



NEWS RELEASE

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund

For Immediate Release
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NALEO CONVENES POLICYMAKERS IN NATION'S CAPITOL TO ADDRESS STATE OF LATINO EDUCATION

*Officials to Examine Strategies for Increasing Higher Education Access and Completion
Following 2010 Census Data Showing One Out of Every Four Students
In America Is Now Latino*

Washington, DC – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund, the nation's preeminent Latino leadership organization, will convene over 50 Latino elected officials, including state legislators, municipal officials, community college trustees and school board members from across the country to address college completion for Latino students at the organization's *7th Annual National Summit on the State of Latino Education*. The event will take place from September 26-28, 2011, in Washington, D.C.

The *Summit* is a three-day intensive seminar in which elected Latino officials from across the nation participate in informational panels, working sessions and strategy groups designed to help them become more effective, well-informed advocates for their students, families and communities. Participants will have access to leading policy experts from the public, private and non-profit sectors and will have structured discussions on a range of education related topics including the impact of the affordability crisis on higher education access, strategies for increasing college completion rates, support for dual enrollment and early college high schools, and the importance of maintaining institutional quality.

Summit participants will be joined by **Mr. Roberto J. Rodríguez** (Special Assistant to the President, White House Domestic Policy Council), **Hon. Alex Padilla** (State Senator, California; NALEO Vice President), **Hon. Juan Pichardo** (State Senator, Rhode Island), **Hon. Raquel Regalado** (Board Member, Miami-Dade School District), **Mr. Jim Larimore** (Deputy Director of Student Success, U.S. Program, Postsecondary Success, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), and **Mr. Nizar Farsakh** (Teaching Fellow, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; Massachusetts). All events are open to the press.

The *7th Annual National Summit on the State of Latino Education* is part of the NALEO Education Leadership Initiative (NELI), and is sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, State Farm® and USA Funds.

For a complete agenda and list of presenters, please visit the NALEO website at:
<http://www.naleo.org/NELI>

What: NALEO Educational Fund's *7th Annual National Summit on the State of Latino Education*

When: September 26 – 28, 2011

Where: The Westin Georgetown
2350 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Media: Advance registration is preferred. To register, please contact Amanda Bosquez at abosquez@naleo.org or by phone at (202) 546-2536 Ext. 13.

Please be advised that members of the press MUST present credentials (including a photo ID) at the time of registration on-site in order to receive event materials and press passes.

About the NALEO Educational Fund

The NALEO Educational Fund is the leading organization that empowers Latinos to participate fully in the American political process, from citizenship to public service. The NALEO Educational Fund is a national non-profit, non-partisan organization whose constituency includes the more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials nationwide.

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