



DATE: September 2, 2025

TO: Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

FROM: Chancellor Ronald P. Gerhard, CLPCCD
President Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College
President Jamal Cooks, Chabot College

SUBJECT: CLPCCD Communication – Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI)

Our commitment to equity, inclusion, and student success is unwavering. Both Chabot College and Las Positas College are proud to be designated as Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and this recognition affirms the vital role we play in serving our diverse student population. Through HSI funding, we have been able to expand student services, develop innovative equity initiatives, and strengthen programs that directly benefit *all* students.

As proud members of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), we are part of a national network of colleges and universities advocating for equitable access and federal investment in HSIs. Our membership ensures that the voices of Chabot and Las Positas are represented in Washington, D.C., alongside institutions across the country collectively serving nearly six million college students.

Background

Recently, a lawsuit was filed in the State of Tennessee challenging the federal HSI program, and the U.S. Department of Justice has declined to defend it in court. In response, HACU, together with Latino Justice PRLDEF, has filed a motion to intervene and defend the program by becoming a party to the lawsuit.

What This Means for Us

At this time, there are no changes to our current HSI designation or funding. Both colleges continue to benefit from grants that support student success initiatives, faculty development, and institutional innovation. The case is ongoing, and we are monitoring developments closely in partnership with HACU, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, and other national higher education associations.

Moving Forward

While legal challenges like this can create uncertainty, we want to emphasize that our district remains firmly committed to serving all of our students and maintaining the progress we have made. We will continue to advocate for the value of HSI funding and the opportunities it creates for our colleges and our entire community.

As the situation evolves, we will keep you informed and provide updates. In the meantime, thank you for your continued dedication to our students and to our mission.

Stay updated on staff and student communications by visiting www.clpccd.org/communications.