

# Listen and Learn: Leveraging Hispanic Voices in Education Research

Institute of Education Sciences  
U.S. Department of Education

White House Initiative on Advancing Educational  
Equity, Excellence and Economic Opportunity for  
Hispanics

# Ground Rules

1. Please submit questions in the chat.
2. Please “raise your hand” if you would like to make a comment.
3. Please turn off your microphone unless asked to speak.
4. Please use your camera when speaking.
5. Please use the “chat” area to convey ideas that you would like IES to follow-up on later in the meeting.
6. Please email follow-up questions and ideas to IES at [IESVirtualTA@ed.gov](mailto:IESVirtualTA@ed.gov).

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Overview of Funding Opportunities
- Open Discussion

# Welcome

- **Emmanuel Caudillo**, Senior Advisor, White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence and Economic Opportunity for Hispanics
- **Katina Stapleton**, Co-chair IES Diversity Council, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education



# White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Hispanics

U.S. Department of Education

Advancing educational equity and economic opportunity for Latino and Hispanic students, families, and communities



## Independent, Relevant, Practical

IES is the nation's premier source for research, evaluation and statistics that can help educators, policymakers and stakeholders improve outcomes for all students.

Welcome to the **Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**, the nation's leading source for rigorous, independent education research, evaluation and statistics.

**NCER**  
National Center for Education Research

**NCES**  
National Center for Education Statistics

**NCEE**  
National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance

**NCSER**  
National Center for Special Education Research

# IES Diversity Statement

**All IES work benefits from diverse perspectives.**

Our ability to conduct and support high-quality research, collect and disseminate timely data, and evaluate the impact of educational policy and practice depends on our ability to attract, train, partner with, and support talented researchers, statisticians, and evaluators from all backgrounds. IES leadership strongly believes this demands a commitment to the many facets of human diversity that shape our lives, including age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, culture, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, and socioeconomic status.

# Leveraging Hispanic Voices in Education Research

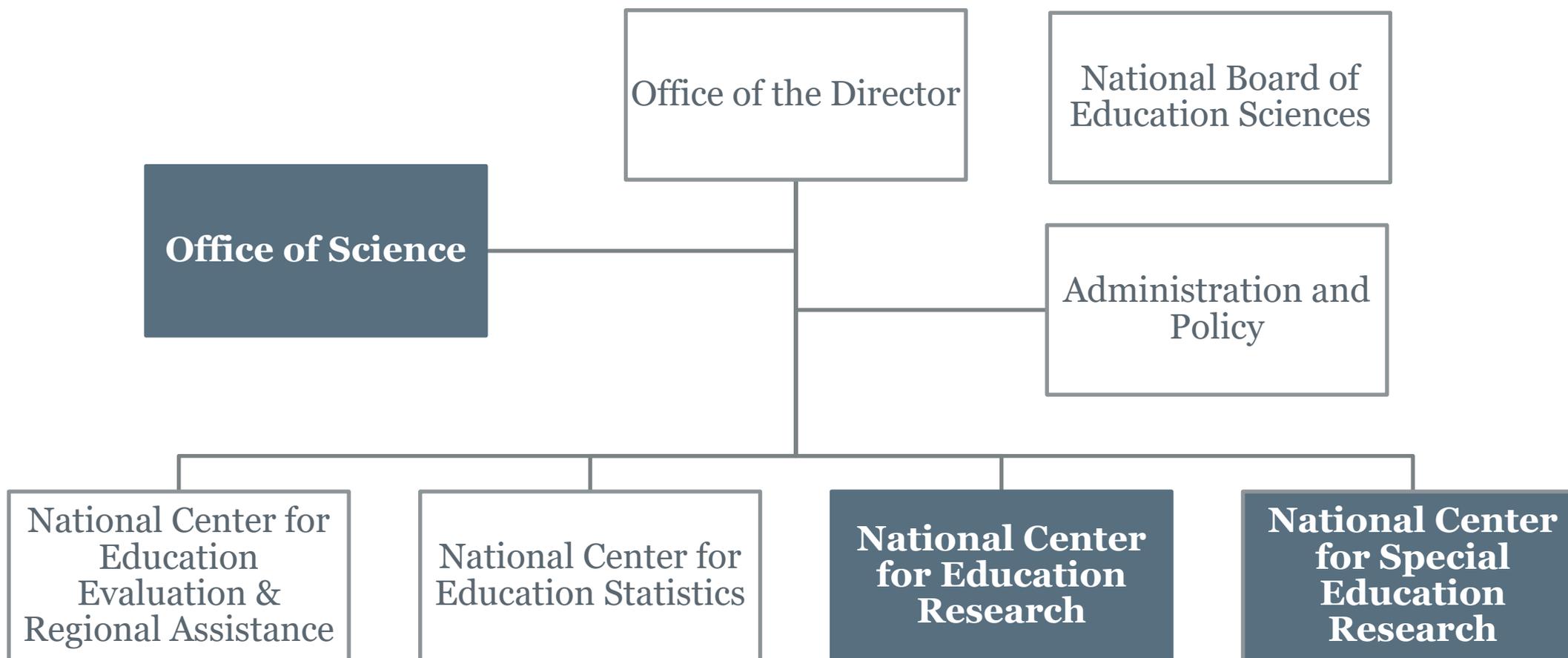
## **IES wants Hispanic and Latino perspectives to be included in our research by**

1. Funding research that focuses on Hispanic students and education issues of interest to Hispanic communities.
2. Awarding grants to Hispanic Serving Institutions and researchers of Hispanic descent.
3. Providing fellowships and other training opportunities to students and researchers of Hispanic descent
4. Recruiting researchers of Hispanic descent to serve as peer reviewers and/or participate in technical working groups.

# Overview

- **Allen Ruby**, Associate Commissioner of Policy and Systems
- **Katherine Taylor**, Special Education Program Officer
- **E. Danielle Roberts**, Standards and Review Research Analyst

# Organizational Structure of IES



# Student Populations of Interest

IES was established by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA – P.L. 107-279), in part to improve academic achievement and access to educational opportunities for all students.

- **NCER** funds research on the education outcomes of learners at any developmental or school level from prekindergarten through postsecondary and adult education
- **NCSEER** funds research on the education outcomes of children and/or youth with or at risk for disabilities in early intervention through postsecondary education.

# Does IES have funding opportunities for Hispanic Serving Institutions?

- **General Opportunities:**
  - HSI applicants are eligible to apply to all IES research and research training competitions.
  - HSI applicants are encouraged to take advantage of IES technical assistance, including webinars and office hours.
- **Targeted Opportunities for MSIs (including HSIs):**
  - Pathways to the Education Sciences Research Training Program (not competed in FY 22)
  - Early Career Mentoring Program for Faculty at Minority Serving Institutions (new competition launched in FY 22)

# Objectives of IES Education and Special Education Research Grant Programs

- Develop or identify education interventions (practices, programs, policies, and approaches) that enhance education outcomes and can be widely deployed
- Identify what does not work and thereby encourage innovation and further research
- Understand the processes that underlie the effectiveness of education interventions and the variation in their effectiveness
- Develop measures of academic achievement and progress
- Support research and national leadership on core issues

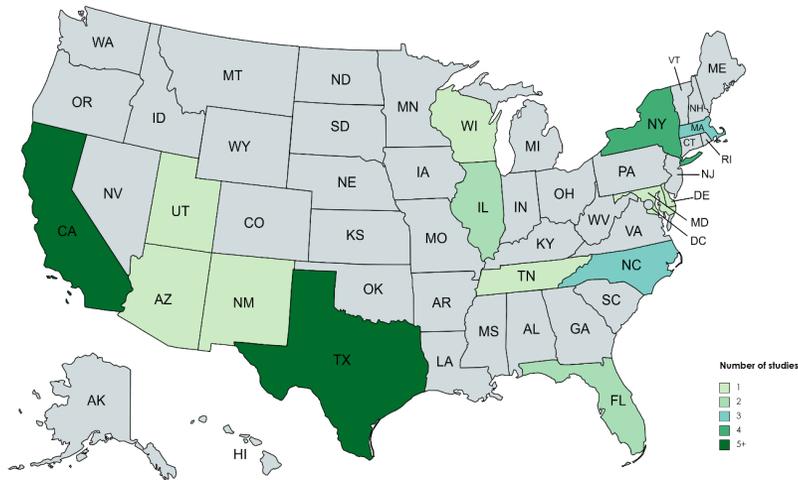
# Projects Should Yield Meaningful Findings and Products

- Contribute knowledge and theory of teaching, learning, and organizing education systems
- Identify the benefits and effects that programs, policies, and practices have on relevant outcomes for learners
- Identify costs and cost effectiveness of such programs, policies, and practices
- Disseminate findings and products in a way useful to and accessible by educators, parents, policymakers, researchers, and the public

# Focus on English Learners

- IES has funded research on English Learners since 2002.
- In 2010, IES established the English Learners portfolio to draw more attention to studying the unique strengths and needs of this growing population of learners and to explicitly commit to identifying ways to support the educational trajectories of ELs, the majority of whom are Spanish-speaking Hispanic children and youth.

# Investments in English Learners Portfolio



**Since the establishment of the portfolio, we have funded 49 grants and 2 R&D centers for a total of about \$106 million.** These projects focus on students from pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and have taken place in 14 different states across the U.S.

# Examples of Current EL Projects

## **These are some of the research questions that our grantees are asking:**

- How can we help English learners learn the meanings of new words and build their academic vocabulary knowledge, so they can benefit from the full academic curriculum?
- Does the language of instruction matter for improving academic outcomes and reducing the achievement gap for ELs?
- Will a program that teaches ESL and classroom teachers to collaborate effectively and engage with parents of their Latino students improve their students' outcomes?

# R and D Centers - CSEL



CENTER FOR THE SUCCESS  
*of* ENGLISH LEARNERS

[www.cselcenter.org](http://www.cselcenter.org)

- How are potential barriers, such as educator attitudes and stated policies, associated with school tracking policies?
- How do educators encounter and/or overcome barriers to providing ELs with access to the general curriculum?
- Can student outcomes be improved in science and social studies through evidence-based instructional approaches, such as formative assessment practices?

# R and D Centers - ELRD



National Research & Development Center to Improve  
**EDUCATION FOR SECONDARY ENGLISH LEARNERS**

WestEd 

<http://www.elrdcenter.wested.org>

- Identifying and describing the systemic barriers that prevent secondary ELs from successfully accessing the general curriculum
- Developing and testing innovative curricular materials that strengthen the learning opportunities and experiences of both teachers and ELs

# Objectives of IES Research Training Programs

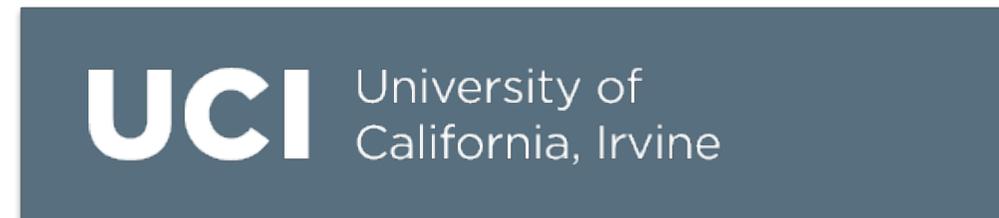
- Prepare individuals to conduct rigorous and relevant education research that advances knowledge within the field and addresses issues important to education policymakers and practitioners
- Train and mentor students and researchers from diverse backgrounds in order to encourage their entry into and success within education research careers
- Improve the quality of education research and encourage new ideas, approaches, and perspectives

# Pathways to the Education Sciences

Training Program grants are awarded to minority-serving institutions (MSIs) and their partners that create education research training programs (eight weeks to 1 year in length) that prepare fellows for doctoral study. Four programs are based at HSIs.

Training participants (known as Pathways fellows) may include upper-level undergraduates (juniors and seniors), post-baccalaureate students (within 5 years of receiving a bachelor's degree), or students enrolled in master's degree programs.

While the formats of the 7 funded Pathways programs vary, the core features are an education-related research theme, a required research apprenticeship, methodological knowledge and skills development and career development.



# HSI-Based Pathways Research Training Program

**Purpose:** To motivate and prepare students to pursue careers in education research.

**IES-funded Pathways Research Training:**

The University of Texas, San Antonio Pathways program theme focuses on research addressing the ongoing inequities in education found in American schooling. As part of the year-long training program, fellows will receive training in education research, conduct research with faculty mentors, and receive assistance in applying to doctoral study.



Guadalupe Carmona, Ann Marie Ryan, Francesca Bronder

# The Early Career Mentoring Program for Faculty at MSIs

**The Early Career Mentoring Program for Faculty at Minority Serving Institutions** supports the mentoring and stages of their academic careers. Each award will provide an individual Early Career MSI faculty member with support for research (including salary for protected time to conduct research) and career development that includes training under the guidance of an experienced mentor or mentors.

**This program was first competed in FY 2022 and is still in the peer review process.**

# How does IES compare to other agencies?

	Institute of Education Sciences (IES)	National Science Foundation (NSF)	National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Information about grants found in	Requests for Applications (RFAs)	RFPs, Dear Colleague Letters	Parent Announcements
Who manages the peer review process?	Standards & Review Office	Program Officers	Center for Scientific Review
Advice provided by program officer?	Yes	Some	Some
How competitive?	Very	Very	Very

# Office of Science

The **Office of Science** oversees the scientific peer review activities for IES grant applications and reports.

- Under the Education Sciences Reform Act (ESRA), IES is required to have a peer review system, involving highly qualified individuals, for reviewing applications for grants and cooperative agreements.
- The Office of Science is separate from the IES centers that fund research grants and contracts, provide technical assistance to applicants, and work with grantees and contractors.
- This organization is intended to allow for an application review process that is as objective as possible.

# Peer Review of Grants

- For more information about the grant peer review process, go to <https://ies.ed.gov/director/sro/index.asp>.
- Individuals interested in serving on grant peer review panels can self-nominate
  - By visiting the Reviewer Recruitment site <https://iesreview.ed.gov/ReviewerRecruitment>
  - By contacting [Elizabeth.Roberts@ed.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Roberts@ed.gov)

# Open Discussion

# Featured IES Participants

- **Elizabeth Albro**, Commissioner of Education Research
- **Christina Chhin**, STEM Program Officer
- **Caroline Ebanks**, Early Childhood Team Lead
- **Joan McLaughlin**, Commissioner of Special Education Research
- **Akilah Nelson**, Special Education Program Officer
- **Anne Ricciuti**, Deputy Director for Science
- **E. Danielle Roberts**, Standards and Review Research Analyst
- **Allen Ruby**, Associate Commissioner of Policy and Systems
- **Katina Stapleton**, Co-Chair IES Diversity and Inclusion Council & Training Program Officer
- **Katherine Taylor**, Special Education Program Officer

# Broadening Hispanic Participation in IES-funded Research and Training

- What factors do you consider when deciding to apply (or not apply) for IES research grant funding?
- What are barriers to your applying for and carrying out IES-supported research?
- How could IES expand/increase outreach to Hispanic researchers, Hispanic organizations, and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) interested in conducting education research?
- How could IES support increasing the education research capacity of Hispanic students, researchers, and organizations, as well as HSIs?
- What kind of funding opportunities would you like to see from IES in the future?

# Focus on Hispanic Learners

- What education issues are high priority for Hispanic communities?
- How can IES-funded research address the variation in educational experiences and needs of Hispanic learners (e.g. Hispanic students with disabilities, adult Hispanic English learners, migrant students)?
- What other agencies/organizations should IES connect/coordinate with to encourage research on Hispanic learners?

# Keep in Touch

[IESVirtualTA@ed.gov](mailto:IESVirtualTA@ed.gov)

<https://ies.ed.gov/funding/>

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<https://sites.ed.gov/hispanic-initiative/>