

Degrees Conferred

Another metric to benchmark college completion is to track the progress of total degrees awarded over time. This measure may be the result of an increase in overall enrollment numbers rather than an increase in rates of completion. From 2005-06 to 2007-08,

- the number of Hispanics who earned an undergraduate degree in Oregon increased about 13% from 2006-08, while all other race/ethnic groups increased 1%.
- among the 50 states, Oregon ranked 24th for the increase in degrees conferred to Latinos over 3 years.

For more information on these metrics, download *Benchmarking Latino College Completion to Meet National Goals: 2010 to 2020* and *Degrees Conferred to Latinos: 2006-2008* at www.EdExcelencia.org/research/EAF/Benchmarking

Examples of What Works for Latino Students

There are institutions in Oregon showing success in enrolling, retaining, and graduating Latino students. The following is an example of an institutional program with evidence of effectiveness in serving Latino students nominated for Examples of *Excelencia*.

***Ayudándonos Podemos (Helping Each Other, We Can Do IT)* - Linfield College**

Ayudándonos Podemos, or AP, is a federally funded recruitment and retention program to increase the number of graduates from populations that are underrepresented in nursing, particularly Hispanic students. Linfield –Good Samaritan School of Nursing (LGSSON) has developed a comprehensive approach to retention of nursing students, providing resources and support services for Latino students. LGSSON's bilingual, bicultural staff members are key to the success of AP recruitment activities, which include a community-based outreach program targeting 800+ Hispanic students and their families (e.g., ¡Saludos! Hispanic Family Day). Their outreach extends to TRIO programs at local two- and four-year colleges and healthcare workforce development programs/agencies. Since the inception of the program, the overall retention rate for AP students has been 96%. In comparison, the overall retention rate for the school of nursing is 92%. Since the AP program began in July 2004, 50 stipends and scholarships have been distributed to pre-nursing and nursing students in the program. Of these, 42 students are Hispanic. (<http://linfield.edu/portland/multicultural-programs/outreach/>)

For more information on institutional programs improving Latino student success in higher education, access *Excelencia* in Education's Growing What Works database at <http://www.edexcelencia.org/examples>

Ensuring America's Future partners in Oregon:

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE): <http://wiche.edu>