

CONFERENCE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 2009 NALEO Annual Conference program will provide a unique source of professional development specifically tailored for Latino elected and appointed officials. Sessions at the Conference are designed to enhance the governance skills of participants and deepen their understanding of critical policy issues. In turn, we strive to help them become better policymakers and public servants who can translate their knowledge into strategies for building stronger and healthier communities.

This year, the conference sessions will include four distinctive policy focuses: education policy, health policy, sustainable communities, and governance and political empowerment. The education, health, and sustainability break-out sessions are designed to build upon each other and together follow the curriculum of a NALEO Policy Institute. Conference attendees may wish to participate in one full Policy Institute or choose to participate in sessions from multiple Institutes. General Sessions will focus on political empowerment and national leadership, and will further be augmented by governance focused break-out sessions.

	Education Track: Policymaking in the New American Education Era	Health Track: Health Disparities and Latino Leadership-Working Together to Provide Solutions	Sustainable Communities Track: Utilizing the Green Industry to Stimulate Local Economies	Governance and Political Empowerment Sessions
Target Audiences:	<i>State Legislators, School Board Members, Community College Trustees</i>	<i>State Legislators, Municipal and County Officials, School Board Members, Appointed Officials</i>	<i>Municipal and County Officials, Community College Trustees</i>	<i>All levels of office</i>

Thursday, June 25, 2009

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.				State of American Communities: Governing in Troubled Economic Times
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Designing and Implementing Pre-K Programs to Serve Your Kids	The State of Latino Health in America: Disparities Affecting Our Communities	The “Green Industry”: Providing Solutions for Local Economies	
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.				Case Study: Los Angeles Latino Governance
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	High School Equity: Utilizing Data Systems to Drive Your Policy Decisions	Working on Solutions: Increasing Access to Health Care for Latinos	Creating Jobs: Collaborating to Develop a “Green” Workforce	

Friday, June 26, 2009

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.				Latinos and Census 2010: On the Brink of the Count
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Capitalizing on the Moment: Green Project Case Studies	Leading Healthy Communities: Improving Public Health through Community Design	Building Infrastructure: Creating Demand for the “Green Industry”	
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.				Governing During Troubled Economic Times: Preserving Public Sector Jobs
				Governing During Troubled Economic Times: Surviving the Foreclosure Crisis
				The New Washington and Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Saturday, June 27, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	President Obama’s Education Plan	Innovative Policies to Build Healthy School Environments	Stimulating Economies: Attracting “Green Jobs” into your Community	
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CONFERENCE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SEVENTH ANNUAL NALEO PRESIDENTIAL GOLF CLASSIC

Wilson Golf Course at L.A. Griffith Park

6:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

OPENING SESSION AND BREAKFAST

STATE OF AMERICAN COMMUNITIES: GOVERNING IN TROUBLED ECONOMIC TIMES

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Facing economic times not experienced in recent history, the nation has the opportunity for historic reinvestment in communities throughout the country. Latino elected officials stand charged with strengthening educational systems and the community infrastructure that will meet both the physical and economic health of their constituents. Effective governance will be tested at all levels of government as local elected officials collaborate with federal leadership in a joint effort to strengthen communities. This session will provide expert policy discussion and guidance on how local Latino elected officials can effectively utilize Federal economic stimulus initiatives to address the policy issues most important to the Latino community and the nation: education, health and sustainable communities.

NALEO EDUCATION LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE: POLICYMAKING IN THE NEW AMERICAN EDUCATION ERA

SESSION I – DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING PRE-K PROGRAMS TO SERVE YOUR KIDS

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

National buzz connected to Early Childhood Education presents new opportunities for improved quality and access to Pre-K for our children. Experts agree that the years from pre-k to 3rd grade are critical to a child's development. Our many community attributes require that Pre-K services be delivered in ways that welcome more families in order to serve the growing population of young English Language Learners (ELLs). Find out what you need to know to ensure that your community is offering Pre-K services in ways that are accessible, open and of the highest quality, while fostering the strong learning foundation our children need to succeed throughout the education pipeline.



NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: HEALTH DISPARITIES AND LATINO LEADERSHIP- WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS

SESSION I – THE STATE OF LATINO HEALTH IN AMERICA: DISPARITIES AFFECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

One of the most important issues facing our communities is the staggering increase in the rates of obesity and chronic disease. As the second largest population group in the United States, addressing critical prevention and environmental disparities in the Latino community is vital to the health and prosperity of the country. This session will offer an overview of the wellness issues facing the diverse communities that Latino elected officials represent and provide a framework of leadership for healthier communities that grasps the influence of your decision making role as a public official.

NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: UTILIZING THE GREEN INDUSTRY TO STIMULATE LOCAL ECONOMIES

SESSION I – THE “GREEN INDUSTRY”: PROVIDING SOLUTIONS FOR LOCAL ECONOMIES

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Throughout the country, Latino public officials are working diligently to maintain the vitality of their communities despite the current economic climate; a daunting challenge for all public servants given that states are facing budget deficits, communities are struggling to keep jobs, and families are losing their assets. The growth of the Green Industry has led to unprecedented interest from local officials eager to harness the potential of this innovative industry. This session will provide an overview of the challenges facing local economies and how green sector development can assist in overcoming these challenges.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

CASE STUDY: LOS ANGELES LATINO GOVERNANCE

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Within Los Angeles county, city and school governments, Latinos have risen to the highest levels of leadership and influence. As the depth and scope of issues facing the Los Angeles region have become more complex, Latino leaders have met the challenge by collaborating across jurisdictions, sharing the financial responsibility and social stewardship of creating a stronger Los Angeles. This session will highlight innovative strategies developed by Los Angeles leadership, as they have come together to meet the challenges of public education and community safety.

NALEO EDUCATION LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE: POLICYMAKING IN THE NEW AMERICAN EDUCATION ERA

SESSION II – HIGH SCHOOL EQUITY: UTILIZING DATA SYSTEMS TO DRIVE YOUR POLICY DECISIONS

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Data-driven decision making is a necessary and intricate way of addressing student achievement gaps. This method of decision-making requires constant monitoring of student progress and is largely dependent on comprehensive data systems. These systems collect multiple layers of data related to student achievement, including measures and indicators on students, organizational quality, personnel, resources and social services. This session will enable policymakers to understand the complexities of data systems and their availability as a tool to drive your everyday decision making.



NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: HEALTH DISPARITIES AND LATINO LEADERSHIP- WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS

SESSION II – WORKING ON SOLUTIONS: INCREASING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR LATINOS

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The current recession has elevated unemployment rates to the highest levels in two decades. When American workers lose jobs, their incomes shrink and too often their families face the loss of health insurance. Adversely, Latinos are more likely than not to be among the 46 million Americans who do not have health insurance or the millions more who worry everyday about losing the coverage they do have. This session will discuss the larger socioeconomic and cultural issues that prevent Latinos from accessing health services. Panelists will also highlight policy strategies for increasing health insurance rates among Latinos, including information about the Federal Economic Stimulus Package and national health programs such as Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: UTILIZING THE GREEN INDUSTRY TO STIMULATE LOCAL ECONOMIES

SESSION II – CREATING JOBS: COLLABORATING TO DEVELOP A “GREEN” WORKFORCE

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Diminishing natural resources, a growing consciousness for the environment, and an unstable economy have fostered a new “Green” sector. As the Green sector continues to grow, thousands of workers will be needed to fill the “green collar” jobs created by the industry. In order to create a green workforce, local elected officials will need to work in collaboration with community colleges, community based organizations, and the private sector. During this session, participants will engage with various stakeholders to learn how to collaborate across jurisdictions and create this much needed workforce.

NALEO ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENING CEREMONIES AND PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION

6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

OPENING SESSION AND BREAKFAST

LATINOS AND CENSUS 2010: ON THE BRINK OF THE COUNT

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

With Census 2010 less than a year away, the nation is at a critical juncture in its planning and preparation for the next decennial enumeration. This session will highlight the importance of a complete and accurate Census count for the Latino community. Speakers will discuss the challenges facing the Census Bureau in reaching Latinos and other hard-to-count populations, with an emphasis on the impact of the nation's changing demographics and political climate. This session also will address opportunities and strategies for Latino elected officials in their own jurisdictions to help ensure the most accurate count possible of the nation’s population.



NALEO EDUCATION LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE: POLICYMAKING IN THE NEW AMERICAN EDUCATION ERA

SESSION III – CAPITALIZING ON THE MOMENT: GREEN PROJECT CASE STUDIES

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The quality of your school facilities can positively or negatively affect student learning. On average, school buildings in the United States are over forty years old, just the time when rapid deterioration sets in. Recent efforts to build new or renovate existing infrastructure reflect a national trend for publicly funded schools and colleges to “go green.” As the Federal Stimulus Package makes funding for capital projects more widely available, going green is a timely option for policymakers to consider. Through case studies of successful green projects, this session will highlight best practices and model capital projects that facilitate greener sources of energy, create jobs, and most importantly construct high quality education facilities for your community to enjoy.

NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: HEALTH DISPARITIES AND LATINO LEADERSHIP- WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS

SESSION III – LEADING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH THROUGH COMMUNITY DESIGN

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The built environment of your community can contribute to or help counter Latino health disparities. Transportation infrastructure, neighborhood development, and planning for open space and parks, are all factors that can aid in the prevention of obesity and chronic disease. Latino elected officials hold key positions for making pertinent policy decisions and investments around issues affecting the built environment. During this session elected officials and community design experts will share model policies and strategies that local leaders can use to increase community access to healthy food and physical activity.

NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: UTILIZING THE GREEN INDUSTRY TO STIMULATE LOCAL ECONOMIES

SESSION III – BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE: CREATING A DEMAND FOR THE “GREEN INDUSTRY”

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The potential benefits of the Green Industry to struggling local economies are numerous, but in order for the industry to continue to grow there must be a demand for it. Public officials can implement “green” practices in the activities conducted by local government as a means to spur Green sector development. When cities lead by example and operate in green buildings or invest in sustainable infrastructure, they increase the demand for the Green Industry. This session will provide participants with best practices and effective tools for creating an increased demand for the green industry in their communities

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

GOVERNING DURING TROUBLED ECONOMIC TIMES: PRESERVING PUBLIC SECTOR JOBS

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

As jurisdictions face budget shortfalls, policymakers are confronted with the need to maintain a balanced budget while sustaining efforts to maintain and improve priorities like public safety, health and education. This session will include a discussion on the collaboration needed between government entities, unions, and public sector workers to restore budgetary balance, while maintaining the public sector’s ability to recruit and retain qualified and talented staff.



GOVERNING DURING TROUBLED ECONOMIC TIMES: SURVIVING THE FORECLOSURE CRISIS

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Recent and negative national trends in the housing market, further aggravated by serious damage to the banking system, have distressed communities throughout the country. Latino families have been disproportionately affected as the rate of foreclosures has increased rapidly, while the landscape of communities has been transformed. Elected officials face new challenges of blight, crime and new forms of predatory practices. Policymakers can play an important role in strengthening communities where residents can work and live. This session will provide an overview of the current state of housing; present creative strategies, and provide elected officials with tools to increase and protect homeownership and safe guard their communities from disrepair.

THE NEW WASHINGTON AND COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

This year, our nation faces an unprecedented opportunity to make comprehensive immigration reform a reality. This program will provide an update on critical immigration policy developments, with perspectives from the Obama Administration and Congress. The program will also highlight how Latino elected officials can become involved in the advocacy campaign for comprehensive immigration reform, and the role of civic and community leaders in this effort.

NALEO EVENT-EVENING UNDER THE STARS

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

OPENING SESSION AND BREAKFAST

LATINOS IN HOLLYWOOD

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

As the demographics of the country have changed, so has the landscape of the American entertainment industry. More Latinos grace Hollywood screens as actors, actresses and comedians. Behind the scenes Latinos are also making an impact as writers, directors, producers, studio executives, distributors, and casting agents. As the entertainment industry works to capture a larger market share, Latinos in Hollywood continue to struggle for the opportunity to portray a more complete picture of our story through the media. This session will highlight the history of Latinos in the entertainment industry, the challenges that are faced by Latino professionals and the implications to the larger role of Latinos in the political and cultural fabric of our nation.



NALEO EDUCATION LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE: POLICYMAKING IN THE NEW AMERICAN EDUCATION ERA

SESSION IV – PRESIDENT OBAMA’S EDUCATION PLAN

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The decisions you and our national leadership make about education in the coming years will shape the future for generations to come. Although the media has highlighted the new Administration’s plans to restore America’s public education system, there is still little known about the details of President Obama’s agenda. This session offers the opportunity to hear more about the President’s comprehensive education agenda, from early childhood to higher education. Be one of the first to hear how the President intends to increase educational opportunities for Latino students, by implementing a Zero to Five plan, reforming No Child Left Behind, addressing the dropout crisis and working to improve college affordability for students who wish to pursue a postsecondary degree.

NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON HEALTHY COMMUNITIES: HEALTH DISPARITIES AND LATINO LEADERSHIP- WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE SOLUTIONS

SESSION IV – INNOVATIVE POLICIES TO BUILD HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Current federal and state legislation has mandated that public schools address school wellness. Fostering a healthy school environment is an effective approach to combat the negative trends of childhood obesity and the growing prevalence of type II diabetes among Latino youth. Despite constrained budgets and limited resources, school districts are successfully creating healthier environments for our children. This session will introduce elected officials to innovative school wellness approaches for combating childhood obesity. Presentations will include examples of cross-jurisdictional partnerships, where schools, cities and counties have worked together to further the common goal of community health.

NALEO POLICY INSTITUTE ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: UTILIZING THE GREEN INDUSTRY TO STIMULATE LOCAL ECONOMIES

SESSION IV – STIMULATING ECONOMIES: ATTRACTING “GREEN JOBS” INTO YOUR COMMUNITY

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

As the Green sector continues to grow, green companies are looking for ideal locations to open new or relocate businesses that will create jobs, stimulate local markets, and bring added revenue to local communities. With millions of sites to choose from, how does a community appeal to the Green sector? In this session, participants will learn how to successfully market their cities to green companies, while effectively communicating the benefits of the Green sector to community stakeholders.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

NALEO SALUTE TO CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE LEADERS RECEPTION

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

NALEO SALUTE TO CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE LEADERS

7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.



SUNDAY, JUNE 28

NALEO EDUCATIONAL FUND BOARD MEETING

8:00 a.m.

NALEO BOARD MEETING

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.