



# Hispanic Serving Institutions(HSI) Scholars Program

Mitzi Cardona – National Program Lead, Portfolio Management- Hispanic Serving Institutions

# Hispanics/Latinos in the US

- 1/5 people in the US identified as Hispanic Latino in 2022
- As of 2019, nearly 42 million people spoke Spanish at home
- Other than English, Spanish is spoken by more people than all other languages combined
  - In 2018, less than 6% of active physicians identified as Hispanic Latino
- 1 in every 4 children, 25.7% (18.8 million), in the United States were of Hispanic origin in 2020

• The Hispanic Latino population is growing rapidly, and yet the American health and health care systems do not consistently provide high-quality, culturally competent care. With the underrepresentation of Hispanic Latino health professionals, advocacy for empathetic, language-concordant and culturally-concordant care remains an urgent priority as inequities and poor health outcomes in underserved, Hispanic Latino communities grow. The call for empathic care encompasses grasping the lived experience of Hispanic Latino individuals who may not speak Spanish.

# Hispanics/Latinos in the US

**“The U.S. Latino population reached 62.5 million in 2021, accounting for 19% of the U.S. population—up from 13% in 2000. Since then, Latinos have been the largest contributor to U.S. population growth, accounting for 54% of the growth. By 2060, the Latino population is projected to increase to 111.2 million, or 28% of the U.S. population.”**

**“A Mosaic, Not a Monolith: A Profile of the U.S. Latino Population, 2000-2020.” by Jie Zong**

# Hispanic/Latino's Role in

## STEM & Healthcare Diversity



Only about **6%** of U.S. Medical Doctors  
are Hispanic/Latino

And

**9.6 %** of U.S. Researchers are  
**Hispanic/Latino**



# HSIs Role in

## STEM & Healthcare Diversity

Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) serve Hispanic students by promoting a racially diverse student body, fostering a positive and open campus, and providing student services that are specifically designed to help Hispanic students. These institutions continue to contribute significantly to preparing our future diverse workforce

HSI represent about **13%** of all post-secondary institutions in the US

BUT EDUCATE

**2/3** of all Hispanic/Latino College Students

**More than 74% of full-time students at four-year HSIs graduated within six years, while the federal graduation rate is less than 43%.**

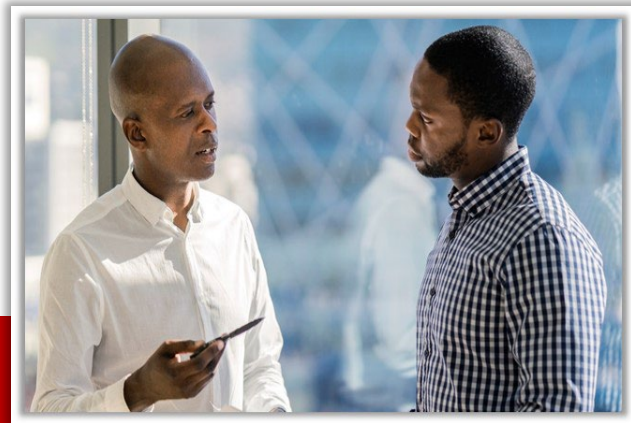




# HSI Scholar Program Overview

- Building on the success and roadmap of the AHA's HBCU Scholars Program, the Hispanic Serving Institutions Scholars Program aims to develop a pipeline of diverse researchers and healthcare professionals by providing HSI undergraduate students with academic and career-enriching resources, including scholarships and mentoring.
- Scholars learn about health disparities in Hispanic/Latino communities, how cultural sensitivity can provide safe and reassuring clinical spaces, and how inclusivity is essential in science.
- The program partners with 18 Hispanic Serving Institutions and includes a cohort of **30 students**.

# Program Components



## Mentorship

Scholars participate in an academic year of career mentorship to increase each student's awareness of their potential impact on the understanding and treatment of cardiovascular disease.



## Leadership

Scholars engage in a virtual leadership and professional development series to enhance critical skill sets needed to position them for success beyond graduation.



## Annual Convenings

Scholars attend the AHA's Scientific Sessions and present their research at an annual Spring Symposium. Both events provide the students with opportunities for further career sampling, soft skills training, and professional networking.

# Impact & Reach

## Miami/Ft. Lauderdale

Miami Dade College- West and Padron Campuses  
Florida International University  
Florida State University- Gainesville

## New York:

The City College of New York (CUNY)  
Hostos Community College

## New Jersey

William Paterson University  
Montclair University  
Rutgers University- Newark

## Chicago

City Colleges of Chicago -Wilbur Wright College  
City Colleges of Chicago-Harold Washington

## Puerto Rico

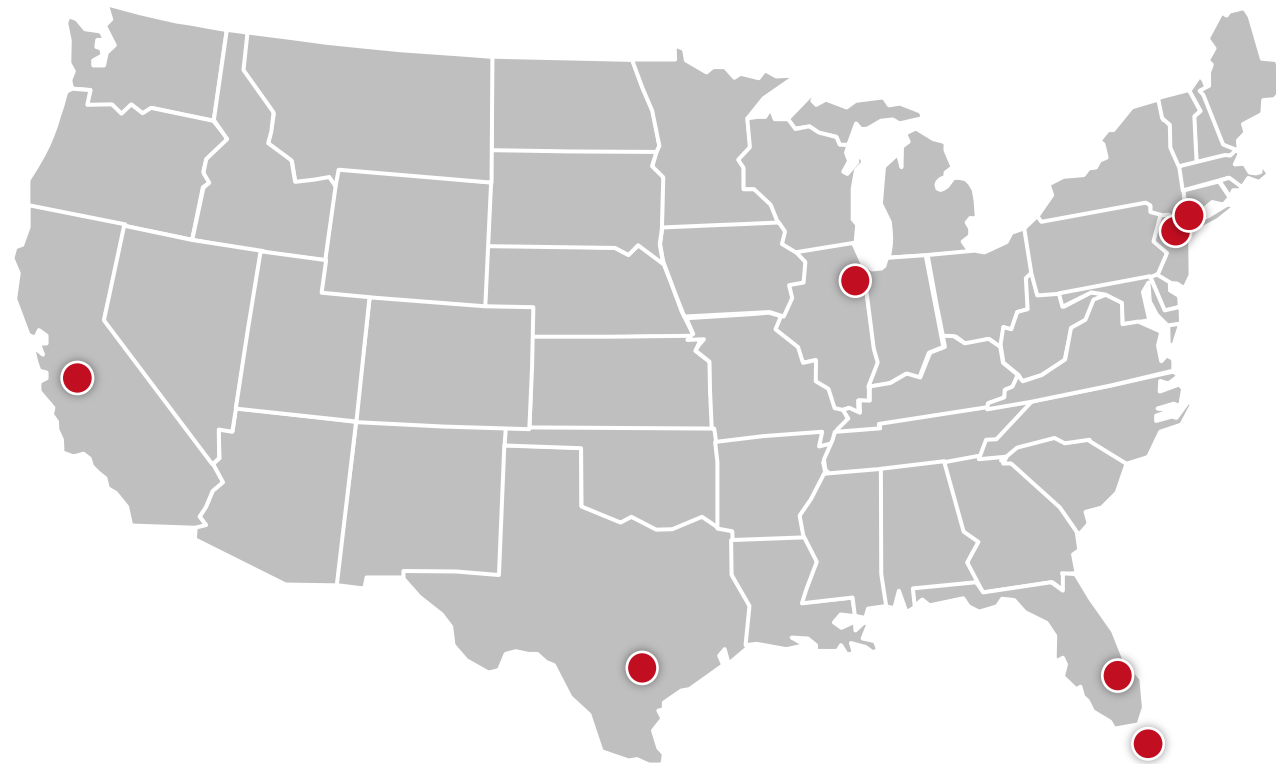
University of Puerto Rico- Mayagüez  
University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras  
University of Puerto Rico: Carolina  
University of Puerto Rico: Aguadilla  
University of Puerto Rico: Ponce

## Houston

University of Houston  
University of Houston Downtown

## Los Angeles

California State University Dominguez Hills  
California State University Long Beach  
California State University San Marcos



American  
Heart  
Association®



# HSI Scholars Program

## Welcome Scholar Dinners



### Hosted 7 In-person Kickoffs

- LA
- Miami
- PR
- Chicago
- New Jersey
- New York
- Houston





# HSI Scholars Program 2022 Scientific Sessions

We have a seat at the table, we have a voice, and we are the future of Medical care. I think before going to the sessions, there was doubt in myself that this is what I was meant to do, or I wasn't good enough and this event opened my eyes to the possibilities.- HSI Scholar Quote



**Sara Ocasio Gari**

**HSI Scholars  
Program  
Alumni 2021**



# HSI Scholars Program

## APPLY for the HSI Program

### Who is Eligible:

- A Latino/Latina student attending a Hispanic Serving Institution seeking a professional degree in the biomedical and health sciences ( Nursing, Public & Community Health, Nutrition)
- Currently enrolled in a Hispanic Serving Institute as a sophomore, junior, or senior in an undergraduate program or a second-year student at a Hispanic Serving Community College with a GPA of at least 3.2
- Complete the application, short essay (500-word count), and submit a headshot color photograph by deadline, on our application portal:  
<https://ahacommunityfunding.fluxx.io/portal>
- Students will have to create an account on Flux to apply on the portal.



**AHA Partners to Promote Diversity in Science**

Through a partnership with the American Heart Association, mentored 12-to-18-week academic year research experiences are available for students from ethnic and racial groups under-represented in science.

**Students will be selected by local Hispanic Serving Institutions. Eligibility and selection criteria include**

- Students who have expressed interest in research, public health or healthcare related fields.
- Full-time undergraduate rising sophomores, juniors or seniors.
- Exemplary academic performance and recommendations.
- Networking opportunities: conferences, meetings, local programs, etc.
- Information on health equity, stress/time management, etc.
- Team science model that exposes student to basic, clinical and population science.

**Student Benefits**

- Stipend from the American Heart Association.
- Professional Development workshops
- Networking opportunities at an AHA scientific meeting and regional symposium.
- Local community engagement opportunities
- Student must have a clearly identified project
- Mentor should provide AHA with project title, brief description of student's project, and clearly-defined objectives/goals for student project
- When possible, mentor should help connect student to AHA local activities
- Students will be expected to conduct a poster presentation.

**Mentor Responsibilities**

- Supervise student for the duration of the research experience.
- Basic curriculum components can include:
  - Compliance training (use of human and/or animal subjects, radioactivity, biohazards, etc.).
  - Training on Responsible Conduct in Research.
  - Presentation of projects.

**Outcomes**

- Mentors will be asked to provide AHA with specific measurements of students' progress.
- AHA may survey both mentors and students to assess program goals.

FLUXX Portal- Apply Here:



# HSI Scholars Program



## Benefits of the HSI Program

### Benefits:

- Formalized mentorship with a local Researcher
- A stipend (\$7,000 per student)
- Attendance at our National AHA Scientific Sessions and the Research Symposium ( all expenses paid for in addition to the stipend).
- Experience and connection with AHA's healthcare network that is ongoing and could lead to career opportunities.
- Professional Development- Monthly virtual sessions

### Application Link:

- <https://ahacommunityfunding.fluxx.io/portal>
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### FLUXX Portal- Apply Here:

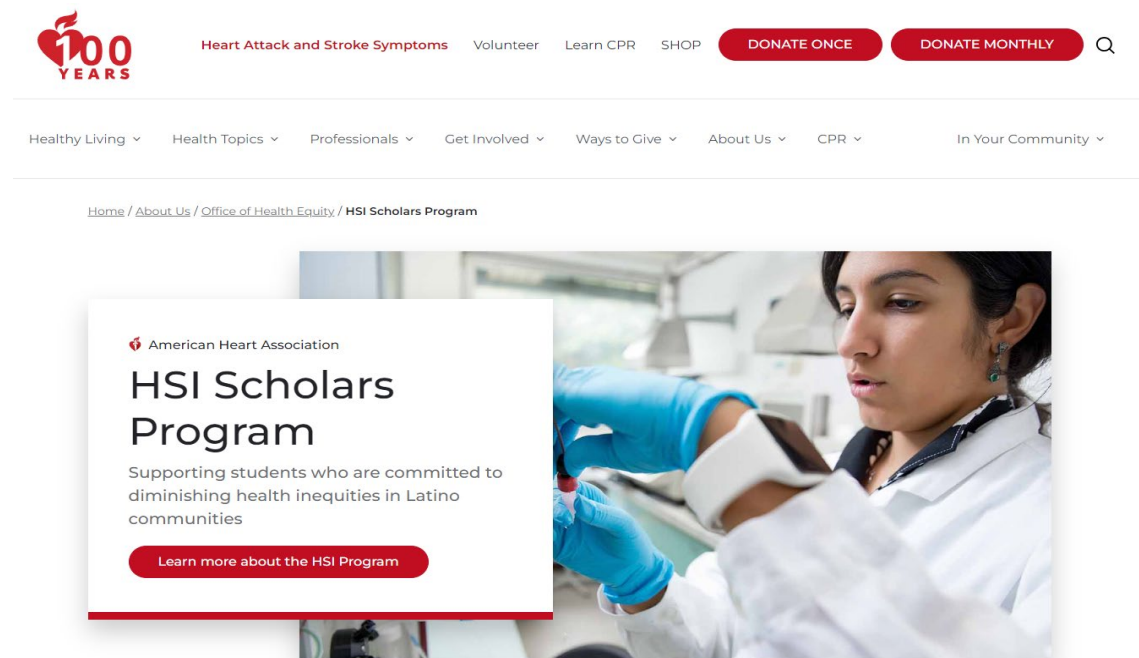


# Next Steps – Program Timeline



# Learn more about our Program

## Program Website



[HSI Scholars Program | American Heart Association](#)

# Q & A

## Thank you

**Mitzi Cardona**  
National Program Lead  
Portfolio Management

[Mitzi.Cardona@heart.org](mailto:Mitzi.Cardona@heart.org)

313-492-0720