



WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANIC AMERICANS

The White House Initiative office has received numerous requests for more information about the Clinton Administration's Hispanic Education Action Plan (Plan). For fiscal year 1999, the Administration requested an increase of over \$600 million and Congress appropriated \$520 million for selected programs that can address the educational needs of many Hispanic students. The Plan is intended to help Latino youngsters master the basics of reading and math; help them learn English, stay in school, and prepare for college. Ultimately, the Plan is intended to help Latinos succeed in college -- so they can graduate and seize all the promise of their future.

The Plan is the result of months of consultation with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, education and Latino organizations, the National Economic Council, the Department of Education, and the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. It is a response both to the final report of the Hispanic Dropout Project, **No More Excuses**, and to the earlier recommendations of the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans from their report **Our Nation on the Fault Line: Hispanic American Education**.

It is important to note that the Plan includes increased funding for existing programs serving high concentrations of Latino youth and adults, as well as other administrative steps and policies to ensure that Latino children benefit from federal financial resources and information. Specific information about each of these programs is available at the Department of Education web site [<http://www.ed.gov>]. The following table provides more detail of the funding increase for each program requested by the Administration and the final congressional appropriation for FY1999.

Hispanic Education Action Plan – FY1999

(Increase in funding by program)

<u>Program</u>	President's Request	Actual Appropriation
Title I	\$ 391,768	\$ 300,788
Bilingual Education	33,000	26,000
Adult Education	33,449	24,449
Comprehensive School Reform	55,000	25,000
TRIO	53,333	70,333
Hispanic Serving Institutions	16,000	16,000
Migrant Education	49,216	49,216
High School Equivalency Program (HEP)	2,366	1,366
College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)	2,919	1,919
Migrant Youth Job Training (DoL)	5,000	5,000
Total:	\$ 642,051	\$ 520,071

Attached is additional information on each of the programs, including a chart of the President's Advisory Commission recommendations, the Administration's announcement of the Plan, and basic program summaries, appropriations, and contact information.



**WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON
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FAX COVER SHEET

Number of pages (including cover):

25

To: Bethany Little, DPC

Fax Number: () 456-5581

From: Deborah A. Santiago
Deputy Director

Date: 4/9/99

Subject: Hispanic Education Action Plan

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P. 10

The following is a packet of information I put together to distribute in the Action Plan. Hope it's helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

P.S. I will have the complete package sent to you via Courier on Monday.



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FAX COVER SHEET

Number of pages (including cover): 2

To: *Bethany Little, DPC*

Fax Number: () 456-5581

From: Deborah A. Santiago
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Date: *4/13/99*

Subject: *update 1 page of HEAP*

Attached is the edited m-page for HEAP.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

For Immediate Release

January 23, 1999

VICE PRESIDENT GORE ANNOUNCES ADMINISTRATION WILL SEEK
EXPANSION OF HISPANIC EDUCATION ACTION PLAN

Washington, DC -- Vice President Gore announced today a proposed expansion of the Administration's Hispanic Education Action Plan, calling for at least an additional \$480 million to improve educational programs and institutions serving high concentrations of Hispanic students and pledged that he and the President would announce additional components of the plan in the coming weeks.

"There is nothing more important to America's future than investing in the education of all of our people," Vice President Gore said. "Our initiative will help ensure that Hispanic students get the education they need and deserve to thrive in the 21st century."

Hispanic Americans are the nation's fastest growing minority group; today about 14 percent of the school-age population is Latino; by 2020 the proportion will grow to about 22 percent. Hispanic students are among the nation's most educationally disadvantaged, with a persistently high dropout rates and low college attendance rates.

To address this important challenge, the Clinton Administration's Fiscal Year 2000 budget includes at least an additional \$480 million for an action plan based on systemic change and high standards for programs and institutions serving large numbers of Hispanic students. The action plan includes the following strategies, as well as additional steps in the FY2000 budget to be announced by President Clinton and Vice President Gore in the near future:

\$320 Million to Strengthen Basic Reading & Math Skills, Raise Academic Standards. All students, including those with limited English skills, must master the basic skills of reading and math and be held to high academic standards, and schools should be held accountable for helping students meet these standards. The Clinton Administration will propose increasing funding for Title I -- the largest federal elementary and secondary program -- by \$320 million to meet these critical needs for all disadvantaged students, including \$200 million to help states identify and improve the performance of low-performing schools. The majority of Hispanic students, as well as students with limited English proficiency, attend schools served by the Title I program, and thirty-two percent of students served are Latino. Moreover, in its proposal to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act later this year, the Administration will propose holding schools participating in this program accountable for helping students with limited English proficiency learn English and master their academic subjects.

\$35 Million to Train More Teachers and Improve Instruction to Help Students Learn English and Master Their Basic Academic Subjects. This \$35 million increase in federal programs for children with limited English skills, coupled with last year's investment in the Hispanic Education plan, will help train more than 20,000 teachers over five years and improve instruction in order to help students learn English while making progress toward high academic standards. These investments (a \$25 million increase for teacher training and a \$10 million increase for improved instructional services) will help address the growing shortage of teachers prepared to teach students

with limited English skills -- 75% of whom are Latino.

\$80 million to Prepare Disadvantaged Youth for Success in College. The Administration's budget will include a \$30 million increase in federal TRIO programs, including Upward Bound, to fund outreach, counseling, and educational support to help disadvantaged students prepare for academic success in college. The budget will also include more than a 50% increase -- an additional \$14.25 million -- to strengthen colleges with large Latino populations, and another \$35 million for a new initiative to help disadvantaged students stay in college and earn diplomas.

\$44 Million to Improve Education Programs for Migrant Youth and Adults:

Migrant families--the majority of whom are Hispanic--face particularly difficult challenges to gaining a quality education and training. President Clinton and Vice President Gore are seeking a \$25 million increase in the migrant Education Program, a 67% increase -- \$6 million -- for the High School Equivalency Program (HEP), a \$3 million 75% increase for the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), and \$10 million for a new Migrant Farmworker Youth program.

New Investments to Help Adults Learn English and Become Literate. The Administration's budget will include expanded efforts to help adults learn English and become literate, including a new tax credit to encourage employers to provide English-as-a-Second Language, literacy, and basic education programs for their employees. Under this proposal, businesses could get a 10% income tax credit for these kinds of programs with a maximum credit of up to \$525 per participating employee. Many adult Americans lacking literacy skills are Latino adults and others with limited English proficiency who face long waiting lists in many cities for English-as-a-Second Language courses. This new tax credit, costing \$139 million over five years, will help deploy the resources of businesses to make sure those in greatest need don't get left behind. President Clinton and Vice President Gore will announce additional steps to meet this challenge in the near future.

The initial Hispanic Education plan was announced last year by Vice President Gore as a direct response to findings from the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. A nearly \$500 million action plan was passed a few months ago as part of the FY1999 budget, and the Administration will monitor implementation of this plan and undertake special outreach efforts to ensure that Hispanic youths and families benefit from these programs.

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES

The Vice President also said that the Administration will continue and expand work to improve education for Hispanic students, including through the following strategies:

Improving education for students and adults with limited proficiency in English, including Hispanics, through additional research and new strategies for other federal education programs.

The Education Department will invest in research on how to improve learning for Hispanics and other language minority students. This research will build a substantial knowledge base for planning effective instruction for students and adults whose native language is Spanish. Despite considerable learning about reading and skill development for English-speakers, there are few comprehensive studies or instructional models focused on students, including Hispanic students, with limited English proficiency.

When implementing the recently enacted Reading Excellence Act, the Education Department will draw on recommendations from the National Academy of Science on teaching and learning for children with limited proficiency in English.

The Administration intends to target part of an increase for the Head Start program to increase participation by underrepresented groups in areas with recent influxes of immigrants and limited English proficient children, including seasonal farmworkers. In 1996, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics, similar percentages of white and black 3 and 4-year-olds were enrolled in center-based programs, including Head Start programs, while their Hispanic peers were less likely to be enrolled.

In planning for and preparing the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) the Clinton Administration will place a focus on the needs of students with limited English proficiency. This will include a focus on high standards, assessment, performance, and institutional accountability for achievement for all children, including those with limited proficiency in English. The Administration will propose holding schools participating in Title I of ESEA accountable for helping students with limited English proficiency learn English and master their academic subjects.

Providing quality information to students and their parents:

The Department of Education has formed a partnership with Univision, the country's largest Spanish-language television network, to address the educational needs of Hispanic students. In August 1998, Univision aired an America Goes Back To School special focusing on parental involvement and broadcasting the Department's 1-800 number. Beginning in early 1999, the Department of Education and Univision will launch a public service announcement campaign to increase the awareness of parental involvement in education.

The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans will convene conferences in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and Miami in 1999 to support Latino parents in their efforts to ensure their children get a good education and to discuss how schools, teachers, community-based organizations and others can reach out to parents and more fully engage them in their children's education. Partners in the Los Angeles conference, to be held March 5-6, include the Los Angeles Annenberg Metropolitan Project (LAAMP), the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), People United to Enrich the Neighborhood through Education (PUENTE) Learning Center, and the UCLA Office of Academic Development.

The Education Department will expand its efforts to provide quality information in Spanish and to Latino students and their families. In the fall of 1998, the Department distributed over 45,000 Read*Write*Now kits--in Spanish--to provide tips for volunteers working with students with limited proficiency in English and has improved its efforts to provide information via toll-free telephone lines and publications accessible to Spanish speakers. The Department of Education will build on this Hispanic Outreach Plan and take additional steps to improve the educational achievement of Hispanic students through additional outreach, information, and efforts to promote family involvement and community partnerships in communities with high concentrations of Latino students.

Ensuring Access to College:

In November 1998, the Department of Education hosted a satellite town meeting, "Going to College: Financial Aid Night" simulcast in Spanish. This town meeting focused on the priority issue of access to college and what Hispanic students and parents can do to start thinking early about college. The Department of Education will continue similar efforts throughout the year.

Under the newly authorized GEAR UP--Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs--the Department of Education will promote partnerships between schools and institutions of higher education to provide middle school students with support including mentoring, tutoring, counseling, and preparation for rigorous course taking as gateways to success in college. Special outreach efforts will help ensure that communities with high concentrations of Latino and disadvantaged students learn about opportunities to form partnerships under this new program.

The Department of Education is working with several states to support distance learning opportunities for the teaching of English as a second-language for adults.

The White House and federal agencies will monitor implementation of this plan over the next several months develop new strategies to ensure that Latino and other disadvantaged students benefit from Administration efforts to improve education for all students.

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