Understanding How the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will Improve Communities
President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

This Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will rebuild America’s roads, bridges and rails, expand access to clean drinking water, ensure every American has access to high-speed internet, tackle the climate crisis, advance environmental justice, and invest in communities that have too often been left behind. The legislation will help ease inflationary pressures and strengthen supply chains by making long overdue improvements for our nation’s ports, airports, rail, and roads. It will drive the creation of good-paying union jobs and grow the economy sustainably and equitably so that everyone gets ahead for decades to come. Combined with the President’s Build Back Framework, it will add on average 1.5 million jobs per year for the next 10 years.

- No More Lead Pipes
- High-Speed Internet Access
- Better Roads and Bridges
- Investments in Public Transit
- Upgrade Airports and Ports
- Investment in Passenger Rail
- Network of Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Upgrade Power
- Infrastructure
- Resilient Infrastructure
- Investment in Environmental Remediation
The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

The historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) will rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, replace lead pipes, help provide high-speed Internet to every family in America, and produce concrete results that change people’s lives for the better. By reaching all communities across the country – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – these investments will position the United States to win the 21st century.

Purpose

A whole of government approach that provides information, professional development, and technical assistance to further educate communities on the components of the legislation and how the implementation will impact their lives.

Audience

Open to HBCUs & all rural and historically underserved communities.

Tentative Schedule – Virtual (Unless Noted Otherwise)

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>Tuesday, April 19, 2022</td>
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<td>Providing Economic Opportunity Through Federal Employment</td>
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<td>Transportation Equity</td>
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<td>Equity in Transportation Research and Funding Opportunities</td>
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<td>Energy Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) opportunities</td>
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<td>Economic Development Administration program and priorities supporting HBCUs</td>
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<td>HBCU Anchor Institutions and their Surrounding Communities: Inclusion in State Broadband Planning and Digital Equity Capacities</td>
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BIL 101: New Opportunities for Transportation Infrastructure, Innovation and Partnerships

This workshop provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will provide an overview of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which provides unprecedented resources for states and territories across the country to repair infrastructure such as roads and bridges, expand transit options, build a national network of electric vehicle chargers to accelerate the adoption of EVs, confront the roadway safety crisis, electrify trains, transit, school buses and ports and improve our nation’s airports. These improvements are also a historic opportunity to provide tangible benefits to communities of color and other historically marginalized communities in the United States.

This session will underscore that DOT is committed to providing federal funding opportunities and benefits equitably across the board as the DOT implements the many provisions of the law. From creating good, local jobs to improving access to federal contracting funds, to reuniting communities divided by roadway construction, and making transit more widely accessible, BIL presents unique opportunities to redress past wrongs and ensure historically marginalized communities’ benefit from the many forthcoming infrastructure improvements.

How the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Provides Economic Opportunity Through Federal Employment

This workshop provided by OSTR OPM, and WHI BA will provide insights into the career opportunities made possible through the BIL. The workshop will include an overview of the available job opportunities and information about the application process and navigating USAJobs.gov.

Transportation Equity

This workshop provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will speak to some of the negative impacts that transportation has had in historically disadvantaged and overburdened communities, outline some of the initiatives DOT is implementing as part of the Administration’s Equity Agenda, to alleviate and right those wrongs and to assist all communities to thrive.
Transportation and Public Policy — Bipartisan Infrastructure Law — A Transformative Opportunity

This workshop provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will discuss how transportation public policy is shaped, the implications of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to communities, the existing and anticipated increase in workforce needs and the opportunity for HBCUs to help address that need.

Equity in Transportation Research and Funding Opportunities

U.S. Department of Transportation is committed to advancing racial equity and innovation in transportation. This session focuses on how researchers can include equity in transportation to understand how the transportation system, service, and decision-making process impact the lives of underserved and underrepresented communities. This session also will provide information on key transportation research programs centered on innovation and how the Department’s Innovation Principles will guide the implementation of these investments.

Energy Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) opportunities

This workshop provided by the Department of Energy will provide insights into the opportunities made possible through the BIL. The workshop will include an overview of current and upcoming funding opportunities as well as internships, fellowships, and other career opportunities.

Economic Development Administration program and priorities supporting HBCUs

This session will highlight Economic Development Administration (EDA) programs and priorities that can support HBCUs, including how HBCUs can work with local Economic Development Districts (EDDs)/Economic Development Organizations (EDOs) to plan and implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies. This session will also highlight how HBCUs can join global economic initiatives such as the Americas Comparativeness Exchange, which is the premier economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurial network of the Americas.
HBCU Anchor Institutions and their Surrounding Communities: Inclusion in State Broadband Planning and Digital Equity Capacities

This briefing provided by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration will provide an update on HBCU awardees of the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program and discuss how both awardees and applicants can position themselves and their surrounding communities for inclusion in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Broadband Programs. The focus of this session will be on participating in and preparedness for the Broadband Access and Equity Deployment (BEAD) and Digital Equity (DE) grant programs.

Virtual/In-Person Job Fair

The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities will host its annual HBCU Career Fair for students, recent alumni and other job seekers. Career fair objectives include Introducing HBCU students and alumni to career, fellowship and intern opportunities; Encourage stakeholders and external partners to recruit from HBCU talent; Serve as a forum that fosters public private partnerships that will reinforce the vital importance of HBCUs and its impact on U.S. competitiveness in the global economy; and sustain dialogue to encourage collaborations among participants, institutions and students.
The White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities (Initiative), in coordination with senior officials across the Executive Office of the President, and the Chair of the President’s Board of Advisors on HBCUs provides advice to the President on advancing equity, excellence, and opportunity at HBCUs and for the communities they principally serve by coordinating a Government-wide policymaking effort to eliminate barriers HBCUs face in providing the highest-quality education to a growing number of students.

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy shall coordinate closely with the Secretary of Education, the Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement, the Executive Director, and the Chair of the President’s Board of Advisors on HBCUs to ensure that the needs and voices of HBCUs, their faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the communities they principally serve are considered in the efforts of the Administration to advance educational equity, excellence, and opportunity.

For purposes of implementing the Order, the Interagency Working Group (IWG), comprised of representatives of federal agencies and departments, is established to help advance and coordinate work throughout the federal government to increase educational equity and opportunities for HBCUs.
Presidential Actions — September 03, 2021

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to advance equity in economic and educational opportunities for all Americans, including Black Americans, strengthen the capacity of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to provide the highest-quality education, increase opportunities for these institutions to participate in and benefit from Federal programs, and ensure that HBCUs can continue to be engines of opportunity, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Policy. HBCUs have a proud history and legacy of achievement. In the face of discrimination against Black Americans by many institutions of higher education, HBCUs created pathways to opportunity and educational excellence for Black students throughout our Nation. That legacy continues. Today, more than 100 HBCUs, located in 19 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, serve nearly 300,000 students annually. HBCUs vary in size and academic focus and serve a range of diverse students and communities in urban, rural, and suburban settings.

HBCUs play a vital role in providing educational opportunities, scholarly growth, and a sense of community for students. HBCU graduates are barrier-breaking public servants, scientists, artists, lawyers, engineers, educators, business owners, and leaders. For generations, HBCUs have been advancing intergenerational economic mobility for Black families and communities, developing vital academic research, and making our country more prosperous and equitable. HBCUs are proven means of advancement for people of all ethnic, racial, and economic backgrounds, especially Black Americans. HBCUs produce nearly 20 percent of all Black college graduates and 25 percent of Black graduates who earn degrees in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and math.

HBCUs’ successes have come despite many systemic barriers to accessing resources and opportunities. For example, compared to other higher education institutions, on average HBCUs educate a greater percentage of lower-income, Pell-grant eligible students, while receiving less revenue from tuition and possessing much smaller endowments. Disparities in resources and opportunities for HBCUs and their students remain, and the COVID-19
The pandemic has highlighted continuing and new challenges. These challenges include addressing the need for enhanced physical and digital infrastructure in HBCU communities and ensuring equitable funding for HBCUs as compared to other institutions of higher education. The Federal Government must promote a variety of modern solutions for HBCUs, recognizing that HBCUs are not a monolith, and that the opportunities and challenges relevant to HBCUs are as diverse as the institutions themselves and the communities they serve.

It is the policy of my Administration to advance educational equity, excellence, and economic opportunity in partnership with HBCUs, and to ensure that these vital institutions of higher learning have the resources and support to continue to thrive for generations to come.

Section 2. White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

(a) In furtherance of the policy set out in section 1 of this order, there is established in the Department of Education (Department), the White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity through Historically Black Colleges and Universities (Initiative), led by an Executive Director designated by the President and appointed consistent with applicable law. The Executive Director shall manage the day-to-day operations of the Initiative, in consultation with the Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement as appropriate, and coordinate with senior officials across the Executive Office of the President, who shall lend their expertise and advice to the Initiative.

(b) The Initiative, in coordination with senior officials across the Executive Office of the President, shall provide advice to the President on advancing equity, excellence, and opportunity at HBCUs and for the communities they principally serve by coordinating a Government-wide policymaking effort to eliminate barriers HBCUs face in providing the highest-quality education to a growing number of students. The Initiative’s recommendations shall include advice on advancing policies, programs, and initiatives that further the policy set out in section 1 of this order.
(i) To support implementation of this Government-wide approach to breaking down systemic barriers for HBCU participation in Federal Government programs, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy shall coordinate closely with the Secretary of Education (Secretary), the Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement, the Executive Director, and the Chair of the President’s Board of Advisors on HBCUs (as established in section 3 of this order) to ensure that the needs and voices of HBCUs, their faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the communities they principally serve are considered in the efforts of my Administration to advance educational equity, excellence, and opportunity.
Sponsors

White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

U.S. Department of Transportation

U.S. Office of Personnel Management

U.S. Department of Labor

White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans

U.S. Department of Energy

Economic Development Administration

National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Contact
oswhi-hbcu@ed.gov

Event Registration
https://cvent.me/gexdrZ