



CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
117th Congress

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Excelencia in Education
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Dear Friends,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the second virtual *Celebración de Excelencia*. *Excelencia* in Education convenes this annual celebration to recognize programs in colleges, universities, and community-based organizations that accelerate Hispanic student success in higher education. The organization's programs uplift the importance of Hispanic college-educated talent, especially during these unprecedented times.

At a time when the Hispanic community is being impacted disproportionately by the lack of health and economic security stemming from COVID-19, it is important that our Hispanic college students can complete their degrees. *Excelencia* in Education's research on Hispanic college completion, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and other significant issues, are important to the Hispanic community.

Additionally, *Excelencia* in Education's network brings together institutions of higher education to learn from each other on how to best support students, while also ensuring that the wider community is aware of these efforts. The organization's work ensures the educational success of Hispanic students that will, in turn, lead to a more robust recovery and a stronger nation.

The Examples of *Excelencia* finalists leverage data, implement effective practices, and exercise leadership to further the educational attainment of Hispanic students. Alternatively, *Excelencia* in Education distinguishes institutions of higher education that intentionally serve Hispanic students with the Seal of *Excelencia*. By identifying models of success, higher education institutions can learn from one another and transform to better serve Hispanic students.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus congratulates *Excelencia* for the impacts of their work to advance our community's educational attainment and to ensure Hispanic youth are not left behind.

Sincerely,

Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Chair
Congressional Hispanic Caucus