



AccessLex Supports President Biden's FY22 Budget Request to Invest in HBCUs and Other Minority Serving Institutions

WEST CHESTER, PA, April 9, 2021 — Greater access to postsecondary education, particularly for low-income students and students of color, is at the heart of the federal government's investment in higher education. That is why AccessLex Institute supports the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 budget proposal to provide an additional \$600 million to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), among other under-resourced institutions.

AccessLex Institute has called on Congress to fully fund Title III of the Higher Education Act (HEA), which provides funding for HBCUs and other MSIs, when it crafts its FY22 spending bills. When last reauthorized in 2008, HEA authorized certain funding levels for Title III programs, but these levels have not been met in the intervening years. We hope the President's budget request today spurs Congress to make good on this investment.

HBCUs play an outsized role in educating Black students—they represent 3 percent of all colleges and universities but enroll 10 percent of Black undergraduates and award 17 percent of bachelor's degrees earned by Black students. However, funding and resources for HBCUs and other MSIs lag behind those at institutions that serve predominately White students. Congress can help address existing inequities by appropriating much needed funding to HEA Title III programs. This would enable more students of color to pursue their educational dreams, which would not only benefit those individual graduates but would also strengthen their local communities and the economy.

We look forward to working with Congress and the Biden-Harris Administration in their efforts to increase access to higher education for students of color and to increase funding to HBCUs and other MSIs.

Read our letter to Congress regarding HEA Title III funding [here](#).

Read our HEA recommendations [here](#).