



**HACU**

H I S P A N I C  
A S S O C I A T I O N  
O F C O L L E G E S &  
U N I V E R S I T I E S



# Membership

Champions of Hispanic Success in Higher Education

**Member institutions of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and its partners are critical to strengthening higher education opportunities for underserved students at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institutions and other campuses. Your membership is vital to advocacy efforts and increasing support on behalf of higher education institutions and their students. We look forward welcoming you as a member.**

## About HACU

HACU, the only national educational organization representing Hispanic-Serving Institutions, has a combined membership of HSIs, emerging HSIs and other institutions who share a commitment to student success in education. HACU was founded in 1986 by 18 higher education institutions and today represents more than 500 colleges and universities in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Latin America and Spain. HACU is widely recognized among government, corporate and higher education entities as the leading advocate for HSIs.

## Benefits of Membership

- Legislative advocacy on behalf of Hispanic-Serving Institutions and the students they serve.
- Paid internships, scholarships and leadership development opportunities for students.
- Discounts to HACU Conferences, advertising and exhibitor opportunities.
- Leadership and career development opportunities for administrators, faculty and staff.
- Listing in online Membership Directory, Annual Report, and Annual Conference Program.
- Access to the HACU Membership Portal and HACU Webinar Series.
- Discounts on job postings and resume database access on HACU's ProTalent Job Board.
- Exclusive invitations to special regional events and meetings for students, administrators, faculty and staff.
- Free digital subscription to HACU's quarterly magazine. HACU-member institutions also receive discounts on the print subscription and magazine discount advertising rates.
- HACU keeps members informed through its quarterly magazine, a monthly e-Newsletter, and periodic notifications of the latest legislative developments and funding opportunities for member institutions. Institutions can submit news releases to [news@hacu.net](mailto:news@hacu.net) for consideration in HACU's quarterly magazine.



## International Affairs

HACU's Office of International Affairs serves as a conduit for collaboration between HACU domestic and international members as well as partners in the international arena.

### Benefits of International membership:

- Facilitated connections to U.S. based institutions
- Faculty Exchange Programs
- Discounts to international conferences
- Access to the HACU Webinar Series





## Advocacy

HACU members have an advocate in Washington, D.C. HACU's advocacy efforts are a key component of our mission. Our nation's economic and social success rests on Hispanic-Serving Institutions and the students they serve accessing skills, knowledge and resources.

HACU works closely with members of Congress and higher education advocates to fight for increased funding for our member institutions. As a result, various agencies have made cumulative federal commitments to HSIs of almost \$5 billion.

### Highlights of advocacy efforts include:

- 1992 – Congress defines HSIs and authorizes dedicated funding
- 1995 – First actual appropriation of \$12 million for HSIs under Title III
- 1997 – First funding for USDA HSI Grants
- 2005 – \$95.1 million appropriated for HSIs under Title V
- 2007 – College Cost Reduction and Access Act sets aside \$200 million for HSIs
- 2008 – Hispanic-serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities defined in Farm Bill
- 2009 – Part B added to Title V “Promoting Postbaccalaureate opportunities for Hispanic Americans” with \$20 million in funding
- 2010 – Title V appropriation breaks \$100 million; \$1 billion committed for 10 years for HSI STEM and articulation activities
- 2014 – Reauthorized Farm Bill adds grant program for Hispanic agricultural workers and youth
- 2018 – First time funding totaling \$30 million allocated for a National Science Foundation grant program to support capacity building in undergraduate STEM education at HSIs
- 2019 – The Hispanic Educational Resources and Empowerment (HERE) Act is introduced to focus on collaboration and partnerships between HSIs and HSSDs
- 2024 – Order establishing a President’s Board of Advisors for Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- 2024 – GAO Report – Federal Study on HSI needs for Facility and Digital Infrastructure is completed

While federal funding to HSIs has increased since the designation was created, available funding has not kept up with the growth of student enrollment. Visit [HACU.net](https://www.hacu.net) to view HACU's latest legislative agenda.

## Scholarships, Paid Internships and More...

### HACU National Internship Program

HACU's largest student program provides paid internship opportunities to college students seeking summer- or semester-long internships and cooperative assignments at federal agencies in Washington, D.C., and throughout the country. The program also offers summer internship opportunities at corporations nationwide.

### HACU Scholarship Program

This annual program awards academic scholarships to students attending HACU-member institutions. Scholarship applications are announced in the spring. Awards are made in late summer for the upcoming fall semester.

### HACU ¡Adelante! Leadership Institute

HACU ¡Adelante! Leadership Institute brings together over 700 undergraduate students to HACU's Annual Conference. This three day event provides workshops focused on leadership and professional development, and incorporates networking opportunities for students.

### Youth Leadership Development Forum

A pre-conference event for middle and high school students offering activities focused on college preparation, college readiness, campus visits and career workshops.

### Emerging Leaders Summits

College students selected to participate in these regional summits engage in workshops offered to strengthen leadership skills for career preparation.

### Voces Nuevas (formerly Leaders-in-Residence)

A competitive program where students selected from across the U.S. and Puerto Rico receive leadership and career development training and promote HACU programs on their campuses. These leaders have the opportunity to receive a sponsorship to participate in the Student Track component of the HACU Annual Conference and the Capitol Forum.





## Conferences and Events

As a HACU-member, you will receive discounts to conferences and other national events. HACU hosts three major conferences that provide vital platforms for advocacy, information, collaboration and networking:

**The National Capitol Forum on Higher Education** - Held annually in Washington, D.C., the Capitol Forum provides member institutions the opportunity to learn about legislative issues affecting higher education. Delegations visit Capitol Hill to speak to congressional leaders and promote the role of HSIs in achieving student success in higher education.

**The Annual Conference** - Held in the fall, HACU's Annual Conference provides a unique forum for the sharing of information and ideas for the best and most promising practices at Hispanic-Serving Institutions and the students they serve. The conference brings together over 2,500 attendees and offers an opportunity to network and learn about innovative programs at Hispanic-Serving Institutions and other institutions nationwide. HACU also offers the following pre-conference events:

- **Latino Higher Education Leadership Institute** - A pre-conference institute for faculty, staff and administrators at any stage of their careers. The institute focuses on strategies for moving up the faculty and administrative ladders in higher education.
- **PreK-12/Higher Education Collaboration Symposium** - A pre-conference forum that includes panels and discussions on successful models of collaboration leading to systemic change and emphasizing matriculation, retention and graduation of students.
- **Deans' Forum** - A pre-conference forum where deans and senior administrators have an opportunity to discuss issues and topics related to the academic success of students in higher education.
- **Women's Leadership Symposium** - A pre-conference event that encourages women in higher education to explore, dialogue and learn from other women in executive leadership positions. Topics are related to successfully navigating the higher education work environment in order to prepare for executive roles in education or any other industry.

**International Conference** - A three-day biennial International Conference, paired with the single-day **International Symposium** taking place in intervening years, focus on the latest higher education trends, model programs, and cutting-edge research from the U.S. and abroad. Topics have included student and faculty exchanges, dual degree programs and the internationalization of institutions of higher education





Over 500 colleges and universities have said “yes” to championing higher education success. Join our membership today!

## National Institutions

Any nonprofit, accredited college or university of higher education or system/district located in the U.S. (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) can join HACU.

U.S. member institutions fall into the following categories:

- **Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)** – Total Hispanic enrollment constitutes a minimum of 25% of the total enrollment at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- **Associate Member Institutions** – Total Hispanic enrollment is at least 10% of the total student enrollment, or a minimum of 1,000 Hispanic students are enrolled at the undergraduate or graduate level.
- **Partner Institutions** – Total Hispanic enrollment is less than 10% of the total enrollment.

*Total Enrollment is defined as for-credit headcount including full-time and part-time students, whether at the undergraduate or graduate level.*

## College Systems/Districts

This membership category is open only to central administrative offices that are located in the U.S., including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. **System/district offices receive a complimentary membership if all of their campuses are institutional national members of HACU.** System/district members are not eligible for certain student benefits, such as scholarships.

## International Institutions

International members are institutions of higher education abroad authorized to operate in their country according to the rules and regulations required by their government.

## Hispanic-Serving School Districts

Hispanic-Serving School Districts (HSSDs) are school districts where total Hispanic enrollment is at least 25% of the total district enrollment.

## Educational Affiliates

This affiliate category is for nonprofit organizations, associations and councils that want to join HACU in support of its mission. In order to qualify for affiliation under the Educational Affiliate category, an organization must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit as determined by the Internal Revenue Service and not an institution of higher education or school district eligible for membership as part of any of the above-mentioned categories.

## Faculty and Staff Affiliates

Individual membership is open to faculty and staff at nonprofit HACU-member and non-member institutions. The Faculty and Staff Affiliate is composed of individuals interested in issues related to higher education and professional development.

## Trustee Affiliates

Individual membership open to board and trustee members from member and nonmember nonprofit colleges and universities, and K-12 school districts.

## Student Affiliation

### Student Affiliates

This affiliate category is open to individual students currently enrolled at a nonprofit college or university.

### Student Organization Affiliates

This affiliate category is open to student organizations at nonprofit colleges or universities.

## Membership Dues Information

Dues for national members and HSSDs are based on total student enrollment and the percentage of Hispanic student enrollment. For complete dues information, please visit HACU's website at [www.hacu.net](http://www.hacu.net). The membership year runs from January 1 - December 31, but institutions can join anytime throughout the year.

To apply for membership, you may download the application at [www.hacu.net](http://www.hacu.net). For membership questions, please contact the Membership Department at [memberinfo@hacu.net](mailto:memberinfo@hacu.net) or by phone at (210) 576-3213.





## HACU Membership Facts

- HACU was founded by 18 charter members who led the charge in convincing congress to formally recognize Hispanic-Serving Institutions in 1992.
- HACU represents over 500 hundred higher education institutions in 39 states and 5 countries.
- Nearly 20,000 students from HACU-member institutions have participated in scholarship and internship programs combined.
- HACU's advocacy efforts with the federal government in Washington, D.C., have led to more than \$3.3 billion in grants targeted to HSIs and other member institutions since 1995.
- The HACU National Internship Program has facilitated nearly 15,000 internship placements since 1992.
- More than \$3 million in HACU scholarships have been awarded to students at member institutions since 1992.

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