



RECIPIENTS

ASSOCIATE LEVEL

Early College High School Initiative

El Paso Community College • El Paso, TX

Early college high schools blend high school and college in a rigorous yet supportive program, compressing the time it takes to complete a high school diploma and the first two years of college. The Early College High School (ECHS) Initiative at El Paso Community College (EPCC) is providing students in its region the opportunity to complete an associate degree while attending high school. In 5 years, 1,522 students have participated in five ECHS's; it is expected there will soon be over 2,000 students. Over 80 percent of the student population in both EPCC and the five ECHS's are Latino. About 110 of the students in the first groups of ECHS have completed their associate degrees and begun coursework towards their bachelor degree at University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) while still in high school. The University has evidence these students are well prepared for college work.

Lydia Tena, Northwest Campus Dean and Achieving the Dream Leader College Liaison

BACCALAUREATE LEVEL

STEP 2 (Successful Transition to Educator Preparation)

Texas Tech University • Lubbock, TX

Latinos in community colleges can face challenges in completing the associate degree and enrolling in a baccalaureate-granting institution. STEP 2 was created in 2005 and addresses this challenge through a student support services program that assists transfer students who have completed their Associates of Arts in Teaching at South Plains College and desire to obtain their certification to teach from a baccalaureate-granting institution. STEP 1 is to complete the Associate of Arts in Teaching. STEP 2 is to transfer to Texas Tech University. The program has assisted 124 transfer students, of which 35 percent have been Latino students. While some students have taken 2.5 years to graduate, the program has retained all participants and achieved a 100% graduation rate.

Janie Ramirez, Outreach Programs Administrator

GRADUATE LEVEL

Ph.D. Clinical Psychology Program

Carlos Albizu University, San Juan Campus • San Juan, PR

Latinos earned four percent of all doctorates awarded in 2008. While the representation is low, one of the top fields of Latinos earning PhDs is psychology. A major goal of the Ph.D. Clinical Psychology Program is to increase the number of Latino/a students trained in Clinical Psychology who master the required clinical and research skills to investigate mental health issues -- particularly those associated with disadvantaged populations. The program trains culturally sensitive psychologists in a Hispanic/Latino cultural context. Program activities are developed with sensitivity towards culturally diverse constituencies and with special attention to the Puerto Rican society. A total of 147 doctoral students graduated from 2001 to 2008, and 98 percent of the graduates were Hispanic/Latino. Ninety-four percent of the graduates from 2000 to 2008 are licensed in clinical psychology. The retention rate of this program in the last ten years (2001-2010) is 80 percent.

Aida Jimenez, Director, Ph.D. Clinical Psychology Program



FINALISTS

ASSOCIATE LEVEL

Academy for College Excellence (ACE)
Cabrillo College (CA)

College Readiness Program
El Paso Community College (TX)

**Bilingual Undergraduate Studies for
Collegiate Advancement (BUSCA)**
La Salle University (PA)

Learning Frameworks
Brazosport College (TX)

Transfer Alliance Project (TAP)
University of California Berkeley (CA)

BACCALAUREATE LEVEL

Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies
Wayne State University (MI)

Medical Spanish for Heritage Learners
University of Texas Pan American (TX)

Community Scholars Program
Georgetown University (DC)

The Scholars Academy
University of Houston-Downtown (TX)

Grow Your Own Teachers
Northeastern Illinois University (IL)

Transfer Articulation Bridge Program
San Francisco State University & City
College of San Francisco (CA)

**Latino Student Services and
Outreach (LASSO)**
Georgia State University (GA)

UNIV 1301 – Learning Framework
University of Texas-Pan American (TX)

GRADUATE LEVEL

Ph.D. in English
University of Texas at San Antonio (TX)

**Master of Business
Administration Program**
University of Texas at El Paso (TX)

Department of Chemistry
University of Buffalo, The State
University of New York (NY)