

# PASOS al FUTURO



Preparar.Buscar.Ingresar.Pagar

**Empowering Latino Parents To  
Prepare, Find, Apply, & Pay  
For College**

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# What is PASOS?

Involving and educating parents in the college going process has been a proven recommended strategy for improving the odds of Latino students attending and completing college. PASOS al Futuro is a program designed by Hillsborough County Public Schools and is *presented in Spanish* designed to educate and empower Spanish-speaking students, families, and the community in the college planning process.

Our goal is to teach parents and students in their native language in four simplified “PASOS” the journey to getting to college and succeeding.

1. Prepare
2. Find
3. Apply
4. Pay





## Preparar

- Parent Advocacy
- 5 Ways Ed Pays
- Career and Self Exploration
- Degree Types
- High School Graduation Requirements
- Preferred Courses for College Admission
- Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Rigor
- College Entrance Exams
- Organize a portfolio



# Buscar

- College Fit
- Types of Universities
- Types of Programs
- State University Admission Matrix
- College Tours and Visits



# Ingresar

- Six School Rule
- Application Process Puzzle
- Early = On time
- Choosing the college



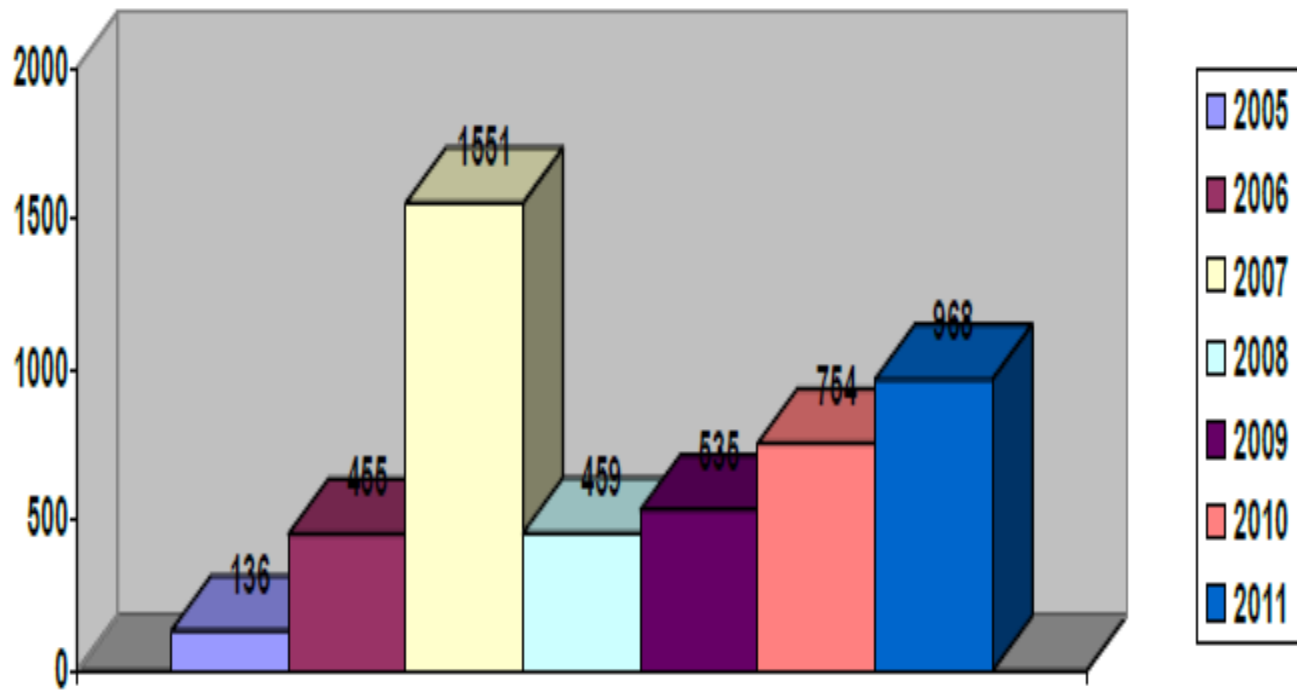
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- Cost
- Types of Financial Aid
- Types of Scholarships
- Application process
- Online scholarship resources
- Financial aid events

# How do we know if we need PASOS?

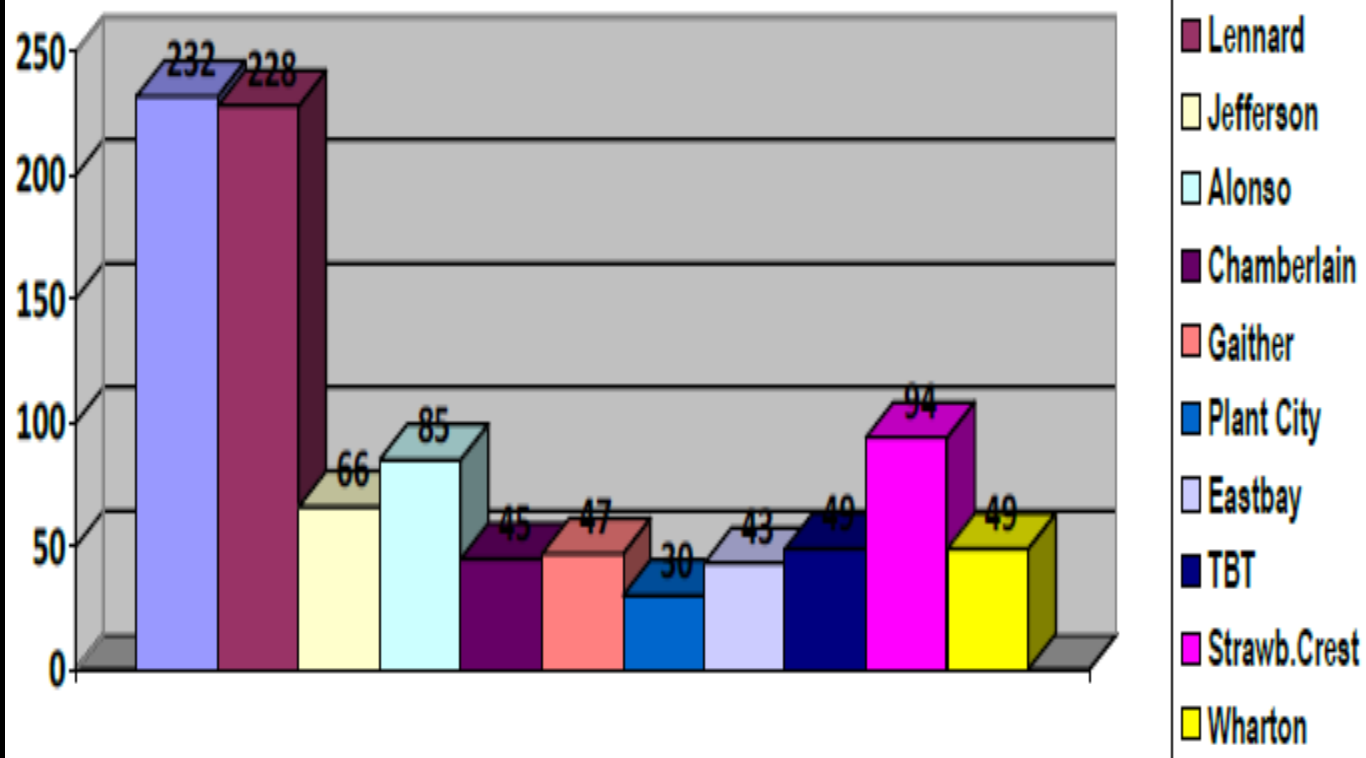
- What are the number of Latino, ELL, and/or Immigrant students served? Parents served by my organization?
- What type of data do I have to support the need for this program? (Graduation rates, dropout rates, FAFSA completion, high immigrant population, postsecondary entry rates).
- Does my community face specific barriers which affect postsecondary going rates? (Cultural norms, language, gender-based, first-generation, parent efficacy, motivation, mobility, citizenship, financial.)

PASOS History





2011-2012 Participation by Host School



# Logistics

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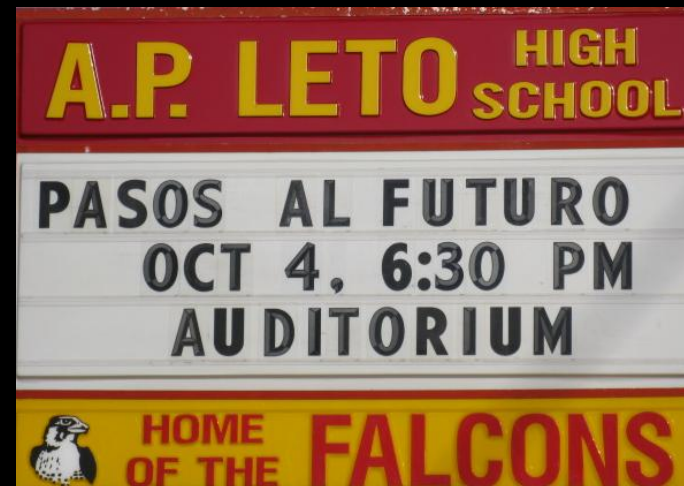
# Presentation Facilitation

## Engager-Connector-Motivator

- Bilingual
- Credentialed staff
- College planning training
- Dynamic and Charismatic
- Team-player
- Multitasker
- Flexible Scheduling
- Technology and Multi-Media

# How do we identify host sites?

- Geographical boundaries
- Percentage of target population
- Limited access



# Partnerships



- Postsecondary Institutions
- College Panel participants
- School district key stakeholders (ELL, CCC, Migrant)
- Community services (Legal Services, Healthy Start, Americorps)
- Corporate and Philanthropy Sponsorship
- Florida College Access Network

# Funding

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- Title 3: Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students (US Dep. Of Ed.)
- District Department Funds
- Corporate sponsorship
- Grants

# Marketing and Promotion

- Pasos Site Committee Advisors
- School district level promotion
- School-site
- Faith-based organizations
- Community organizations
- Local area Latino Businesses
- Media Coverage
- Internet



# Evaluation and Accountability

- Pre and Post Surveys
- Needs Assessment
- Attendance Data
- Disaggregation of District Data
- Stakeholder feedback
- Annual Reports



# Sustainability

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# Community and District Buy-in

- Goal Oriented – Operate with the end in mind.
- Forming an advisory committee including all levels of stakeholders (school, community, parents, students, business)
- Incorporate and utilize stakeholder feedback to develop goals
- Informing community and district of event performance

# Professional Development

- College Planning Competency
- Current Knowledge Base
- Culturally Relevant
- Latino Education Trends (Conferences, Journals, Webinars, Book readings)
- Organization Affiliation
- Trainings for frontline personnel

# Parent and Student Workshop Series

- FAFSA
- Scholarships
- Writing Personal Essays
- Resume Writing
- Career Exploration
- Academic Planning
- SAT and ACT Preparation
- College Visits
- Application Boot Camp
- Community Service and Leadership
- College 101
- Parent University



# Individual Family Advising

- One-on-one
- Follow-up from PASOS
- First generation
- Undocumented
- Financial Aid
- Special needs

# Parent Engagement and Advocacy

- Welcoming school and organization cultures
- Cultural Competency
- Leaving Biases at the Door
- Interpersonal Relationships
- Building parent efficacy



# Building a College-Going Culture

- College going committee advisors
- Pennant Wall
- I am going to college contract
- Role model speakers
- University Friday
- Motto's
- College Fair

If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time.-***Marion Wright Edelman, attorney and civil rights activist***

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.  
***Margaret Mead, anthropologist***



# Q & A

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