



**HISPANIC  
EDUCATION  
COALITION**

April 24, 2013

US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Hispanic Education Coalition Funding Priorities for FY 2014

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the Hispanic Education Coalition (HEC), which unites more than 20 organizations dedicated to improving educational opportunities and outcomes for the more than 54 million Latinos and Latinas living in the United States and Puerto Rico, we urge you to support the following critical programs that reach millions of Hispanic students.

As you are aware, sequestration went into effect on March 1, 2013. Your support is critical to help mitigate the widespread negative effect of these cuts on Latino children. Unlike in many other sectors, cuts to education programs have a multiplier effect on our neediest children. For example, sequestration will affect Latino high school students, many of whom are simultaneously beneficiaries of Title I Part C, Title III, TRIO, HEP, and GEAR UP. We request that the following education programs be funded at the following critical levels for fiscal year 2014.

<b>Programs</b>	<b>FY 2012</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	<b>FY 2013 CR<sup>1</sup></b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	<b>President's FY 2014 Proposal</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	<b>HEC Request for FY 2014</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>
Head Start	7,968	8,017	9,621	9,621
Title III of ESEA: Language Acquisition State Grants	726	742	742	800
Title I, Part C, ESEA: Migrant Education Program	393	393	393	475
Federal TRIO Programs	840	845	840	1300
Special Programs for Migrant Students (HEA IV-A-5): High School Equivalency Program (HEP) and College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)	37	37	37	37
<b>Programs</b> <i>(continued)</i>	<b>FY 2012</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	<b>FY 2013 CR</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	<b>President's FY 2014 Proposal</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>	<b>HEC Request for FY 2014</b> <i>(in millions of dollars)</i>

Hispanic-Serving Institutions: Title V, Part A of the HEA: undergraduate support	100	100	100	175
Hispanic-Serving Institutions: Title V, Part B of the HEA: graduate support	21	21	21	100
Title II of the Workforce Investment Act: Adult Basic Literacy Education Grants	606	610	609	750
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)	302	304	302	350
Family Literacy Programs replacing Even Start <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	150

<sup>1</sup> These numbers include FY 2013 before the damaging sequestration cuts went into effect.

<sup>2</sup> The HEC has long advocated for the William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Program. Unfortunately, funding for this program was eliminated in 2011. To replace the Even Start Program, the administration proposed consolidating the program into an "effective Teaching and Learning" funding stream. This proposal has yet to be implemented. The Department of Education has found that there is a direct connection between parent literacy levels and the academic success of the child. A high proportion of the Even Start program participation was in the Hispanic community. Thus, a similar family literacy program is essential for the success of all Hispanic children. The HEC strongly recommends a dedicated funding stream specifically for the use of family literacy programs that integrate early childhood education, adult education, and parenting education.


While not an exhaustive list, the above programs provide Hispanic students with support, mentoring, academic preparation, counseling, and vital resources to foster their educational development. We urge you to champion the needs of our children. We thank you in advance for your support.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the HEC co-chairs: Luis Torres of the League of United Latin American Citizens, at [latorres@lulac.org](mailto:latorres@lulac.org), or Adam Fernandez of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, at [afernandez@maldef.org](mailto:afernandez@maldef.org).

Sincerely,



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