



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF LEGISLATION AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Reference Grant Award Number: #P031S200288
NEVADA

BOARD OF REGENTS, NSHE OBO NEVADA STATE COLLEGE has been selected to receive funding under the DEVELOPING HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS PROGRAM (84.031S). This grant will be in the amount of \$542,529.00 for the first budget period (10/01/2020 through 09/30/2021). It is anticipated that the grant will be for a total of 5 year(s). Please see the attached abstract for a brief description of the activities that will be funded under this grant.

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Purpose of the Program DEVELOPING HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS

The Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program provides grants to assist HSIs to expand educational opportunities for, and improve the attainment of, Hispanic students. The HSI Program grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.

ABSTRACT

Nevada State College's *Transformando Caminos (Transforming Pathways) Project*

As the only state college in Nevada, Nevada State College serves as the middle tier in the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), positioned between the two-year community colleges and doctorate-granting research universities. We offer over 45 baccalaureate majors and one graduate degree, providing a wide range of options for traditional and non-traditional students who seek a student-centered education, new career pathways, and an improved quality of life. Many of these students come from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds, as evidenced by our Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) status, which we achieved in 2015. As a college where teaching and student support are valued above all else, we are uniquely positioned to help Nevada thrive by expanding and diversifying its educated workforce and increasing the number of residents with the critical thinking abilities, communication skills, and civic commitment needed to be engaged participants in their communities.

NSC is an open-access institution and its admissions policy grants admission to in-state applicants who have earned at least a 2.5 high school GPA. More than half of NSC's students are racial or ethnic minorities and 75% of are female. The average age of NSC students is 25; 47% are considered first-generation, 39% receive Pell grants, and 10% of the student body entered as first-time, full-time degree-seekers. NSC has grown substantially in recent years, climbing in overall enrollment from 3,545 in 2015 to 5,578 students in Fall 2019 (57% growth).

Transformando Caminos has four top-line goals: (1) Increase access to, and Hispanic and low-income enrollment in, teacher preparation programs through culturally competent and intentional outreach, improved distance learning, and expanded dual enrollment partnerships; (2) Increase student success by demonstrating leadership in academic and student support, improving student success for a highly diverse, first-generation student population through innovative and evidence-based practices; (3) Collaboratively address challenges of workforce and industry education needs through government and sister-institution partnerships and formal articulation agreements between NSC, K-12, and two-year institutions that provide simplified, guaranteed transfer processes for transfer students; and (4) Innovate in curriculum and instruction by building socially relevant curricula that anticipate and are responsive to a diverse regional workforce.

Through activities focused around outreach and access, student support, articulation and transfer, and professional development, *Transformando Caminos* will have several significant outcomes, including: (1) Increasing the number of Hispanic pre-Education students by 12 students each year over five years, by increasing the number of pre-professional HS Teacher Academies from 8 to 18, and by using peer tutors and a social justice curriculum focus; (2) Increasing the number of Hispanic students obtaining a secondary teaching credential in STEM fields by 400%; (3) Increasing the number of Hispanic students enrolled as an Education major by 48%; (4) Increasing the number of Hispanic students who earn a bilingual teaching credential; (5) Increasing the number of NSC faculty who are highly trained in culturally relevant pedagogies for Hispanic students and are observed applying relevant strategies in the classroom; (6) Increasing the number of Hispanic Education students who earn clinical experience by serving as Math or Writing tutors for pre-Education students or as peer mentors for PK-12 students in Teacher Academies; (7) Reducing time to degree for Education students; and (8) Increasing the number of Hispanic students completing teacher certification by 2% annually.

Proposed Budget: NSC is requesting a five-year total of \$2,846,662 in Title V funding.

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