



## Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Recommendations for ESEA Reauthorization

Hispanics represent the largest and fastest growing ethnic minority in U.S. public schools. Nearly one in five K-12 students in the United States is Hispanic. In 2010, 22% of all public school children were of Hispanic background, up from 6% in 1972. Hispanics are a younger population with a median age of 27.5, and a higher birth rate, and the number of Hispanic youth attending public schools will continue to increase more rapidly than other population groups in the U.S. This historic reauthorization will provide our students in the K-12 pipeline the resources they need to obtain higher education success. The ESEA reauthorization is crucial to addressing the urgent national need to improve educational opportunity for Hispanic Americans, the nation's youngest, largest, and fastest-growing population, the backbone of the 21<sup>st</sup> century American workforce.

### **Create an Early Childhood Education Grant Program for HSIs**

- Authorize a \$20 million competitive grant program for HSIs to increase the number of culturally and linguistically competent early childhood education teachers and teaching assistants prepared to address the educational and developmental needs of Hispanics and English Language Learners (ELLs), including the ability to communicate effectively with their parents. Allowable use of funds may permit HSIs to develop new courses to train teachers and teaching assistants to address the needs of ELLs.
- Authorize a \$5 million competitive grants program for HSIs to develop family Literacy programs to provide services to parents and children from the surrounding communities with the purpose of breaking the cycles of illiteracy.
- Authorize a \$5 million competitive grants program for the purpose of creating educational summer programs for Hispanic children with a weeklong athletic, music or dance camp for children who are in financial need with the goal of development for improved high school performance and increased college admissions.
- Authorize a \$3 million competitive grants program to create a mentorship program for schools with the goal of motivating Hispanic students to stay in school and have a role model.

### **Establish a HSI/HSSD Collaborative to Expand Access to Higher Education**

- Authorize the creation of a Hispanic-Serving School District (HSSD) designation, which consists of school districts with a Hispanic student enrollment of at least 25 percent.
- Authorize a \$15 million competitive grant program for HSIs to provide professional development and expertise to teachers in Hispanic-Serving School Districts (HSSDs) to expand the number of AP courses in STEM areas and to promote awareness of higher education options for high school students in STEM areas.
- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$20 million for HSIs to collaborate with HSSDs to develop and improve dual enrollment programs to increase the number of students who complete a postsecondary education degree.

### **Establish a National Pre-Collegiate STEM Program for HSIs**

- Authorize a \$20 million competitive grant program to support HSI/HSSD consortia to replicate the HACU-NASA pre-collegiate STEM program for middle and high school students. The program will prepare a legion of Hispanic students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields as well as for admission to HSIs and other colleges and universities.

### **Diversify the Ranks of the Nation's Teachers**

- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$50 million “and such sums as may be necessary” on an annual basis for HSIs to expand teacher education programs to train elementary, middle, and high school teachers to become culturally and linguistically prepared to address the needs of Hispanic students and ELL.
- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$50 million “and such sums as may be necessary” on an annual basis for HSIs to develop culturally and linguistically prepared master teachers in core areas including STEM to teach at HSSDs.
- Authorize a competitive grant program \$20 million for HSIs to provide scholarships to Hispanic and other minority teachers who attend an HSI, receive a teaching certificate, and commit to teaching at an HSSD for no less than five years.
- Authorize a loan forgiveness program of \$10 million for students who attend an HSI, receive a teaching certificate and teach in an HSSD for no less than 5 years.
- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$5 million for HSIs for bilingual education programs to hire bilingual teachers and to encourage children that do not speak Spanish to learn Spanish at a young age and to encourage children that only speak Spanish to learn English.

### **Increase the Number of Hispanic Faculty at HSIs Researching Effective Teaching and Best Practices Leading to Hispanic Success in K-12 Education**

- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$25 million to increase the number of Hispanic faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) conducting research to promote effective teaching strategies for Hispanics, ELL, and other minority students to develop innovative school improvement models to increase high school graduation and college participation rates for Hispanics and other minority students attending HSSDs.

### **Prepare School Counselors, Social Workers, and Guidance Counselors to work in K-12 Education and HSSDs**

- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$20 million for HSIs to enhance and expand counseling programs to train culturally and linguistically prepared counselors to address the needs of Hispanics and ELLs in K-12 education settings and expose students to college opportunities and career options.

### **Prepare Middle and High School STEM Teachers to Teach in Hispanic-Serving School Districts**

- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$10 million for HSIs to enhance teacher education programs in STEM areas to increase the number of STEM teachers committed to teaching at HSSDs.

### **Prepare Certified Teachers from Mexico and other Latin American Countries to Teach in the United States**

- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$20 million for HSIs located in border states and in states with high Hispanic populations to retrain certified teachers from Mexico and other Latin American countries for work in U.S. schools in California, Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, New York, Illinois, Florida and other areas to address the shortage of highly qualified teachers in the U.S.

### **Develop Educational Leaders for Hispanic-Serving School Districts**

- Authorize \$20 million to HSIs to establish Educational Leadership Institutes in their campuses to train principals, superintendents, and other high level school officials with cultural competency for the growing number of HSSDs.
- Authorize a competitive grant program of \$20 million for HSIs to train school principals with instructional leadership skills and cultural competency for the growing numbers of HSSDs.