

## What Works for Latino College Students

*Excelencia* in Education provides data-driven analysis of the educational condition of Latino college students. The focus on higher education is designed to intensify attention on the completion of the educational pipeline and increase Latino academic success. Complementing the strengths of organizations working with elementary and secondary students, *Excelencia* adds value to efforts closing the achievement gap in an area of critical unmet need-ensuring the educational success of Latino students in higher education-while linking with effective Pre K-12 strategies that enhance Latino college-going.

Today as never before educators and policymakers are looking to invest in strategies that show evidence of effectiveness. Focusing on Latino students is important because the Latino population is large, growing, and relatively young, with overall lower educational achievement than other racial/ethnic groups.

To address this need, *Excelencia* has begun collecting information about "what works" for Latino students from Latino community-based organizations, educators, policymakers, and institutional leaders throughout the country. The process of culling, identifying and cataloging programs is underway and has already produced the following:

2006 Example of *Excelencia* - [Associate Level](#) (Click for a pdf description of the ACE program at Maricopa ) Achieving a College Education (ACE) Programs at Maricopa County Community College District, Arizona.

The Achieving a College Education (ACE) Programs at Maricopa County Community College District, was selected as the 2006 Example of *Excelencia* at the Associate Level for its demonstrated results over the past twenty years to reach, engage and support high school students who aspire to a college degree. Over 60% of the program participants are Latino. Recent program data indicates that 88-96 percent of participants had graduated from high school, and 83 percent of ACE graduates had enrolled in college. ACE graduates outperform the general Maricopa Community Colleges student population.

See also <http://www.maricopa.edu/resdev/ace/campusprograms.php> for more information on the ACE programs at the 10 Maricopa Community Colleges.

- [\*\*Higher Expectations: Improving Achievement and Opportunity for Hispanic Students\*\*](#)

First -ever convening of Latino policymakers and education grantmakers

- [\*\*What Works for Latino Students \(PDF\)\*\*](#)
- [\*\*EXITO \(Excellent Ideas Transform Outcomes\) Taskforce\*\*](#)

*Excelencia* in Education, Inc.

<http://www.edexcelencia.org/default.asp>