

2021 National Student Conference on Hispanic Politics



October 8-9, 2021 | Florida International University, Miami, FL

Conference Overview

The National Student Conference on Hispanic Politics is a new initiative spearheaded by the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) in collaboration with Florida International University (FIU) and the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute (CHLI). Our goal for this conference is to expose rising student leaders from all backgrounds to the diversity of thought that exists within the Hispanic community, to showcase leading scholars who are studying Hispanic issues, and to demonstrate how policy areas that impact the Hispanic population are important for all Americans regardless of ethnicity.

Time: Friday, October 8 to Saturday, October 9 2021

Location: Florida International University
11200 SW 8th St
Miami, FL 33199

Cost

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we will reimburse travel costs for participants based on their distance from Miami, FL. **AEI will arrange lodging for all conference participants.** Details for lodging and travel reimbursement can be found below.

Lodging

We have reserved rooms for students at the [Pullman Miami Airport](#) (5800 Blue Lagoon Dr, Miami, FL 33126) for Friday, October 8 and Saturday, October 9. Most students will be assigned roommates.

Meals

Meals will be provided during the conference. If you have dietary restrictions, please note them on the registration form or email Katja Liebmman at Katja.Liebmman@aei.org.

Travel

- **Arriving:** If you are traveling from out of town, please plan to arrive in Miami on Friday, October 8. Check-in begins at 5:30 PM on Friday, October 8, and we expect to begin serving dinner around 6:30 PM. Formal programming will begin promptly at 7:00 PM, so please arrive at FIU no later than 6:45 PM.

- **Departing:** The formal program will conclude at 8:15 PM on Saturday. We recommend booking travel for your departure from Miami for Sunday morning. You are welcome to extend your stay in Miami, but you must arrange your own lodging.
- **Travel to Miami:** We recommend flying into Miami International Airport (MIA), since it is the closest, most accessible airport and the hotel is very close by. While flights into Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) may be cheaper, the rideshare costs will likely make the overall expense roughly equivalent.
- **Parking:** If you are within reasonable driving distance of Miami, you are welcome to drive and use your travel stipend to cover gas or rental car expenses. Please note that parking garages in Miami can be expensive. We recommend researching options before arriving. A Google map of nearby parking garages within walking distance of AEI may be found [here](#).
- **Travel in Miami:** We recommend taking a cab/Uber/Lyft to travel between the airport, the hotel, and FIU. We will reimburse these costs, but ask that you travel with other students as much as possible and stick to economy options.

Travel Stipends

AEI will provide travel reimbursements to offset the cost of transportation, which includes flights/mileage, parking, meals *en route*, travel to and from the airport, and rideshares from the hotel to FIU and back. Based on the distance that you will be traveling from Washington, DC, you can request reimbursement for expenses up to the amount listed below:

- Miami metro area: \$50
- Eastern Time: \$350
- Central Time: \$450
- Mountain Time: \$550
- Pacific Time: \$650

We will send a separate email with instructions on how to request your travel reimbursement through our online expense reimbursement system, called Concur. When you receive the email, read it carefully and follow the instructions in the manual step-by-step.

Please note: AEI will only reimburse the cost of a ticket in coach or standard seating. *We will not cover the cost of first-class or business-class tickets even if the total amount remains within the expense limit for your time zone.*

Special exceptions: We will consider making special exceptions for participants if the cost of flight reservations (especially from the West Coast) exceeds the allotted travel stipend. Please let us know before booking your flight if you need a special exception. **We recommend booking flights as soon as possible.** AEI will not grant special exceptions for participants who book flights less than a week before the conference unless previous arrangements have been made with our team.

Dress Code

The dress code for all events is business casual or optional business professional. Please reach out to me if you have questions about what this entails.

Onboarding

[Please register for the conference here](#) no later than **Wednesday, September 22**. Please contact Gil Guerra at Gilbert.Guerra@aei.org with any questions.

Please ensure that you can commit to the entirety of the conference schedule. We understand the school year is a busy time with classes, internships, and work, but we wish to clearly note that participation in all sessions is the expectation. Failure to attend every session could cause you to lose your travel reimbursement.

2021 National Student Conference on Hispanic Politics Agenda

(Subject to minor changes)

Friday, October 8 | Florida International University

5:30 PM | Registration and check-in

7:00 PM | Opening keynote address and dinner: The State of Immigration Policy

[Juan Carlos Gomez](#), Associate Clinical Professor and Director of the Carlos A. Costa Immigration Human Rights Clinic at FIU

Saturday, October 9 | Florida International University

8:30 AM | Informal breakfast

9:30 AM | Panel I: Latin America and The Caribbean in an Era of Strategic Competition

[Hal Brands](#), Senior Fellow, AEI

[Ileana Ros-Lehtinen](#), Former US Representative and Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee

10:45 AM | Panel II: Realizing American Promise- Disparities in Economic Mobility

[Scott Winship](#), Senior Fellow and Director of Poverty Studies, AEI

[Isabel Soto](#), Director of Labor Market Policy, American Action Forum

12:00 PM | Informal lunch

1:00 PM | Networking Activity

2:30 PM | Breakout Sessions

Students will participate in small seminars with leading experts on the following topics:

- [Carlos Curbelo](#), Former US Representative: environmental policy and bipartisanship
- [Carlos Díaz-Rosillo](#), Director of the FIU Adam Smith Center for the Study of Economic Freedom: #SOSCuba and the Cuban protests
- [Brent Orrell](#), Senior Fellow at AEI: Hispanics and the Covid-19 recession
- [Isabel Soto](#), Director of Labor Market Policy at the American Action Forum: labor policy
- [Luis Guillermo Solís](#), Former President of Costa Rica and interim director of the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU: statecraft in Latin America

5:30 PM | Opportunities Fair

7:00 PM | Closing keynote panel and dinner: The Future of the American Electorate

[Matthew Continetti](#), Senior Fellow at AEI and Contributing Editor at National Review

[Sabrina Rodríguez](#), National Political Correspondent at POLITICO

[Bianca Padró Ocasio](#), Political Writer at the Miami Herald