

National Science Foundation

FY 2014 Appropriations Recommendation



HACU requests a National Science Foundation appropriation of \$30 million for FY 2014 to be directed to the Directorate of Education and Human Resource/Division of Human Resource Development and specifically targeted to HSIs for research, curriculum and infrastructure development, and for other purposes. The Directorate of Education and Human Resources is one of the funding entities of the National Science Foundation.

Funding History: HSIs remain the only group of Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) not receiving targeted NSF infrastructure development funding in the areas of technology, science, mathematics and other related areas. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) receive dedicated NSF funds: HBCUs over \$300 million since 1998, TCUs over \$120 million since 2002. HSIs have received zero dedicated funding.

In spite of repeated Congressional requests for an HSI program within NSF since the reauthorization of the America COMPETES Act in 2007, NSF has yet to commit to such a program, although it has specifically included HSIs in a minority STEM education program open to all colleges and universities.

Need:

- The lack of federal funding available to HSIs hampers efforts to increase the ranks of historically under-represented Hispanics in science, engineering and technology fields. As a consequence, HSIs cannot adequately compete in technology education increasingly vital to national security and the nation's economy. Hispanics represent only 3.4 percent of the doctoral degrees in science and engineering, compared to 42.9 percent by non-Hispanic whites. Yet, more than 40.7 percent of Hispanic college students expect to major in science and engineering, compared to 37.0 percent of non-Hispanic whites.
- HSIs have the expertise, proximity and commitment to their students and communities to provide front-line leadership and support to close the information technology gap and promote the graduation of more Hispanics with science, engineering and technology degrees.

HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

*HACU Government Relations Office: One Dupont Circle, Suite 430; Washington D.C. 20036
202-833-8361(voice) | 202-261-5082(fax) | Website: www.hacu.net*