



Making It Latino Students' Pathways to College

About the Documentary

Latino students face unique opportunities and challenges as they move through high school and prepare for college. In partnership with Detroit Public TV, Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest created a 30-minute documentary about evidence-based practices to support Latino students at various points in their pathway to a postsecondary education. The documentary covers best practices and student stories at two points in their educational journey: high school and college. Researchers Jennifer Trujillo from Learning in Motion and Awilda Rodriguez from the University of Michigan discuss instructional practices teachers can use to support Latino students in high school, as well as strategies and approaches to encourage Latino student success in college. The program also features stories from students, families, and educators at César Chávez Academy High School in Detroit, Michigan, and at Migrant Student Services at Michigan State University.

Intended Audience

REL Midwest created this documentary as a tool for educators, parents, and students to learn about evidence-based approaches to support Latino students as they prepare for college. The documentary focuses on examples from Michigan, but the information and evidence shared in the program offer important learnings for people and groups based outside the state. REL Midwest hopes viewers will watch the program and use the following questions as a starting point for a discussion on how to support Latino students' pathways to college.

Discussion Questions

- What concepts or themes from the documentary resonate with you?
- What were your reactions to the approaches and research presented in the documentary? Are there promising approaches that the program did not address?
- What challenges do you see in preparing Latino students for college? What are possible ways to overcome these challenges?
- What approaches to preparing Latino students for college have worked in your state, district, or school?
- Are there other ways that K–12 education and higher education can work together to prepare Latino students for college?

About REL Midwest

REL Midwest is part of a network of 10 regional educational laboratories funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences. REL Midwest works in partnership with practitioners in seven Midwest states to conduct applied research and provide training, coaching, and technical support to create a more evidence-based education system. Visit the REL Midwest website to learn more: <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/midwest/default.aspx>.