



HUD NEWS

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FOR RELEASE

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HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$82,000 TO HELP YOUTH LIVING IN MILWAUKEE PUBLIC HOUSING AFFORD COLLEGE AND CONTINUE EDUCATION

"Education Navigators" will help students and their families apply for federal student aid

MILWAUKEE – To help low-income youth and their families apply for federal student aid for college and other post-secondary educational opportunities, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today awarded approximately \$2.5 million to nine Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to hire "Education Navigators" to guide them through the application process.

[The Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency \(ROSS\) for Education Program](#), also known as *Project SOAR* (Students + Opportunities + Achievements = Results), is a new demonstration program that provides grant funding to public housing authorities to deploy education navigators to help public housing youth ages of 15-20 and their families apply for the U.S. Department of Education's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), as well as assist with financial literacy and college readiness, post-secondary program applications and post-acceptance assistance.

"Achieving the dream of a college education is becoming more of a reality for hundreds of students living in HUD-assisted housing," said HUD Secretary Julián Castro. "This is an investment in our young people by putting them on a path to a college degree and creating greater opportunity to more prosperous lives."

HUD awarded grants to the following public housing authorities:

Public Housing Authority	City	State	Grant Amount
Chicago Housing Authority	Chicago	IL	\$452,000
City of Phoenix Housing Department	Phoenix	AZ	\$452,000
Housing Authority of the City of High Point	High Point	NC	\$156,938
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles	Los Angeles	CA	\$452,000
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee	Milwaukee	WI	\$81,800
Housing Authority of the City of Prichard	Prichard	AL	\$106,049
Housing Authority of the City of Seattle	Seattle	WA	\$452,000
Northwest Georgia Housing Authority	Rome	GA	\$100,000
Philadelphia Housing Authority	Philadelphia	PA	\$300,356
			TOTAL \$2,553,143

***Read project summaries of the grants announced today.**

Increased access to higher education can significantly improve life outcomes. The Department of Education estimates that those who earn a bachelor's degree earn two-thirds more than those with only a high school diploma or an average of \$1 million more in lifetime earnings. In addition, college graduates are far less likely to face unemployment. It's also estimated that within the next four years, two-thirds of all new full-time jobs will require a college education.

ROSS for Education is one of several HUD initiatives to increase access to federal financial aid for HUD-assisted families and students.

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HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all.

*More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet
at www.hud.gov and <http://espanol.hud.gov>.*

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[Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or sign up for news alerts on [HUD's Email List](#).*