



Enhancing Educational Outcomes for Hispanic/LatinX Scholars in Pharmacy Education

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Objective

This study evaluates the impact of the HRSA-funded Hispanic Center of Excellence in Pharmacy (HCEP) at Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy, initiated in 2022, on improving educational outcomes for Hispanic/LatinX Doctor of Pharmacy and Pharmacy Technician scholars.

Methods

Our analysis encompassed admissions, scholarship allocations, and academic performance data for the HCEP cohorts in the PharmD and Pharm Tech programs during the 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years. The HCEP program, aimed at promoting academic achievement, offers scholarships, bespoke academic training, and comprehensive support services to students at Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy (Doctor of Pharmacy students) and San Manuel Gateway College (Pharmacy Technician students).

Funding Acknowledgement

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Results

Overview of Program	Outcomes	
<p>The diagram illustrates the program's components. At the center is a photograph of two pharmacy students. Surrounding this central image are six colored boxes, each with an arrow pointing towards the center: a green box for 'Mentoring and Community' (top), a red box for 'Scholarship Support' (top-left), a blue box for 'Summer Research Program' (bottom-left), a pink box for 'Social Determinants of Health Certificate' (bottom), an orange box for 'Mental Wellness Support' (top-right), and a yellow box for 'Social Determinants of Health Certificate' (bottom-right).</p>	<p>LLUSP PharmD Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56% increase in HCEP scholars: 16 students (2022-23) to 27 students (2023-24). • First-time PharmD student enrollment increased from 10.9% to 37.0% of the P1 class. • Over 80% of the P1 HCEP students were first-generation college attendees/graduates. • On-time progression rate: 92.7% (2022-23 cohort) and 87.0% (2023-24 cohort). 	<p>SMGC Pharm Tech Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent enrollment at San Manuel Gateway College • 6 graduates in the 2022-23 academic year • 6 current enrollees

Conclusions

The HCEP program has markedly enhanced the enrollment and academic success of Hispanic/LatinX PharmD and Pharm Tech students by delivering essential financial, academic, and non-academic support. This highlights the effectiveness of focused initiatives in advancing higher education accomplishments among underrepresented demographics.