



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 22, 2012

Dear Colleagues:

President Barack Obama has issued four executive orders establishing four White House Initiatives: Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU), Educational Excellence for Hispanics (EEH) and the Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI). Though each executive order differs in scope and capacity, they among other things encourage Federal agencies to address the needs of underserved communities by implementing programs and activities to increase the participation of Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in federally funded programs. Consistent with the mandate of these executive orders to address the needs of underserved communities, we are asking the designated departments/agencies to develop an annual performance report on the department/agency's activities and expenditures in the last fiscal year, and a performance plan for increasing support to MSIs in the upcoming fiscal year. The White House Initiatives will receive and review the performance reports and plans.

The Secretary of Education in his letter to your agency on February 17, 2012 said the WHIs would provide instructions and information for the annual reports. Please find attached, copies of the forms for preparing the fiscal year (FY) 2011 annual performance report for the four previous mentioned White House Initiatives. The comprehensive report is due on **March 15, 2012**. If you need additional information or assistance, please contact the appropriate Initiative listed on the reporting form.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support in helping our offices accomplish the objectives of the Presidential Executive Orders. With your continued assistance, we will accomplish the President's goals as outlined in the executive orders by strengthening the capacity of these institutions to participate in federally funded programs. Minority Serving Institutions are critical components in accomplishing the President's Education goal of having the world's highest proportion of college graduates by the year 2020.

Sincerely,



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Enclosures