

Hispanic Educational Resources and Empowerment Act of 2022
Section-by-Section

Findings

The section outlines 11 whereas clauses regarding Hispanic educational attainment.

Purposes

The section outlines the two purposes of the bill:

- To promote and support collaborative partnerships between Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and Local Educational Agencies with high enrollments of Hispanic or Latino students.

Grant Program Authority

The Secretary of the Department of Education shall award grants to eligible entities to carry out the collaboration initiatives between K-12 and higher education.

Eligible entities include:

- Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Local Educational Agencies with high enrollments of Hispanic or Latino students
- Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- One or more nonprofit or community-based organizations

Authorized Activities

Grant funds can be used to support the following activities:

- Creating a college-going culture among eligible students.
- Academic support to prepare eligible students for postsecondary education, to prevent the need for postsecondary remediation, and to provide high quality postsecondary remediation.
- Supporting eligible students through the college application and transition process.
- Addressing non-academic needs that serve as barriers to college enrollment, persistence, and completion.
- Developing and offering ‘grow your own’ programs that encourage eligible students to pursue teaching as a profession.

Reporting

Each eligible entity that receives a grant shall submit to the Secretary a report that includes information as the Secretary may reasonably require regarding the impact of this grant.

Evaluation

The Secretary, in partnership with the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, shall conduct an independent evaluation of the activities funded under this bill, including impact of this policy and services on the number and percentages of students entering, persisting, and completing postsecondary education.

Definitions

The section defines advanced coursework, co-requisite courses, dual or concurrent enrollment program, early college high school, eligible student, emerging Hispanic-serving institution, and Local Educational Agencies with high enrollments of Hispanic or Latino students:

- The term “advanced coursework” is defined to mean coursework designed for students to earn postsecondary credit upon its successful completion while still in high school, such as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, dual or concurrent enrollment programs, and early college high school programs.
- The term “co-requisite courses” means courses designed for college students in need of remediation that combines credit-bearing college-level coursework with supplemental instruction.
- The term “dual or concurrent enrollment program” has the meaning given the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
- The term “early college high school” has the meaning given the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
- An eligible student is defined to be:
 - Any student who is enrolled or eligible to enroll in a secondary school that is served by a local educational agency with high enrollments of Hispanic or Latino students; and
 - Any student who is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment at a Hispanic serving institution or an emerging Hispanic serving institution.
- The term ‘emerging Hispanic-serving institutions’ is defined to mean an institution of higher education legally authorized as a nonprofit entity to provide, and provides within the State, an educational program for which the institution awards not less than a bachelor’s degree; or a junior or community college, and that:
 - Is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary to be reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or that is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.
 - Has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 15.0 percent but less than 25.0 percent Hispanic at the end of the award year immediately preceding the date of the application.

- The term ‘local educational agency with high enrollments of Hispanic or Latino students’ means a local educational agency that:
 - Has no less than 25 percent of the students served by the agency are Hispanic or Latino students, as determined by the enrollment data of the local educational agency no later than the date by which student membership data is collected annually by State educational agencies and
 - Has no less than 50 percent of the students served by the agency meet a measure of poverty described in section 1113(A)(5) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6313(a)(5)).’.

Authorization of Appropriations

This section authorizes \$150 million in Fiscal Year 2023 to be appropriated to the Department of Education to carry out this grant program over five years.