



FEDERAL AGENCIES INVESTING IN HISPANIC EDUCATION 2016

WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS



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2016

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS

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U.S. Department of Education

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White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics

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December 2016

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The Initiative is deeply grateful to former U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and current U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King, Jr. for their leadership, dedication to ensuring a high-quality education for the Latino community, and tremendous support for our work.

The Initiative would also like to thank the representatives of the Federal Interagency Working Group (FIWG) on Educational Excellence for Hispanics for their hard work and contributions to the missions of their respective agencies and their efforts in gathering and highlighting federal investments supporting the educational attainment and advancement of Hispanics.

The collection of data was made possible through the leadership of participating FIWG member Federal agencies. This shared effort demonstrates their mutual commitment to a shared goal of providing all Americans, including Latinos, access to a high-quality education, and to ensuring that Federal agencies work together to better serve Latinos and address the educational barriers that continue to exist.

The support of the development of this report illustrates the commitment of the FIWG to ensuring Latinos have access to Federal services and resources to further their life outcomes.

Disclaimer:

Please note that the terms Latino and Hispanic are used interchangeably throughout this document to refer to persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

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WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS

The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics was originally established by President George H.W. Bush in 1990 to address the educational disparities faced by the Hispanic community. Since then, the call to address those within the Hispanic community has been recognized by Presidents William J. Clinton and George W. Bush and, most recently, by President Barack Obama through his renewal of the Initiative.

On Oct. 19, 2010, President Obama signed [Executive Order 13555](#), renewing the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics and demonstrating his strong support for the critical role Hispanics play in the overall prosperity of the nation. In doing so, he highlighted the Administration's commitment to expanding educational opportunities and improving educational outcomes for all students, including Latino students.



The Initiative's objectives are to increase educational opportunities, improve educational outcomes, and deliver a complete and competitive education for all Hispanics. The Initiative promotes, engages, encourages, and undertakes efforts designed to meet these objectives by--

1. increasing awareness of the educational challenges faced by Hispanic students;
2. increasing the percentage of Hispanic children who enter kindergarten ready for success by improving access to high-quality programs and services that encourage the early learning and development of children from birth through age 5;
3. implementing successful and innovative education reform strategies in America's public schools to ensure that Hispanic students receive a rigorous and well-rounded education and have access to student support services that will prepare them for college, a career, and civic participation;
4. ensuring access to excellent teachers and school leaders, in part by supporting efforts to improve the recruitment, preparation, development, and retention of successful Hispanic teachers and school leaders responsible for the education of Hispanic students;
5. reducing the dropout rate of Hispanic students and helping Hispanic students graduate from high school prepared for college and a career;
6. increasing college access and success for Hispanic students and providing support to help ensure that a greater percentage of Hispanics complete college and contribute to the goal of having America again lead the world in the proportion of college graduates by 2020; and
7. enhancing the educational and life opportunities of Hispanics by fostering positive family and community engagement, improving the quality of and expanding access to adult education, literacy, and career and technical education, and increasing opportunities for education and career advancement in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“Since our founding, our Nation has drawn strength from the diversity of our people. With faith and passion, a sturdy work ethic and profound devotion to family, Hispanics have helped carry forward our legacy as a vibrant beacon of opportunity for all. Whether their ancestors have been here for generations or they are among the newest members of our American family, they represent many countries and cultures, each adding their own distinct and dynamic perspective to our country's story.”

- President Barack Obama, 2016

As the largest growing minority group in the United States, Latinos play an integral part in America’s future. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Hispanic population will more than double, from approximately 57 million in 2012 to approximately 129 million in 2060. Latinos are nearly one in four of the nation’s public K – 12 students, and will account for 60 percent of the nation’s population growth between 2005 and 2050.¹ Thus, the future of the nation is inextricably linked to the future of the Hispanic community.

As the fastest growing population of students, Latinos have made the greatest gains in high school graduation rates, improving more than four percentage points from 2011 to 2013 increasing the Latino graduation rate to nearly 76 percent. The Hispanic high school dropout rate has been cut in half over the past decade.²

As of 2015, only 23 percent of Hispanics age 25 and older had completed an associate’s degree or higher, compared with 43 percent of whites, 32 percent of blacks, and 60 percent of Asian Americans.³ In order to continue this trajectory of success, we must continue to work to close achievement and opportunity gaps and ensure that Hispanic children—and all children—receive a world-class education.

In furtherance of Executive Order 13555, this report highlights some programs and initiatives administered by various Federal agencies that, while open to participants regardless of their ethnicity, race, or sex, support the educational attainment and increase the life outcomes of Latinos.

¹ Pew Hispanic Center, 2008, <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2008/02/11/us-population-projections-2005-2050/>

² U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), October, 1967 through 2014; https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d15/tables/dt15_219.70.asp

³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 Current Population Survey. Table 1: <http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2016/demo/p20-578.pdf>



FEDERAL INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP *on* EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE *for* HISPANICS

INTRODUCTION

Why does access to Federal resources matter for the educational attainment and success of Hispanics?

The success of Latinos is intrinsically tied to the success of our nation. In order to help move the nation forward, Latinos must continue to graduate from high school college and career ready. Having access to a high-quality, well-rounded education supported by Federal, state, and local funding is critical.

Therefore, the Initiative has made it a key priority to increase awareness about the Federal resources and services available to the general public, including to the nation's Hispanic community.

Many agencies across the Federal Government have helped strengthen the nation by expanding educational opportunities and improving educational outcomes for all, including Latinos. Created by the Initiative in 2013, the [Federal Interagency Working Group on Educational Excellence for Hispanics](#) (Working Group) is composed of senior officials from 26 Federal agencies and White House offices. The Working Group's overarching goals are to help ensure Federal investments, programs, and opportunities are effectively shared with the Hispanic community; to assess and suggest improvements to Federal policies, regulations, and programs that apply to or include Hispanic students and communities; and to ensure efforts and funding reflect the diversity of the nation's population and the growing number of Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) while strengthening the link between the Federal Government and the nation's Hispanic communities.

This *Federal Agencies Investing in Hispanic Education* report--

- features some of the programs, grants and/or initiatives of the Working Group agencies. The list is not exhaustive and represents only a fraction of the efforts captured through the Initiative's 2015 education data call conducted by the U.S. Department of Education. Detailed descriptions of programs and funding that supports education in general and HSIs, in particular, are captured on the Initiative's website, www.ed.gov/hispanicinitiative;
- highlights programs supported by participating Working Group agencies funded during Fiscal Year 2015 (support for these and other programs after Fiscal Year 2015 depends on Congressional actions);
- presents programs and initiatives that support and invest in the educational attainment of all students, including Hispanics; and
- includes agency overviews, existing digital platforms used for outreach and engagement, and program descriptions.



CENTRAL
INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY

Central Intelligence Agency

Website: <https://www.cia.gov>

Overview: The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), created in 1947, is the premier agency responsible for providing global intelligence on the ever-changing political, social, economic, technological, and military environment. At the CIA, the paramount goal and mission is to protect the national security of the United States. Virtually any job you can imagine is available at the CIA.

Agency Highlights:

Undergraduate Scholarship Program: The Undergraduate Scholar Program is a financial needs based scholarship program that offers students unmatched experience in a diverse and inclusive environment. You'll complete work sessions during each summer break, increasing your knowledge and job responsibilities while assisting intelligence professionals and applying your academic skills. If selected, students are provided an annual salary; benefits package that includes health insurance, life insurance, and retirement; and funds for tuition, mandatory fees, and books. Students are required to work at an Agency facility during summer breaks and maintain full-time college status during the school year with a minimum cumulative 3.0/4.0 GPA. Additionally, the CIA provides the cost of transportation between school and the Washington, DC area each summer and provides a daily allowance for lodging, meals, and incidentals.

Graduate Scholarship Program: The Graduate Scholar Program is a financial needs based program that offers students unmatched experience in a diverse and inclusive environment. You'll complete at least one 60 to 90-day work experience prior to graduating, increasing your knowledge and job responsibilities while assisting intelligence professionals and applying your academic skills. Graduate scholars will be given up to \$18,000 per calendar year for tuition, mandatory fees, and books; an annual salary; and an optional benefits package that includes health, dental and vision insurance, life insurance, and retirement. Graduate scholars are required to work at an Agency facility in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area for at least 60 to 90 days before graduation and maintain full-time college status during the school year with a minimum cumulative 3.0/4.0 GPA.

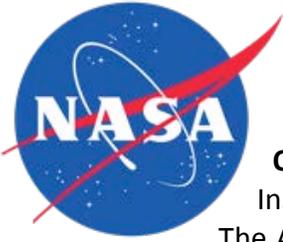


Overview: Established in 1993, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) engages more than 5 million Americans in service through its core programs — Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and the Social Innovation Fund — and leads President Obama’s national call to service initiative, *United We Serve*. As the nation’s largest grant maker for service and volunteering, CNCS plays a critical role in strengthening America’s nonprofit sector and addressing our nation’s challenges through service. CNCS seeks to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

Agency Highlights:

AmeriCorps: AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 men and women in intensive service each year at more than 15,000 locations, including nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps members help communities tackle pressing problems while mobilizing millions of volunteers for the organizations they serve. Members gain valuable professional, educational, and life benefits, and the experience has a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve. AmeriCorps consists of three main programs: AmeriCorps State and National, whose members serve with national and local nonprofit and community groups; AmeriCorps VISTA, through which members serve full-time fighting poverty; and AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, a team-based residential program for young adults, ages 18 to 24, who carry out projects in public safety, the environment, youth development, and disaster relief and preparedness. Projects in the past have included an adult literacy awareness campaign, setting up transitional housing dedicated to helping displaced people, and recruiting mentors for children of incarcerated parents.





National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Website: www.nasa.gov   

Overview: NASA provides financial assistance to the Nation's Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) including Hispanic Serving Institutions and eligible community colleges. The Administration recognizes the valuable role that these institutions play in educating our citizens, as reflected in the five MSI focused Executive Orders signed by the President. These institutions recruit and retain underrepresented and underserved students, including women and girls, and persons with disabilities into STEM fields. Participation in NASA projects and research has the potential to stimulate increasing numbers of learners to continue and complete their studies at all education levels and encourages students to earn advanced degrees in STEM fields that are critical to NASA and the Nation.

Agency Highlights:

NASA Lines of Business (LOB): NASA Education manages education activities through strategic lines of business: STEM Engagement, Educator Professional Development, Internships, Fellowships, Scholarships, and Institutional Engagement. These LOB reflect a transformative, scalable education portfolio that efficiently leverages resources and partners from all sectors to enhance STEM education and inspire and captivate learners, educators, and institutions. The directors of the four LOB work collaboratively with the Office of Education and Center and Missions Directorate leads to define guidelines, review funding sources, and describe accomplishments.



NASA's Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP): MUREP investments enhance the research, academic and technology capabilities of Minority-Serving Institutions through multi-year awards. Awards assist faculty and students in research and provide authentic STEM engagement related to NASA missions. MUREP investments also assist NASA in meeting the goal of a diverse workforce through student participation in internships, scholarships, and fellowships at NASA centers and Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Mentor-Protégé Program (MPP): The MPP is offered through NASA's Office of Small Business Programs and encourages NASA prime contractors to assist eligible protégés, thereby enhancing the protégés' capabilities to perform on NASA contracts and subcontracts, fostering the establishment of long-term business relationships between these entities and NASA prime contractors, and increasing overall number of these entities that receive NASA contract and subcontract awards.





National Endowment for the Arts

Website: www.arts.gov   

Overview: The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the Federal Government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$5 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA aims to support

arts education projects that serve pre-k – 12 students, the educators and civic leaders who support them, and the schools and communities that serve them. More specifically, NEA offers Direct Learning Grants to increase students' knowledge and skills in the arts. Additionally, NEA offers Professional Development Grants to deepen knowledge and strengthen the practice of educators and/or civic leaders who engage students in arts learning. NEA is committed to continue fostering and strengthening partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, the philanthropic sector and other Federal agencies to ensure all students have access to art education.

Agency Highlights:

Arts Education Program/Professional Development Grants: The NEA recognizes the need to strengthen the practice of educators and/or civic leaders who engage students in arts learning and, therefore, provides funding opportunities for educators and professionals in arts education. Projects must provide meaningful opportunities for participants to experience the arts, provide in-depth learning over a sustained period of time, and measure the impact of the professional development experience. For example, the Creative Schools Initiative assists principals, teachers, and arts organizations in the Chicago Public Schools to make collective decisions that provide high impact arts programs for students.



Education Program Direct Learning Grants: The Direct Learning Grants aim to increase student knowledge and skills in the arts by providing extended participatory learning that engages students with accomplished artists or art educators. Participatory learning projects are required to meet either national or state arts education standards, to ensure a rigorous assessment of student learning.



The Gabriella Foundation's Everybody dance! Afterschool Program, a 2014 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program awardee



National Science Foundation

Website: www.nsf.gov



Overview: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent Federal agency created by Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense. With an annual budget of \$7.5 billion (Fiscal Year 2016), NSF is a funding source for approximately 24 percent of all federally supported basic research conducted by America's colleges and universities. NSF is the major source of Federal backing in many fields, such as mathematics, computer science and the social sciences.



Agency Highlights:

Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP): The LSAMP program assists universities and colleges in their efforts to significantly increase the numbers of students matriculating into and successfully completing high quality degree programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines in order to diversify the STEM workforce. Particular emphasis is placed on transforming undergraduate STEM education through innovative, evidence-based recruitment and retention strategies, and relevant educational experiences in support of racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in STEM disciplines: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native Pacific Islanders. The LSAMP program provides funding to alliances that implement comprehensive, evidence-based, innovative, and sustained strategies that ultimately result in the graduation of well-prepared, qualified students from underrepresented groups who pursue graduate studies or careers in STEM.



NSF's High School Students Engaged in Education Research: NSF's Transforming Students' Partnerships with Scientists through Co-generative Dialogues project at the University of Texas at El Paso provides funding to implement a research project that uses and documents the impact of co-generative dialogues in an afterschool setting. The project examines youth learning and youth-scientist interactions as part of a STEM research program. Co-generative dialogues help with communication and understanding among collaborators. Over four years, 108 11th grade youths from a predominantly (90 percent) Hispanic high school will conduct STEM research with six scientists (three chemists, two engineers, and one geologist) and graduate students as part of year-long afterschool and Saturday programming, followed by an intensive month-long, self-directed research project in the summer. The project also aims to result in widely applicable understandings of how pedagogical approaches affect both youth learning and scientist experiences.

Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program: The National Science Foundation Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program seeks to encourage talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics majors and professionals to become K-12 STEM teachers. The program invites creative and innovative proposals that address the critical need for recruiting and preparing highly effective K-12 STEM teachers, especially in high-need local educational agencies. The program provides educational opportunities for Undergraduate Students, Graduate Students, and K-12 Educators.



Office of Personnel Management

Website: www.opm.gov  

Overview: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) works in several broad categories to recruit, retain, and honor a world-class workforce for the American people. OPM is committed to recruit and hire the best talent; train and motivate employees to achieve their greatest potential and constantly promote an inclusive workforce defined by diverse perspectives. OPM sets policy on governmentwide hiring procedures and manages Federal job announcement postings at www.USAJOBS.gov. In addition, OPM conducts hundreds of thousands of background investigations for prospective employees and security clearances across government each year.



Agency Highlights:

Pathways Program: The Pathways Program offers three clear paths that bring students and recent graduates into Federal service. They are (1) an Internship Program for students who are currently enrolled in high schools, colleges, trade schools, and other qualifying educational institutions; (2) a Recent Graduates Program for individuals who have recently graduated from colleges and universities; and (3) the reinvigorated Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Program for individuals, who obtained an advanced degree (e.g., graduate or professional degree) within the preceding two years. All three programs provide meaningful training and career development opportunities for individuals who are at the beginning of their Federal service careers. OPM continues to conduct in-person and virtual outreach activities to educate students from all segments of society, including Hispanics, about the Pathways Programs. In Fiscal Year 2015, OPM conducted briefings on Federal employment to over 100 schools, including Hispanic Serving Institutions. These outreach efforts have been effective in raising awareness of the Pathways Programs in areas and schools where traditional recruiting efforts have not been utilized as frequently.

Outreach Efforts: OPM conducts outreach to the Hispanic community at large through participation in annual conferences sponsored by Hispanic organizations, including, but not limited to, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities; National Image, Inc.; the National Council of La Raza; Latin Students Business Association; Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools; and the League of United Latin American Citizens. At each event, OPM offers in-person and virtual seminars and workshops to the general public and students on how to navigate www.USAJOBS.gov efficiently and write a Federal resume in an effort to increase the volume of applicants from underrepresented communities applying to Federal jobs.

OPM's Hispanic/Latino Employee Resource Group, Adelante, hosted a student forum on September 19, 2016, in partnership with:

- National Association of Hispanic Employees (NAHE)- U.S. Department of Interior (DOI)
- Hispanic Employees Council of Foreign Affairs Agencies (HECFAA)- U.S. Department of State
- Prospanica DC (Formerly National Society of Hispanic of MBA DC)

In support of OPM's mission to Recruit, Retain and Honor a World-Class Workforce to Serve the American People, this forum was designed to raise awareness about the opportunities that exist in the Federal workforce. Over 130 students from various colleges and universities attended in-person, including 30 Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) interns, and 140 students participated virtually via webcast. The Forum included the following components:

- Flash presentations on Federal Pathways Program, USAJobs, Federal resume writing, and using social media to build your career;
- Resume critique sessions- over 50 attendees participated in individualized resume critiques sessions with hiring managers and Federal resume writing experts to receive specific feedback about refining their resumes; and
- Career fair- over 20 Federal agencies participated in this segment and provided attendees information about their respective organization and available career opportunities.

OPM is also currently conducting the Hiring Excellence Campaign (HEC) to prepare agencies to "Connect with Top Talent" from communities across America. The Campaign emphasizes the need for collaboration between hiring managers and human resources professionals and focuses their efforts on using the full-range of recruitment and hiring tools to attract top talent and hire highly-qualified individuals. Through the Campaign's virtual and in-person sessions, hiring managers and HR professionals will receive expert guidance on how to establish effective collaborative relationships to improve outreach, recruitment, and hiring outcomes. Sessions include updates on the use of USAJOBS tools to attract and recruit diverse, qualified applicants, design and use assessments to identify top candidates, leverage hiring authorities and flexibilities to select quality candidates, strategically use data to analyze hiring trends and inform recruitment and hiring decisions. During the sessions hiring managers and HR professionals get an in-depth look at current workforce diversity data with a particular focus on Hispanics in the Federal government, emphasizing the need for recruitment, hiring, inclusion, development, and succession.





Peace Corps

Website: www.peacecorps.gov



Overview: As the preeminent international service organization of the U.S., the Peace Corps sends Americans abroad to tackle the most pressing needs of people around the world. In FY 2013, Peace Corps provided a total of 2883 Volunteers across the world, 228 of whom were Hispanics. Peace Corps Volunteers work at the grassroots level towards sustainable change that lives on long after their service — at the same time becoming global citizens and serving their country.



Agency Highlights:

Peace Corps Master's International Program: The Peace Corps Master's International (MI) program offers the unique opportunity to pair graduate studies at one of more than 80 U.S. academic institutions with Volunteer service abroad. Established in 1987, MI equips volunteers with the education and skills to serve successfully abroad — and, in turn, helps Volunteers earn their advanced degree. The Peace Corps MI program is offered at 5 HSIs. Currently, there are 11 HSI MI Volunteers serving overseas and a total of 79 former HSI students who have completed the MI program.

Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program: The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program (formerly known as Fellows/USA) is a graduate fellowship program that offers financial assistance to returned Peace Corps Volunteers. All fellows complete internships in underserved American communities, allowing them to bring home, and expand upon, the skills they learned as Volunteers. These skills in adapting to new cultures, developing and managing projects, dealing with language barriers, and leveraging limited resources attract the attention of prospective schools. Since the inception of the Coverdell Fellows Program, nearly 4,000 returned Volunteers have participated in the program and made a difference across the country.



Peace Corps Volunteer Natally Rodriguez mentors a group of students, including young women ages 12 - 17, on healthy lifestyle choices, self-confidence, body image and life skills. According to Rodriguez, "Involvement in sports and physical activity can positively change existing gender norms and help girls and women move into public spaces. Moreover, these activities have provided opportunities to bring communities together and help realize development objectives relating to issues like reproductive health and gender-based violence." (Photo Credit: Peace Corps)"



Social Security Administration

Website: www.ssa.gov   

Overview: The Social Security Administration (SSA) is an independent agency of the U.S. Federal government. It has one of the most diverse workforces in government and takes pride in reflecting the public it serves. Each year, SSA helps millions of people seeking retirement, disability, and survivors' benefits or requesting Social Security cards and earnings information. It provides services that span generations, and pays monthly benefits to nearly 65 million people. In addition, SSA supports a number of Hispanic educational programs through community outreach, including seminars on disability and retirement, presentations on career opportunities and partnerships with HSIs.

Agency Highlights:

Educational Seminars: In 2015, SSA participated in a variety of activities, including providing professional coaching, speed mentoring, and information about SSA careers and programs to students and community leaders at a College Career Night event. SSA also worked with the Hispanic Youth Institute to support and encourage at-risk high school students by exposing them to post-secondary educational options. It also volunteered with the Hispanic College Fund to review scholarship application packages.



Minority and Retirement Security (MRS) Program: The MRS Program is a discretionary grant program that provides grants to support research by graduate students at selected graduate institutions with high proportions of minority and low-income students (MSIs) in the areas of retirement security, financial literacy, and financial decisionmaking (personal savings, labor force planning, personal debt, etc.) within minority and low-income communities. Additionally, these grants seek to expand the talent pool of scientists and researchers from MSIs who are prepared to conduct rigorous research in this area.

SSA Student and Recent Graduate Programs: The SSA student and recent graduate programs offer clear paths to Federal internships for students from high school through post-graduate school and to careers for recent graduates, and provide meaningful training and career development opportunities for individuals who are at the beginning of their Federal service. As a student or recent graduate, you can begin your career in the Federal Government by choosing the path that best describes you and where you are in your academics.





U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Website: www.cpsc.gov and www.SeguridadConsumidor.gov



Overview: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death associated with the use of the thousands of types of consumer products under the agency’s jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries, and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$1 trillion annually. CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products — such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals — contributed to a decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 40 years.

Agency Highlights

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Internship: CPSC has partnered with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) to offer paid summer internship opportunities to students, including Hispanic undergraduate and graduate students from across the country. Interns in the past have enhanced their professional skills through placements across the agency. This program provides students with an opportunity to utilize STEM skills in the work environment.

STOP IN-HOME DROWNING DEATHS

- Always cover or close washing machines and in-home spas and hot tubs when not in use
- Always empty water from sinks, pails, coolers and containers
- Always supervise young children in the bathroom

**Children can drown quickly and silently
Don't let that happen!**

NSN, CPSC, QR code

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Website: www.usda.gov   

Overview: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is a Federal agency with a broad range of responsibilities, including serving the hungry, stimulating economic development in rural communities, preserving the environment through conservation programs, monitoring food safety, and creating new markets for U.S. agricultural producers. In addition to supporting American farmers, ranchers, and consumers, USDA is committed to closing the educational and professional achievement gap of Hispanics through the successful execution of various programs that strengthen USDA partnerships with HSIs. An ideal example of such a partnership is the USDA/HACU Leadership Group, which provides leadership and strategic direction to the USDA HSI National Program Office.

Agency Highlights:

The E. Kika De La Garza Fellowship Program — This program offers faculty and staff from HSIs the opportunity to work collaboratively with USDA to gain insight and understanding of the Federal government. This uniquely tailored experience brings together HSI staff and Federal executives to address the spectrum of challenges faced in developing a well-prepared Hispanic workforce. Fellows spend two to four weeks in Washington, D.C. to increase their understanding of USDA and other Federal agencies, particularly at the national level, and learn to identify mutual collaborative interests. The fellowship has established a strong network that promotes access, opportunity, and workforce diversity while establishing a foundation for future generations of leadership among Hispanics.



Agricultural Ambassadors Program — This program provides high school students with the opportunity to intern as ambassadors with the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Edinburg, Texas, and Parlier, California. Students selected also receive leadership development training. Ambassadors are selected based on their academic excellence, interest in science, and demonstrated leadership qualities. After completing the program, ambassadors represent USDA at their respective high schools and serve as a resource to students interested in agriculture-related fields. The program is funded by the USDA HSI National Program and managed in partnership with California State University — Fresno, University of Texas Pan American, and Fresno Unified School District. Ambassadors work in a paid internship, 20 hours per week, for five weeks. Students walk away from the program with working knowledge of the importance of public service, and an awareness of career and educational opportunities with USDA.



The program is funded by the USDA HSI National Program and managed in partnership with California State University — Fresno, University of Texas Pan American, and Fresno Unified School District. Ambassadors work in a paid internship, 20 hours per week, for five weeks. Students walk away from the program with working knowledge of the importance of public service, and an awareness of career and educational opportunities with USDA.

HSI Education Grants Program — The USDA HSI Education Grants Program is designed to encourage innovative teaching or education proposals with the potential to impact and become models for other institutions that serve Hispanics, at the regional or national level. While research and extension activities may be included in a funded HSI Education project, the primary focus must be to improve teaching, enrollment, and graduation rates within a degree-granting program.

USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS NATIONAL PROGRAM



U.S. Department of Commerce

Website: <http://www.commerce.gov/>   

Overview: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) promotes job creation, economic growth, sustainable development, and improved standards of living for all Americans by working in partnership with businesses, universities, communities, and our nation's workers. The Department touches the daily lives of the American people in many ways, with a wide range of responsibilities in the areas of trade, economic development, technology, entrepreneurship and business development, environmental stewardship, and statistical research and analysis.

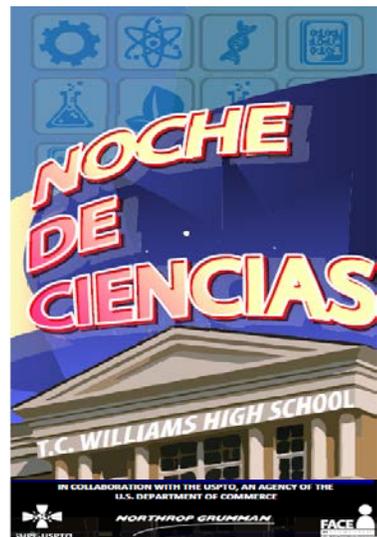
Agency Highlights:

Internships and Fellowships: Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) offers fellowships and internships for young entrepreneurs, including Hispanics, who have demonstrated a practical and academic commitment to the enterprise system in the nation. Young entrepreneurs receive the necessary hands-on experience and business insight to better prepare them for real-life entrepreneurial endeavors. Internships and fellowships are offered throughout the various agencies of Commerce, as well as the 44 business development centers located across the country.

¡Descubra! Smithsonian Latino Center Family Day events: ¡Descubra! brings science practitioners to museums and inspires the next generation of science citizens by providing speakers who serve as role models and present their work and experiences. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), an agency within the Department of Commerce, is a collaborating organization with ¡Descubra! and as such provides information, science demonstrations, and related hands-on activities for families to learn about intellectual property, STEM, and themes of the day.

NIST Summer Institute (NIST SI) Middle School Science Teacher Program: The NIST SI is a two week hands-on workshop that trains middle school science teachers in activities that can strengthen science classes, especially subject matter related to measurement. The aim of the NIST SI is to increase teachers' understanding of the subjects they teach, provide materials and resources to implement what they have learned at NIST in the classroom, enhance their enthusiasm for science, and provide them the opportunity to develop an on-going network with the scientists and engineers at NIST, who would be available for consultation even after the NIST SI has ended.

Noche de Ciencias: The United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Society of Hispanic Profession Engineers (SHPE) affinity group collaborate to host Noche de Ciencia to promote the STEM and STEM careers to the northern Virginia community. Noche de Ciencias serves to engage the Hispanic community in relaxed environments to have fun with science and engineering and promote college awareness in a bilingual setting. The goal of Noche De Ciencias is to provide access and awareness of STEM fields in order to broaden the participation of Hispanics along all segments of the science and engineering pathway. The measurable goal of each event is to show how hands-on participation and information change the way people think about STEM fields.





U.S. Department of Defense

Website: www.defense.gov



Overview: The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) is America's oldest and largest government agency. Today, the DoD is not only in charge of the military but also employs a civilian workforce of thousands. With over 1.4 million men and women on active duty, and 718,000 civilian personnel, the DoD is the nation's largest employer, providing more than 2 million military retirees and their family members' benefits.

Agency Highlights:

Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART):

A scholarship-for-service program designed to produce the next generation DoD S&T leaders. Upon graduation, SMART award recipients are placed in civilian jobs in DoD Laboratories and Agencies. The 2015 cohort included nine scholarships out of 207 (4.35%) awarded to students attending Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs). Individual scholarships include full tuition and related expenses, stipends ranging from \$25,000-\$38,000 annually, and summer internships. The FY 2015 SMART program was funded at \$36 million.



Army Education Outreach Program (AEOP) Army Apprentice Programs: The AEOP mission is to provide students and teachers a collaborative, cohesive portfolio of Army-sponsored STEM programs that engage, inspire, and attract the next generation of STEM talent to DoD careers. Scholarships and fellowships are available for students pursuing degrees in STEM disciplines. Across all components of the AEOP the average participation of Hispanic students was approximately 10 percent in FY 2015.

Air Force Summer Faculty Fellowship Program (SFPP): The SFPP is designed to stimulate professional relationships among SFPP fellows and the scientists and engineers in Air Force Research Laboratories (AFRL) and other Air Force research facilities. Faculty fellows and their students participate in high-quality research projects at AFRL facilities. The program elevates awareness in the U.S. academic community of Air Force research needs. In FY 2015 the program supported eight faculty and three students from Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).

Air Force Young Investigator Program: The Young Investigator Program is designed to foster innovative basic research in science and engineering, enhance early career development of outstanding young investigators, and increase opportunities to recognize Air Force mission and challenges in science and engineering. Individual awards total \$120K per year for a three-year commitment. In FY 2015, over \$838,000 was awarded to young investigators from Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).

Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC): The JROTC is offered through high schools to encourage and support student achievement, leadership, and diversity. During FY 2015, over \$203 million was allocated to JROTC, serving over 61,000 students, 19.5 percent of whom self-identified as Hispanic. In addition to instilling the values of citizenship, service to the U.S., and personal responsibility, JROTC curriculum promotes higher education. Over the last four years approximately 314,894 JROTC high school students were provided free college-bound software, scholarships, SAT and ACT test preparation, and individual coaching and training on the college-bound process. Of these students; 72,652 (23 percent) self-identified as Hispanic.



U.S. Department of Education

Website: www.ed.gov   

Overview: The U.S. Department of Education (ED) promotes student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access through the establishment of Federal education policies, implementation of laws enacted by Congress, and administration and coordination of Federal education programs and activities. ED's elementary and secondary programs serve 50.4 million students annually in public elementary and secondary schools and 5.4 million students enrolled in private schools. To ensure that our country is competitive in a global economy, the Obama Administration has focused on ensuring a high-quality, well-rounded education for all students in preschool through 12th grade and beyond—one that is strong enough to prepare all students, including Hispanics, for successful college, careers, and the knowledge-based economy in which they will make their living. Significantly, ED provides funding to States, districts and tribes through key formula grant programs, such as those funded under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act's Title I, part A (Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged), Title II, part A (Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund), and Title III (Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students), as well as funding to Institutions of Higher Education and programs supporting college completion. ED also administers programs focused on areas, such as early childhood education, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education, and college- and career-ready programs such as those highlighted below.



Agency Highlights:

Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) Program:

Since 2011, the Obama Administration has invested \$1 billion through the RTT-ELC Program, which supports states in building systems that raise the quality of early learning and development programs and increase access to high-quality programs for children with high needs statewide.

Approximately 11.8 million children, from birth to age 5, including over 2.6 million Hispanics, in 20 states have benefited or will benefit from high-quality, seamless state early learning systems that link education, health, nutrition, and family supports.



Math & Science Partnerships (MSP): The Math & Science Partnerships Program is designed to increase the academic achievement of students in mathematics and science by enhancing the content knowledge and teaching skills of classroom teachers. States receive grants to fund projects involving institutions of higher education (IHEs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and elementary and secondary schools that are designed to improve and upgrade the status and stature of mathematics and science teaching through activities that include improving the rigor of mathematics and science teacher education; bringing mathematics and science

teachers together with scientists, mathematicians, and engineers to improve their teaching skills; and providing summer institutes and ongoing professional development for teachers to improve their knowledge and teaching skills.

College Preparation Programs, Federal TRIO Programs and Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness Programs (GEAR UP):

The Federal TRIO Programs (TRIO) are Federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. GEAR UP provides grants to States and Partnerships to provide early college preparation services in high-poverty middle and high schools. TRIO and GEAR UP programs serve and assist low-income individuals and first-generation college students, including large numbers of Hispanic students, as well as individuals with disabilities, to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post baccalaureate programs. The TRIO programs are [Educational Opportunity Centers](#), [Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement](#), [Student Support Services](#), [Talent Search](#), [Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs Staff](#), [Upward Bound](#), [Upward Bound Math-Science](#), and [Veterans Upward Bound](#). Some GEAR UP grants are awarded for seven years, which allow grantees to follow students into their first year of college.



Higher Education Completion: Grants awarded to Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI) under the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) program, Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP), Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program, and First in the World program provide academic support to college students to increase persistence and graduation. Additionally, other programs focus on increasing representation of Hispanics in STEM fields (HSI-STEM) and in postbaccalaureate programs (Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans Program). Notably, many of the institutions that receive funding under other MSI programs (e.g. Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Predominantly Black Institutions, and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions) also serve Hispanic students.



Overview: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) advances science and technology in disciplines relevant to energy, the environment, and security. The mission of the DOE is to ensure America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions. Seeking to invest in American education, the DOE also offers several fellowships and stipend-based internship opportunities. These stipend-based programs offer insight into how the agency works and an opportunity to be part of innovation and technology, as well as gain hands-on experience while networking with other professionals.

Agency Highlights:

The Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program (MEISPP): MEISPP is a summer internship program offering talented high school, undergraduate, and graduate students summer internship positions with DOE and its national laboratories. Positions involve scientific research or a focus on policy, business, and government relations. Since the program's inception, the MEISPP has provided over 400 internship opportunities to students with a special emphasis on students attending minority-serving institutions. Program participants receive an intensive eight to 10 week assignment to "jump-start" their careers and develop their potential for future opportunities within the Federal government. Students work side by side with leading scientists, engineers, and other top professionals to develop professional skills and enhance leadership capabilities.

Florida International University Science and Technology Workforce Development Program (DOE – FIU): DOE - FIU is an innovative program between DOE's Office of Environmental Management and Florida International University's Applied Research Center. The program was designed to create a "pipeline" of minority engineers specifically trained and mentored to enter DOE's workforce in technical areas of need. This innovative program was created to help address DOE's future workforce needs by partnering with academic, government, and DOE contractor organizations to mentor future minority scientists and engineers in the research, development, and deployment of new technologies addressing DOE's environmental cleanup challenges.



MEISPP Class of 2014. (Photo Credit: DOE)

National Science Bowl: The U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science and mathematics. Middle and high school student teams from diverse backgrounds are comprised of four students, one alternate, and a teacher who serves as an advisor and coach. These teams face-off in a fast-paced question-and-answer format, being tested on a range of science disciplines including biology, chemistry, Earth science, physics, energy, and math.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Website: www.hhs.gov   

Overview: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the U.S. government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. HHS is responsible for almost a quarter of all Federal outlays and administers more grant dollars than all other Federal agencies combined.

Agency Highlights:

Hispanic Serving Institutions: HHS remains dedicated to ensuring the continued success of Hispanic students in achieving their academic goals. Thus, investments in tuition assistance, training programs, and mentoring opportunities remain a priority of the department. In FY 2015, approximately 2 percent (\$342.2 million) of all HHS' institutions of higher education funding (\$17.9 billion) supported HSIs. HHS funding supports the mission of the Initiative in the following highest four categories: research and development (\$283.4 million); training (\$33.8 million); other activities (\$19.0 million); and fellowships (\$5.9 million). This distribution of funds ensures the development, expansion, and continuation of programs that address the social, language, and economic needs of Hispanic students.

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs: Head Start and Early Head Start are early childhood development programs for children prenatally to age five and their families, including comprehensive services to improve children's school readiness and individual family goal setting and progress. Of the 1,076,109 children served, approximately 406,615 (38 percent) were Hispanic. The Office of Head Start (OHS) manages grant funding and oversees local agencies providing Head Start services. Head Start promotes school readiness of children under five from low-income families through education, health, social, and other services. The National Center on Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness has many resources that focus on family and community engagement,



health and disabilities, program design and management, and early childhood development and learning. Many different resources are available on the Head Start program website – the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center – have been translated into Spanish, with more being translated on an ongoing basis.

Centers of Excellence (COE) Grant Program: The COE grant program is part of a national strategy to improve the public's access to quality, culturally-appropriate health care by increasing the number of underrepresented minority students who enter and successfully graduate from health professions training programs. COE grants help health profession schools improve information resources, clinical education, curricula, and cultural competency as they relate to minority health issues. Grantees serve as innovative resource and education centers for the recruitment, training and retention of underrepresented minority students and faculty.

Minority Fellowship Program (MFP): The MFP aims to reduce health disparities and improve behavioral health care outcomes for racial and ethnic populations. Fellowships are open to people pursuing a master's or doctoral degree in various fields of behavioral health. The program seeks to train and better prepare behavioral health practitioners to more effectively treat and serve people of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Website: www.dhs.gov   

Overview: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was formed in 2003 and works to build a safe and secure homeland by focusing on the following mission areas: preventing terrorism, securing our borders, enforcing our immigration laws, securing cyberspace, and ensuring resilience to disasters. This requires the dedication of more than 240,000 employees in jobs that range from aviation and border security to emergency response, from cybersecurity analyst to chemical facility inspector.

Agency Highlights:

Business Development Program: The Business Development Program (BD) is a business assistance program for small disadvantaged businesses. The BD Program offers a broad scope of assistance to firms that are owned and controlled, at least 51 percent, by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. The BD Program is an essential instrument for helping socially and economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs gain access to the economic mainstream of American society. The program helps thousands of aspiring entrepreneurs to gain a foothold in government contracting.



Coast Guard Partnership in Education (PIE): The Coast Guard seeks to engage educators and other community members in creating enhanced education opportunities for students especially in communities with large, underserved populations. For example, the Coast Guard participates in events like LATINO Magazine's quarterly AHORA Student Days, Nuestro Futuro events, and The National Organization for Mexican American Rights annual conference where personnel engage and interact with Hispanic high school students to share information on employment and training opportunities. Additionally, the Coast Guard has PIE programs in places such as San Juan and New Orleans to provide instructional support, encourage academic achievement, and enhance educational opportunities.



The United States Secret Service (USSS) Outreach: The USSS participates in outreach events around the country at Hispanic Serving Institutes Career Fairs as well as with organization like the National Latino Peace Officer Association and Hispanic Latino Professionals Association. Through these outreach efforts, USSS seeks to recruit a diversified applicant pool for careers with the USSS. At these events, prospective applicants are provided information regarding the application process, hiring procedures, and required training.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Website: www.hud.gov



Overview: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) works with community organizations focused on housing, homeownership, public services, or community development to ensure that everyone can access its programs and resources. HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers, meet the need for quality affordable rental homes, utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life, build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination, and transform the way the department does business.



Washington, DC, Students build Kano computers to take home at the Best Buy Teen Tech Center at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington

Agency Highlights:

*"America's challenge in this 21st century is to remain the world's undisputed land of opportunity. By expanding broadband adoption, ConnectHome will provide more Americans with the same high-speed access to knowledge and opportunity that millions of people already enjoy."
HUD Secretary, Julián Castro*

ConnectHome: Building on the Obama Administration's goal to expand high speed broadband to all Americans, President Obama and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro launched ConnectHome, an initiative to extend affordable broadband access to families living in HUD-assisted housing. Through ConnectHome, Internet Service Providers, non-profits and the private sector offer broadband access, technical training, digital literacy programs, and devices for residents in assisted housing units in 28 communities across the nation. HUD's ConnectHome initiative strives to ensure that students can access the same level of high-speed Internet at home that they possess in their classrooms.

Great Schools Partnership: HUD joined forces with Great Schools in December 2011, a national nonprofit educational resource for parents, as part of a greater commitment to using housing assistance to improve educational outcomes for low-income families. The organization provides parents with tools and resources to access better schools and assistance by typing their zip code into the website: www.greatschools.org. The website provides information on every preschool, elementary, middle, and high school in the country-including public, charter, and private schools. Additionally, the organization provides information to help parent's support their child's learning.



HUD STEM Innovation Networks: During the 2012 HUD Father's Day celebrations, the United States Military Academy (USMA) and the Army Research Lab (ARL) partnered with HUD and local Public Housing Agencies in Virginia to inspire, excite, and engage middle school students living in public and affordable housing communities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). This encouraged the students to create stronger parental bonds and pursue education and subsequent careers in STEM fields.



U.S. Department of the Interior

Website: www.doi.gov   

Overview: The Department of the Interior (DOI) protects and manages our nation’s natural resources and cultural heritage, provides scientific information and other data about those resources, and honors its trust responsibilities to American Indians, Alaska Natives and affiliated island communities. DOI is the steward of 20 percent of our nation’s public lands, oversees the responsible development of 21 percent of U.S. energy supplies, is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 Western states, maintains relationships with 566 federally recognized tribes, and provides services to more than two million American Indian and Alaska Native peoples.



*Choctaw Central Schools near Philadelphia, Mississippi.
(Photo by Tami A. Heilemann, Department of the Interior)*

Agency Highlights:

DOI’s Bureau of Land Management – Environmental and Natural Resource Educational Certificate and Associate’s Degree: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arizona has partnered with Phoenix College to launch a fully accredited associate of applied science (AAS) degree in environmental and natural resources geared for urban youths who study at this HSI. The program began in 2011 with a 19-credit certification that prepared minority students for entry-level Federal jobs. Since then, 14 students have completed the 19-credit certification, 55 students are currently enrolled in the program, progressing towards the AAS, and 53 are registered as interested in the program.



*U.S. Secretary of Interior Sally Jewel visits Choctaw Central High School near Philadelphia, Mississippi.
(Photo Credit: U.S. Department of Interior)*

To further attract and guide youths, including minority youth, to learn and work in natural resources, the BLM Phoenix District also sponsors a field school for students ages 18 – 24. Students are paid via *Workforce Investment Act* funds during a 16-week internship in which they become certified in wildland firefighting, wilderness first aid train-the-trainer, chain-saw certification, four-wheel/off-highway vehicle driving, and trail building. Youths are taught in college and field sites, completing actual Federal workload targets. Their college credits count toward the AAS and/or 19-credit certification. All credits transfer to Arizona universities. To date, eight field school sessions have been completed, 43 urban youths have graduated from them, and graduates are typically hired by the BLM or other DOI agency for additional internships or firefighting programs

To connect youths to the outdoors and to careers with agencies that manage public lands, the DOI agencies in Arizona have joined forces, working in a coordinated management group called Youth Careers & Academic in Nature Arizona (You CAN AZ). You CAN AZ is developing a youth program that integrates and tracks environmental education, engagement, and employment in the outdoors.



U.S. Department of Labor

Website: www.dol.gov   

Overview: The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) promotes the welfare of wage earners, job seekers, and retirees in the U.S. by improving working conditions, advancing employment opportunities, and assuring work-related benefits and rights. DOL administers and enforces more than 180 Federal laws, which along with the regulations that implement them, cover workplace activities for 10 million employers and 125 million workers. DOL also administers a number of workforce-related programs, services, and grants, some of which are listed below.

Agency Highlights:

Workforce Investment Act Dislocated Worker Program: Since 1998, the WIA Dislocated Worker Program has provided employment and training services to workers who have lost their jobs, including those dislocated as a result of plant closings or mass layoffs, and who are unlikely to return to employment in their previous industries; formerly self-employed individuals; and displaced homemakers who have been dependent on the income of another family member but are no longer supported by that income.



U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez gets a tour of the electrical program from student Kathleen Wonhola at the Alaska Job Corps Center campus in Palmer, Alaska on Sunday, July 20, 2014.

YouthBuild: YouthBuild is a community-based alternative education program that provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth age 16-24. Youth learn construction skills while constructing or rehabilitating affordable housing for low-income or homeless families in their own neighborhoods. Youth split their time between the construction site and the classroom, where they earn their high school diploma or equivalency degree, learn to be community leaders, and prepare for college and other postsecondary training opportunities. YouthBuild includes significant support systems, such as mentoring, follow-up education, employment, and personal counseling services; and participation in community service and civic engagement. There are over 220 DOL funded YouthBuild programs in 43 states serving over 6000 youth per year.

Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCT) Grant Program: TAACCT provides community colleges and other eligible institutions of higher education with funds to expand and improve their ability to deliver education and career training programs that can be completed in two years or less, are suited for workers who are eligible for training under the TAA for Workers program, and prepare program participants for employment in high-wage, high-skill occupations. Through these multi-year grants, the Department of Labor is helping ensure that our nation's institutions of higher education are helping adults succeed in acquiring the skills, degrees, and credentials needed for high-wage, high-skill jobs while also meeting the needs of employers for skilled workers.



U.S. Department of the Treasury

Website: www.treasury.gov



Overview: The Department of the Treasury (Treasury) is the executive agency responsible for promoting economic prosperity and ensuring the financial security of the United States. Treasury is responsible for a wide range of activities, such as advising the president on economic and financial issues, encouraging sustainable economic growth, and fostering improved governance in financial institutions. Treasury operates and maintains systems that are critical to the nation's financial infrastructure, such as the production of coin and currency, the disbursement of payments to the American public, revenue collection, and the borrowing of funds necessary to run the Federal government.

Agency Highlights:



Professional Diversity Network: Treasury has expanded outreach efforts to the Hispanic community by partnering with the Professional Diversity Network on LinkedIn. The Professional Diversity Network is composed of over 2.5 million professionals, 38 percent of whom self-identify as Hispanic.

Hispanic-Serving Institutions Recruitment: Ongoing participation with on-campus recruitment at HSIs is used as a means to promote Treasury as an employer of choice. Funds were awarded in support of these recruiting/outreach efforts to various colleges and universities. The Department allocated \$89,634 to students attending the University of Puerto Rico, California State University-San Bernardino, University of Arizona, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, New Jersey City University, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, and California State University-Stanislaus through two third-party internship programs, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and National Diversity Internship Program (NDIP).

The Hispanic Serving Institutions National Internship Program (HSINIP): Treasury recruits Hispanic college students for paid 10-week summer or 15-week fall or spring internships at Federal agencies and private corporations in Washington, D.C. and throughout the country.





U.S. Department of State

Website: www.state.gov   

Overview: The mission of the U.S Department of State (State) is to shape and sustain a peaceful, prosperous, just, and democratic world and foster conditions for stability and progress for the benefit of the American people and people everywhere.

Agency Highlights:

Fulbright U.S. Student Program: The Fulbright U.S. Student Program enables graduating college seniors, graduate students, artists, and young professionals to spend a year studying, conducting research, and serving as English teaching assistants overseas. The program facilitates cultural exchange through direct interaction on an individual basis in the classroom, field, home, and in routine tasks, allowing the grantee to gain an appreciation of others' viewpoints and beliefs, the way they do things, and the way they think. Through engagement in the community, individuals interact with their hosts on a one-to-one basis in an atmosphere of openness, academic integrity, and intellectual freedom, thereby promoting mutual understanding.



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry learns about Guatemala from local students who participated in a State Department school program in Antigua, Guatemala, on June 5, 2013. [State Department photo/ Public Domain]

Critical Language Scholarship Program: The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is a fully-funded overseas language and cultural immersion program for undergraduate and graduate students, including Hispanics. With the goal of broadening the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages and building relationships between the people of the U.S. and other countries, CLS provides study opportunities to a diverse range of students from across the United States at every level of language learning. Scholarships are awarded for beginning, intermediate, and advanced study in Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, and Urdu. Participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship period, and later apply their critical language skills in their future professional careers.





U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Website: www.va.gov   

Overview: The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) strives to provide veterans with benefits and services with the highest standards of compassion, commitment, excellence, professionalism, integrity, accountability, and stewardship. With the ongoing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the aging veteran population, VA plays a critical role in providing veterans and their families with benefits and pertinent information.



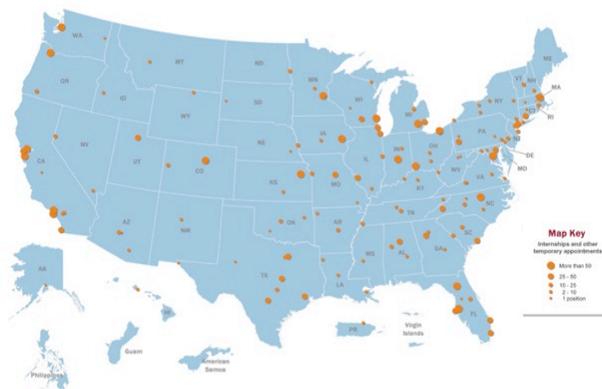
Agency Highlights:

Diversity Internship Program: The VA National Diversity Internship Program (NDIP) provides internship opportunities to diverse undergraduate and graduate students who are currently enrolled, full-time or part-time, in a degree-seeking program at an accredited postsecondary institution. Sessions are offered year-round for students from various institutions, such as but not limited to MSIs. NDIP aims to provide students the opportunity to augment their academic studies while learning about career opportunities at the VA. In FY 2015, the VA funded 135 interns through NDIP, 28 through

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and 18 through Hispanic Serving Health Professionals Schools, to build a pipeline for workforce diversity.

Student Outreach and Retention (SOAR): The VA proudly leads the effort to build a diverse workforce and cultivate an inclusive work environment. The VA established the SOAR initiative that focuses on the provisions of information on Federal employment, VA careers, VA Internships, and mentoring. The program goal is to establish a pipeline for students/graduates to careers in VA; and provide real-time job, internship, and career information to SOAR participants.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the President of HACU signed a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): As part of the strategic plan, an MOU was put in place to provide the cooperative framework for both parties to develop initiatives and perform outreach to increase employment and educational opportunities in VA for students of Hispanic-Serving Institutions, other HACU member institutions, and Veterans. The goal is to conduct outreach to approximately 470 colleges and universities.



VA has more than 300 internship positions in 199 different cities across the country. This data is from the Pathways



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Website: www.epa.gov   

Overview: Born in the wake of elevated concern about environmental pollution, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established in December 1970 to consolidate a variety of Federal research, monitoring, standard setting, and enforcement activities into one agency to ensure environmental protection. Since its inception, EPA has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people. EPA funds a wide variety of projects to support its mission, including environmental justice programs, educational and cleanup efforts, and projects to empower community partnerships and solve local environmental problems. EPA also informs the public about its activities and provides information on a wide range of environmental issues through written materials on its website.

Agency Highlights:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Outreach: The EPA participated in various outreach efforts, including the California State University, Fresno's Agriculture, Engineering, and Science Career Fair to introduce students to EPA as an employer of choice.

Outreach in Schools: The EPA provides science presentations, science days, and afterschool programs where students are exposed to a variety of science topics, interactive STEM activities, and environmental curriculum. For example, at one school students learned where energy comes from, the differences between renewable and non-renewable energy sources, and discussed how our use of energy contributes to climate change.

Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators (PIAEE) Program: In partnership with the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the EPA recognizes outstanding teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning for their students. Up to two teachers from each of EPA's regions is selected for the award to honor, support, and encourage educators who incorporate environmental education in their classroom and teaching methods.





U.S. General Services Administration

Website: <http://www.gsa.gov>   

Overview: The mission of the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is to deliver the best value in real estate, acquisition, and technology services to the government and the American people.

Agency Highlights:

GobiernoUSA.gov: A web portal entirely in Spanish, GobiernoUSA.gov aims to serve all Spanish-speaking and bilingual Hispanics in the United States. GobiernoUSA.gov plays an important role in not only providing parents and students with information about the education programs and opportunities available to them but also offering them access to other pertinent information relevant to their daily lives.

Emerging Leaders Program and the Legacy Financial Management Specialist Program: Participants in the Emerging Leaders Program develop and build a broad range of managerial and technical skills while gaining a solid understanding of GSA's business through a mix of formal classroom training and on-the-job work experience. Recent college graduates complete three- to six-month rotational assignments across GSA's various business lines to gain hands-on experience in work related to their career track. Once participants complete the two-year program, including all training, rotational assignments and program deliverables, they will graduate and be permanently placed within one of the rotation offices. Since 1999, the GSA has hired recent graduates through these two leadership development programs, 10 of whom were Hispanic.



U.S. General Services Administration at the 2013 National Council of La Raza Annual Conference (Photo Credit: U.S. General Services Administration)



WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE *on* EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE *for* HISPANICS



CONCLUSION

This report details the multiple ways in which Federal agencies support the educational attainment of the nation's Latino community and invest in Hispanic Serving Institutes (HSIs). At the heart of this effort is the belief that by illustrating the ways in which the Federal government continues to support Latino education, we not only increase educational opportunities for Latinos but also improve educational outcomes, from cradle to career, and deliver a complete and competitive education for all Hispanics in the United States. This collection of data was made possible through the leadership of participating Working Group-member Federal agencies that remain committed to a shared goal of providing all Americans, including Latinos, access to a high-quality education. Further, this shared effort demonstrates the priority placed on ensuring greater transparency and collaboration between Federal agencies to better serve Latinos and address the educational barriers that continue to exist.

Throughout its existence, the Initiative has sought to help ensure a high-quality, well-rounded education for Hispanics. In an effort to remain competitive in a fast-evolving and rigorous global race within innovation, education, and the workforce, we must continue to invest in all of our students, including Hispanics. Investing in programs and HSIs, such as those featured in this report, will help strengthen the education attainment of and increase opportunities for Latinos. In doing so, this community can help fulfill America's future.



“In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed an executive order establishing a commission to support the achievement of Hispanic children and to help them ... ‘take their rightful place at the American table of opportunity.’ And in the years since, Presidents from both parties have renewed America’s commitment to this initiative. We’ve seen the educational outcomes of Hispanic youth gain steam along with the prospects of Latinos as a whole. So today, our country’s high school graduation rate is at an all-time high, and it’s powered in large part by dramatic gains among Hispanic students. The Hispanic high school dropout rate is down by more than 60 percent since the early ‘90s... The portion of Hispanic children in preschool is up by about 50 percent. The percentage with a bachelor’s degree has nearly doubled. Math and reading scores have improved dramatically over the last decade. And so this is truly an American story. It’s the kind of progress that we need to celebrate – the story of hardworking people, strong advocacy, coming together, lifting up not only the fortunes of a people but, ultimately, the entire country’s fortunes. It’s bending the arc of history to be fairer and more just.”

– President Obama, Oct. 15, 2015