



Frequently Asked Questions: Commitments to Action

What Is a Commitment to Action?

High impact, long-term Commitments to Action will make a meaningful and quantifiable contribution to increase and support educational outcomes for Latinos cradle-to-career in the following areas with the goals described:

- [Early Learning](#): Increase the number of Hispanic children who enter kindergarten ready for success by improving access to and participation in high-quality programs and services that encourage the early learning and development of children from birth through age 5.
- [K-12 Education and College Access](#): Invest in dropout prevention and recovery strategies and inspire students to take charge of their future by completing higher education, whether at a professional training program, a community college or four-year college or university
- [College Completion](#): Help Hispanic students earn their first college degree at a two-year or four-year institution; or receive job training to increase their skills.
- [Science, technology, engineering and mathematics \(STEM\) Education](#): Increase the number of students enrolled in STEM courses, from pre-school through postsecondary, and the number of students graduating college with STEM degrees.
- [Latino Teacher Recruitment](#): Invest in both increasing Hispanic teacher recruitment efforts and support for teachers, including professional development, at the beginning of their careers to attract and retain high-quality teachers.

Why Commitments to Action?

The Initiative's [Executive Order 13555](#) encourages private-public sector collaboration and further, the Administration has stressed that supporting all of our nation's children and families is a shared responsibility and not the job of government alone. In order to ensure America's global competitiveness we must invest in one of the largest communities. This means collaboration and investments is what works and what is needed most. The Administration has successfully leveraged public and private sector commitments in key areas: [college access and completion](#); [early learning](#) and [STEM education](#). The Initiative seeks to leverage this framework with the goal of obtaining targeted investments for the nation's growing Latino community.

What are Examples of Commitments?

Examples range from offering scholarships, internships/fellowships to developing a program that will help students transition from high school to college. Or you may decide to commit a specific dollar amount to a critical area and invest in programs already working in our communities. See our



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Commitments to Action document online at www.ed.gov/HispanicInitiative for a full list of examples in each of our critical areas.

Can I Develop a Commitment to Action?

All stakeholders throughout the nation are encouraged to develop partnerships that stimulate private, nonprofit, and state and local sectors to invest in increasing educational outcomes and opportunities for Hispanic students.

Will the Initiative Distribute Resources for the Development of the Commitment?

All resources, including funding, used to develop and implement your Commitment will come from you and/or your partners. Resources will not be provided by the White House or the Initiative.

Can I Get Assistance With Developing a Commitment Proposal?

Refer to the [Commitment to Action Submission Guidance](#) found at www.ed.gov/HispanicInitiative to help you describe the objectives, implementation strategy, timeline, and measures of success for your proposed Commitment. After reviewing the Commitment guidance online, you may contact Initiative staff by emailing jaqueline.cortezwang@ed.gov with subject Line "25th Anniversary Commitment" to request assistance in describing the objectives of your proposed Commitment.

How Do I Submit a Commitment Proposal?

Answer the questions found in the [Commitment to Action Submission Guidance](#) document and submit your proposed Commitment via email to jaqueline.cortezwang@ed.gov with subject line "25th Anniversary Commitment Submission" or provide a hard copy of your proposed Commitment to the following address: White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics; 25th Anniversary Commitment; 400 Maryland Ave. S.W., Room 4W108; Washington, D.C., 20202

Is There a Deadline?

Submit your proposed Commitment by **June 30, 2015** to ensure that it will be reviewed and considered to be honored during the Anniversary culmination event. The Initiative will be announcing all approved Commitments during Hispanic Heritage Month (October 15 – September 15) in 2015.

Do all Resources Need to Be Secured Before Submitting My Commitment?

A Commitment is the promise that you and your partners will develop a high impact, long-term program/model that will make a meaningful and quantifiable contribution to increase and support educational outcomes for Latinos cradle-to-career. All resources, including funding, do not have to be secured before the anniversary celebration. This can happen throughout the implementation of your Commitment.



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How Will Commitments Be Reviewed?

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of reviewers, consisting of Initiative staff and other Federal partners.

What Are the Commitment Requirements?

Commitments must:

- Target the Hispanic community;
- Focus on one or more of the critical areas identified (Early Learning, K-12 & College Access, Postsecondary, STEM or Latino Teacher Recruitment);
- Have a long-term impact;
- Include objectives that can be measured and specified targets that you expect to achieve; and
- Establish a new program or will expand, scale or replicate an existing program.

Can I Submit More Than One Commitment?

There is no limit to the number of entries submitted per organization.

How Will My Approved Commitment Be Recognized?

Initiative staff will reach out via email/phone to notify you if your proposed Commitment was accepted. If it was not accepted, Initiative staff will provide feedback provided by the review committee encouraging a resubmission. If accepted, the Commitment will also be recognized through a White House announcement released during the 25th anniversary culmination taking place during Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15-October 15, 2015.