



3410-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

7 CFR Part 3434

RIN 0524-AA39

**Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities
(HSACU) Certification Process**

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA),
USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment to NIFA regulations updates the list of institutions that are granted Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities (HSACU) certification by the Secretary and are eligible for HSACU programs for the period starting October 1, 2018, and ending September 30, 2019.

DATES: This rule is effective [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] and applicable from October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

HSACU Institutions for Fiscal Year 2019

This rule makes changes to the existing list of institutions in appendix B of 7 CFR part 3434. The list of institutions is amended to reflect the institutions that are granted HSACU certification by the Secretary and are eligible for HSACU programs for the period starting October 1, 2018, and ending September 30, 2019.

Certification Process

As stated in 7 CFR 3434.4, an institution must meet the following criteria to receive HSACU certification:(1) be a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), (2) offer agriculture-related degrees, (3) not appear on the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), (4) be accredited, and (5) award at least 15% of agriculture-related degrees to Hispanic students over the two most recent academic years.

NIFA obtained the latest report from the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education

Statistics that lists all HSIs and the degrees conferred by these institutions (completion data) during the 2016-17 academic year. NIFA used this report to identify HSIs that conferred a degree in an instructional program that appears in appendix A of 7 CFR part 3434 and to confirm that over the 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years at least 15% of the degrees in agriculture-related fields were awarded to Hispanic students. NIFA further confirmed that these institutions were nationally accredited and were not on the exclusions listing in the System for Award Management (<https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/searchRecords/search.jsf>).

The updated list of HSACUs is based on 1) completions data from 2015-16 and 2016-17, and 2) enrollment data from Fall 2017. NIFA identified 158 institutions that met the eligibility criteria to receive HSACU certification for FY 2019 (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019).

Section 7102 of the Agriculture Act of 2018 (Pub.L. 115-334) amended Section 1404(14) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103(14)) to remove the opt-in, opt-out language for Hispanic Serving Agricultural Colleges and

Universities (HSACU) in order to apply for Non Land-Grant College of Agriculture (NLGCA) designation.

Appeal Process

As set forth in 7 CFR 3434.8, NIFA will permit HSIs that are not granted HSACU certification to submit an appeal within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

Classification

This rule relates to internal agency management. Accordingly, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, notice of proposed rulemaking and opportunity for comment are not required, and this rule may be made effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. This rule also is exempt from the provisions of Executive Order 12866. This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, 5 U.S.C. 601 et seq., or the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 et seq., and thus is exempt from the provisions of those Acts. This rule contains no information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 3434

Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural research, education, extension, Hispanic-serving institutions, Federal assistance.

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended accordingly as set forth below:

PART 3434 - HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1. The authority citation for part 3434 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 3103.

2. Revise appendix B to read as follows:

Appendix B to Part 3434—List of HSACU institutions, 2018-2019

The institutions listed in this appendix are granted HSACU certification by the Secretary and are eligible for HSACU programs for the period starting October 1, 2018, and ending September 30, 2019. Institutions are listed alphabetically under the state of the school's location, with the campus indicated where applicable.

Arizona (4)

Arizona Western College

Cochise County Community College

Mesa Community College

Pima Community College

California (67)

Allan Hancock College

Bakersfield College

Cabrillo College

California Baptist University

California State University-San Bernardino

California State University-Long Beach

California State University-Los Angeles

California State University-East Bay

California State University-Fullerton

California State University-Fresno

California State University-Chico

California State University-Bakersfield

California State University-Stanislaus

California State University-San Marcos

California State University-Monterey Bay

California State University-Channel Islands

California State Polytechnic-Pomona

Chaffey College

City College of San Francisco
Crafton Hills College
College of the Desert
College of the Sequoias
Cosumnes River College
Cuesta College
Cuyamaca College
El Camino Community College District
Foothill College
Fresno Pacific University
Fullerton College
Golden West College
Hartnell College
Humboldt State University
Imperial Valley College
Las Positas College
Long Beach City College
Los Angeles Pierce College
Mendocino College
Merced College
Mills College
Modesto Junior College

Mt San Antonio College
Mt San Jacinto Community College District
Napa Valley College
National University
Orange Coast College
Pacific Union College
Porterville College
Reedley College
Saddleback College
Santa Barbara City College
Santa Monica College
San Bernardino Valley College
San Diego City College
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego State University
San Joaquin State University
San Jose State University
Saint Mary's College of California
Southwestern College
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Riverside
University of California-Santa Barbara

University of California-Santa Cruz

Victor Valley College

West Hills College- Coalinga

Whittier College

Yuba College

Connecticut (1)

Norwalk Community College

Colorado (2)

Aims Community College

Community College of Denver

Florida (7)

Broward College

City College-Hollywood

Florida International University

Hillsborough Community College

Miami Dade College

South Florida State College

Valencia College

Illinois (3)

College of Lake County

Dominican University

Triton College

Kansas (2)

Dodge City Community College

Garden City Community College

Nevada (3)

College of Southern Nevada

Nevada State College

Truckee Meadows Community College

New Jersey (4)

Essex County College

Montclair State University

Saint Peter's University

William Paterson University of New Jersey

New Mexico (9)

Central New Mexico Community College

Eastern New Mexico University- Main Campus

Mesalands Community College

New Mexico Highlands University

Northern New Mexico College

Santa Fe Community College

Western New Mexico University

University of New Mexico - Los Alamos Campus

University of New Mexico-Main Campus

New York (8)

CUNY Hunter College
CUNY LaGuardia Community College
CUNY Lehman College
CUNY Queens College
CUNY Queensborough Community College
Mercy College
Nassau Community College
SUNY Westchester Community College

Puerto Rico (16)

Instituto Tecnologico de Puerto Rico- Recinto de Manati
Inter American University of Puerto Rico - Aguadilla
Inter American University of Puerto Rico - Bayamon
Inter American University of Puerto Rico - Metro
Inter American University of Puerto Rico - San German
Inter-American University of Puerto Rico - Ponce
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico-Arecibo
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico - Ponce
Universidad Del Turabo
Universidad Metropolitana
University of Puerto Rico-Humacao
University of Puerto Rico-Utuado

University of Puerto Rico-Mayaquez

University of Puerto Rico-Medical Sciences

University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras

Texas (28)

Angelo State University

Concordia University-Texas

Houston Community College

Frank Phillips College

Lee College

Odessa College

Palo Alto College

Saint Edwards's University

San Antonio College

Southwest Texas Junior College

St. Mary's University

Sul Ross University

Texas State University

Texas State Technical College

Texas A & M International University

Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi

Texas A & M University-Kingsville

The University of Texas at El Paso

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
The University of Texas at San Antonio
The University of Texas at Arlington
Texas Woman's University
University of Houston
University of Houston - Clear Lake
University of the Incarnate Word
University of St. Thomas
Western Texas College
Wayland Baptist University

Washington (4)

Big Bend Community College
Columbia Basin College
Wenatchee Valley College
Yakima Valley Community College

Done in Washington, DC, this 21 day of May 2019.

Steve Censky,
Deputy Secretary,
U.S. Department of Agriculture.
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