



# Readiness Matters – State Collaboration for Success

NCLR, SREB, Hunt Institute

Atlanta, Georgia

Tuesday, May 6, 2014



# NALEO

Established in 1976 by the late Congressman Edward R. Roybal, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) is a 501(c)(4) non-partisan membership organization whose constituency includes the nation's more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials.

NALEO is governed by a 28-member Board of Directors.

## NALEO BOARD LEADERSHIP

### President

Hon. Alex Padilla  
*California State Senator (D)*

### Vice-President

Hon. Luz Urbáez Weinberg (R)  
*Commissioner,  
City of Aventura, Florida*



## NALEO Educational Fund

The nation's leading 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that facilitates full Latino participation in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.

Established in 1981, NALEO Educational Fund is governed by a 15-member Board of Directors.



NALEO EDUCATIONAL FUND CHAIR

Hon. Pauline Medrano  
*Former Mayor Pro Tem*  
Dallas, Texas

# NALEO Educational Fund achieves its mission through three major strategies:



Policy, Research  
& Advocacy



Civic  
Engagement



Constituency  
Services



## Policy, Research and Advocacy (PRA)

The NALEO Educational Fund's Policy, Research and Advocacy Department promotes policies which further Latino access to the political process, and provides the public with accurate and relevant information about Latino political engagement and impact.

The NALEO Educational Fund focuses on **five** major policy areas:

- Naturalization and Immigration Reform
- Census
- Election Reform, Voting Rights, and Governance
- Redistricting
- Latino Appointments



## Civic Engagement Program (CE)

The NALEO Educational Fund's Civic Engagement program works towards full participation of Latinos in the American political process by promoting naturalization, electoral participation, and Census promotion. The department works at the community level, and through local, regional, and national strategic partnerships.





## Constituency Services (CS)

The NALEO Educational Fund's Constituency Services Department (CS) promotes the governance and policymaking success of Latino elected and appointed officials. Our vision is to see Latino elected and appointed officials shape and better American society.

The Constituency Services Department provides training through **three** major components:

- The biennial NALEO National Institute for Newly Elected Officials
- Regional and National NALEO Policy Institutes, with ongoing focus on Education and Health
- The NALEO Annual Conference



# Constituency Services Governance Competencies

The goal of the NALEO Education Leadership Initiative (NELI) Policy Institutes are aimed to enhance policymakers' skills in the following governance areas:

- Coordination & Use of Data
- Finance & Budget Analysis
- Content Competency
- Program Evaluation
- Messaging & Communication
- Navigating Politics







# Education Program Areas

## Education

### NALEO Education Leadership Initiative (NELI)

- Early Learning Initiatives
- K-12 Initiatives
- College Completion Initiatives

## State Based Initiatives

- Washington; California; Texas; New Mexico; Colorado; Florida; Arizona



## Latino Elected and Appointed Officials National Taskforce on Education

The Taskforce is the only national, bipartisan, cross-section education coalition of Latino leadership in the country. The Taskforce aims to collaborate on the development of a new comprehensive approach for addressing the increasing opportunity gap for the nation's Latino students.

## Washington State

The Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee makes policy recommendations for closing opportunity gaps in Washington public schools.

Recommendations to the legislature (6 total) in 2013, 2 focused on ELLs:

- Provide English Language Learners/ Second Language Acquisition endorsement for all educators.
- Create new English Language Learner Accountability Benchmarks.

<https://www.k12.wa.us/AchievementGap/meetings/Oct2013/CommunityForumPPT.pdf>

Closing Opportunity Gaps in  
Washington's Public Education System:  
Recommendations from the Educational  
Opportunity Gap Oversight & Accountability  
Committee

Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos  
Commissioner Lillian Ortiz-Self



<http://www.k12.wa.us/AchievementGap/default.aspx>

## Denver Public Schools

- DPS requires all newly hired teachers to complete teacher training to work with English Language Learners.

*"What we really need is requirements, regulations from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and from the Colorado legislature to change teacher certification to reflect the needs of the urban school district,"* - Board Member Arturo Jimenez, Denver Post



# For More Information

**Rosita Ramirez, Ph.D**

Director of Constituency Services - Education

Los Angeles, CA

[rramirez@naleo.org](mailto:rramirez@naleo.org)

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

[@NALEO](https://www.instagram.com/NALEO)

