

**BSC** Birmingham-Southern College  
HESS FELLOWS ADVOCACY PROGRAM

– Agency Application –

**Part I: Agency Information**

Agency: **¡HICA! The Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama**

Street Address: **117 South Crest Dr.**

City: **Birmingham**

State: **AL**

ZIP: **35209**

Website: **www.hispanicinterest.org**

Contact Name: **Ana Valeriano**

Title: **Lead Organizer**

Phone: **205-776-2430**

E-mail: **avaleriano@hispanicinterest.org**

Agency Mission Statement:

**The Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama (¡HICA!) empowers Alabama’s Hispanic community and its numerous cultures as an economic and civic integrator, social-resource connector, and statewide educator. ¡HICA! is a community-development organization that facilitates integration, citizenship, and civic contribution through its programs, while it connects its constituents to critical social, legal, and economic resources and opportunities across the state. ¡HICA! is recognized as the leading resource and advocate for Alabama’s Hispanic community, and actively promotes its contributions and interests to political, business, and civic leaders. ¡HICA! is a statewide 501(c)(3) organization based in Birmingham.**

**Part II: Plans for Hess Fellow**

- 1) Students will have the best experience as interns and they will be easier for us to recruit and match if they have a clear project or project area. Please describe an example of a project or focus area you could assign to a Hess Fellow. We recognize that the details might change, but please provide an overview.

**The Hess Fellow will work primarily with the Community Engagement and Education program of ¡HICA! but will be exposed to all of ¡HICA!’s programs. The summer 2017 Hess Fellow will likely be involved in helping implement an immigrant youth and parent leadership program. The fellow will also help with research about education, preparation for community events regarding youth, community organizing efforts, as well as other projects related to civic engagement and cultural integration.**

**A specific example of a project that the Hess Fellow may complete is Summer Volunteer Program. The project description is as follows:**

**The Hess Fellow will assist with logistics of a youth Service Day. They will help youth discover volunteer and service opportunities and focus on an all-day event. They will also help youth to connect with summer camps or internships.**

**They will also assist in planning the College and Career Readiness Symposium as well as support the Scholarship Committee in their fundraising campaign. They will gain experience in public speaking and interpersonal communications, meet community partners, and gain exposure to the partner organizations**

**--Research involvement opportunities available to youth and organizations directed towards youth in the Birmingham area. Examples include Youth Serve, summer camps, and volunteer opportunities.**

**-- Assist in searching for funding opportunities for Education work**

**-- Assist and Participate in making Birmingham a Welcoming City for Immigrants**

2) All of the Hess Fellow interns will be sophomores or juniors with evidence of academic success. We will conduct an interview with them to gauge level interest in your project area and skill set. Which of the following would be particularly valuable for your Hess Fellow to display: foreign language skills, extensive writing, secondary research (compiling resources), primary research (gathering new data), interpersonal skills, quantitative analysis, other. Please list priorities and any other skills that would be valuable.

- **Proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking Spanish and English**
- **The Hess Fellow must be driven and willing to learn - \*Intern will be given liberty to add personal creativity to projects so long as goal is accomplished**
- **Familiar with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Publisher**
- **Interested in immigrant advocacy and integration**
- **Organized and accountable – \*Intern will often receive miscellaneous tasks in addition to major projects and must be capable of receiving general instruction yet placing own timeline and deadlines (if not already given) and demonstrate follow through.**
- **Thrive in a changing environment**

3) Hess Fellows are required to intern for a minimum of 8 weeks. Please indicate start and end dates for your intern and if these are dates are adjustable.

**June 4<sup>th</sup> 2018 – July 23<sup>th</sup> 2018 These dates are adjustable**

**\*it is important to note that due to the nature of our CEE program, the intern may be asked to participate in events on weekends or after hours on weekdays. If so, the Hess Fellow will be notified ahead of time and personal time will be allotted to make up for extra hours.**

We will notify you about placements no later than March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We assume that you will hold a place for a Hess Fellow until that date. If you agree, please electronically sign below.

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Signature

Please contact Emily Thornton ([ethornto@bsc.edu](mailto:ethornto@bsc.edu)) if you would like participate in the Hess Fellow interview and selection process (phone/video interviews can be accommodated).