

CULTURA

Year 1 | UC Santa Cruz | Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) Grant | U.S. Department of Education

The Centering Undergraduate Latiné Thriving with University Racial-Equity Action (CULTURA) project will support UCSC's commitment to **student success and equity** with structural and cultural changes, data-driven decisions, and **students' voices** to reverse post-pandemic declines in Latiné enrollment (transfer), retention, and graduation rates.

Institutional gaps addressed by the grant:

1. Increase retention and graduation rates for Latiné students.
2. Improve campus climate and sense of belonging for Latiné students.
3. Increase Latiné transfer student enrollment from partner community colleges.
4. Improve institutional capacity by increasing coordination and integration among campus supports, use of data systems, and visibility of UCSC HSI identity.

Grant Overview:

Grant Type: Title V, Part A*

Grant Active Dates: October 2024 - September 2029

Grant Year 1: October 2024 - September 2025

Grant Funding Amount: \$2,999,987

* Title V, Part A Funding: Assist HSIs in expanding educational opportunities for, and improving the attainment of, Hispanic students. Grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.

Key Partners

- Chicanx/Latinx Resource Center "El Centro"
- Collaborative Research for Equity in Action (CREA) lab
- Global and Community Health program

Grant Components:

1. Strengthening El Centro: Expanding programs and internships at the Latiné Student Servingness Campus Hub, including bilingual service offerings for families and prospective students.

2. Latiné Student Success: Coordinating holistic coaching and advising services, warm handoff processes, and increasing validating experiences.

3. Health Professions Pathways: Holding articulation summits with community college faculty, with UCSC student ambassadors' outreach to community college students and providing peer mentoring for new transfer students interested in healthcare careers.

4. Servingness Research Internships: Offering robust research training opportunities for undergraduates and informing new research on student success within HSIs.



Grant goals to increase:

1. Increase Latiné students' retention rates by 5% and the number of graduation Latiné students who graduate by 10%.
2. Improve campus climate and sense of belonging by 5% for Latiné students.
3. Increase Latiné transfer student enrollment in Health Pathway majors by 421%.
4. Increase integration among campus partners by 10%.

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