

## **Hispanic Educational Resources and Empowerment Act of 2019**

### **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 HSIs and school districts that educate a majority of Hispanic 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
- Hispanic-serving school districts
- Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Emerging Hispanic-serving school districts
- 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 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

#### **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, Emerging Hispanic-serving school district, and Hispanic-serving school district:

- 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 eligible to attend a secondary school that is served by a Hispanic-serving school district, and
  - Any student that has been accepted to a Hispanic-serving institution or 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.
  - Provides an educational program of not less than 2 years in duration that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree.
- The term ‘emerging Hispanic-serving school district’ means a local educational agency that:
  - Has at least 15.0 percent but less than 25.0 percent of the students served by the agency are Hispanic, as determined by the 12th day of class enrollment figure, 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. are eligible to participate in the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).
- The term ‘Hispanic-serving school district’ means a local educational agency that:

- Has no less than 25 percent of the students served by the agency are Hispanic students, as determined by the 12th day of class enrollment figure, 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. are eligible to participate in the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

**Authorization of Appropriations**

This section authorizes \$150 million in Fiscal Year 2020 to be appropriated to the Department of Education to carry out this grant program over five years.