guidelines: "The Board believes the enhanced quality that results from a diverse board is beyond any reasonable dispute" (1). The company appears to prioritize diversity over merit in its recruitment and hiring. From its 2025 Culture and Community Report: "We are focused on

broadening the pipeline from which we recruit and hire diverse talent through both campus and lateral hiring initiatives" (2). The company appears to prioritize diversity over merit in its promotions: "Our Inclusion Council, co-chaired by our CEO and President and sponsored by executive leaders, ensures that inclusive practices are integrated into our recruitment, retention, development, and promotion processes across the firm" (3). The company offers unconscious bias and DEI training to its employees (4). Jefferies does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (5).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

The company supports DEI within its business practices, hosting a DEI Inclusion Council (1). The company supports DEI within its business practices. From its 2025 Culture and Community Report: "Diversity, Equality, and Integration are core values in our organizational framework that contribute to creating an open and stimulating work environment, and to ensuring perspectives and points of view that foster innovative ideas and effective and correct behavior" (2). The company supports ESG within its business practices. From its 2023 ESG DEI Report: "[Our ESG Working Group discusses sustainability issues critical to our business and stakeholders and] recommends steps to promote sustainability objectives by developing and driving ESG initiatives to advance sustainability strategies and reports progress to the ESG/DEI Committee" (3).

Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

After the Supreme Court decided to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, Jefferies announced that it would cover abortion-related travel benefits for employees and donate \$1 million to pro-abortion organizations (1). The company was a Silver Tier corporate sponsor of the Trevor Project, an organization that advocates for controversial sex and gender ideology, including "gender transition" drugs and surgeries for minors, through legislation, litigation, advertising, and PR campaigns. The organization also hosts online chatrooms that allow adults to communicate with minors as young as 13 about sexually explicit topics. Adults in these chatrooms have encouraged minors to adopt transgender identities and withhold this information from their parents (2)(3)(4)(5)(6). Jefferies is a brass sponsor of Out & Equal (7). Otherwise, there are no publicly known cases of the company using corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies (8).

Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. N/A

Jefferies does not operate a PAC or report on its lobbying at this time (1)(2)(3).

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