

July 28, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOSOTROS Education Center Celebrates \$79 Million in Funded Grants for Student Support Services Clients

DALLAS, TX – NOSOTROS Education Center (NEC) is proud to announce that over 40 colleges and universities have secured more than \$79 million in federal funding through the 2025 Student Support Services (SSS) grant competition, thanks to NEC's expert guidance and technical assistance. With a remarkable 92.8% funding success rate, NEC supported the development or review of 56 SSS proposals—52 of which were funded, including several placed on the funding band for potential future awards.

"This is a true testament to the power of collaboration," said Elizabeth "Lisa" Retamozo, Founder and Executive Director of NEC. "Our team worked side-by-side with institutions from across the country, helping them craft proposals that reflect their commitment to student success. To achieve a 93% success in this highly competitive grant cycle is a milestone worth celebrating."

The U.S. Department of Education announced the 2025 Student Support Services (SSS) awards on July 3, 2025. In this year's competition, 962 grants were awarded nationwide to colleges and universities committed to supporting low-income, first-generation, and disabled students. The SSS program is designed to increase college retention and graduation by providing academic, financial, and personal support throughout a student's higher education journey.

Founded in 2007, NEC partners with colleges, universities, and nonprofit organizations nationwide to develop high-quality federal proposals and provide technical assistance in areas such as program implementation, compliance assessments, process-based external evaluations, annual performance reporting, database management, policies and procedures development, and customized professional development workshops. With a 92% historical funding rate, NEC has helped secure hundreds of grants across multiple TRIO and other college access programs, totaling more than \$876.4 million in awarded funds.

Retamozo leads a nationally recognized firm that partners with colleges, universities, and nonprofit organizations nationwide. With over 30 years of experience in designing, managing, and evaluating federally and state-funded education programs, she brings unmatched expertise to the field. Today, she leads a growing team of consultants dedicated to advancing educational opportunities through strategic, sustainable, and results-driven grant development.

Media Contact:

Dawna Walls

dwalls@nosotrosgedu.org

Marketing & Communications Consultant

[NOSOTROS Education Center](https://www.nosotrosgedu.org)