



NEWS RELEASE

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NALEO Educational Fund Joins Organizations from Across the Country at the 2023 New Americans Campaign Conference in Houston

HOUSTON, TX— The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund is joining over 200 organizations from across the country at the New Americans Campaign (NAC) National Naturalization Practitioners Conference in Houston, TX, taking place October 11–14, 2023. The NAC Conference is the only national conference dedicated exclusively to exploring best practices for promoting the opportunities that come with U.S. citizenship and organizing service delivery for the naturalization application process. NALEO Educational Fund is a proud founding member of the NAC, a 13-year-old network of national and local community organizations and philanthropic partners dedicated to transforming how aspiring citizens navigate the path to becoming new Americans.

As part of its contributions to the New Americans Campaign, NALEO Educational Fund assists applicants with naturalization applications and informs community residents about the application process via its toll-free, bilingual information and assistance hotline (1-888-839-8682). NALEO Educational Fund also supports other organizations through its re-grant program and serves as Site Leader or Co-Site Leader in four NAC Campaign Sites. The organization also leads the NAC's policy advocacy efforts by convening the Naturalization Working Group, which mobilizes other partner organizations to strengthen the accessibility and affordability of the naturalization application process.

"The New Americans Campaign's emphasis on collaborating with partners and pursuing innovative practices for service delivery allows our organization to make consistent strides toward naturalizing as many as we can of the more than four million Latino lawful permanent residents who are eligible," said **NALEO Educational Fund National Manager for U.S. Citizenship Services Martha E. González**.

"Our annual conference brings together New American Campaign (NAC) partner organizations from around the country to discuss and share expertise on supporting people eligible to apply for naturalization," said **New Americans Campaign Director Lucia Martel-Dow**. "Eligible immigrants often don't know how to take that final step since our immigration system is a myriad of confusing forms and policies. Thus, building a network of trusted naturalization providers is crucial to meet the demand for services."

"The large network of U.S. naturalization practitioners organized through the New Americans Campaign allows NALEO Educational Fund to work with the Naturalization Working Group and mobilize a considerable number of influential organizations to advance policies that strengthen

the accessibility and affordability of the naturalization process," said **NALEO Educational Fund Chief Public Policy Officer Rosalind Gold**.

The conference will end with a U.S. Naturalization application assistance workshop on Saturday, October 14, at the Chinese Community Center at 9800 Town Park Drive, Houston, TX 77036. Conference attendees from across the country will volunteer at the workshop to support hundreds of aspiring U.S. Citizens along the naturalization application process, free of charge.

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About NALEO Educational Fund

NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates the full participation of Latinos in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.