



**One Time Request – Federal  
Designation Days - Hispanic  
Serving Institution and Asian  
American Native American Pacific  
Islander Serving Institution Day**



# **CENTER FOR STUDENT ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY**



**FY 25-26**

## FY 2026 One Time Request – Federal Designation Days - Hispanic Serving Institution and Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution Day

The University of Houston has three federal designations, Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI), Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), and the umbrella designation as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI).

**Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Day and Asian American & Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI) “CelebrASIAN” Day** events provides students with the opportunity to join campuses nation-wide in celebration of the HSI and AANAPISI designations, academic excellence, and Hispanic, Asian American, and Native American Pacific Islander culture. The events help connect students with common identities and experiences, connect everyone across backgrounds and cultures, and learn about institutional “serving-ness” across the UH campus. Each event includes awareness, reflection, and community-building components.

Each celebration day includes committee members from across academic colleges, different student affairs offices, registered student and university-sponsored organizations, and Alumni Associations to truly embody a campus-wide collaboration.

For our **inaugural HSI Day**, we held four different events for students to explore and expand their understanding of what is an HSI is and how the University of Houston embodies that designation. Through music, food, dance lessons, RSO connections, campus resources and Hispanic departments across campus students were able to expand their understanding of what the HSI designation means to the University of Houston. In the inaugural year, we hosted four events and served 444 Cougars.

For our **inaugural AANAPISI “CelebrASIAN” Day** we held a festive and colorful event to highlight the richness of the University of Houston’s student population while educating UH folks on the importance of the federal designation as an AANAPISI for students, faculty, and staff to explore and expand their understanding of the Asian diaspora and how the University of Houston embodies this designation. Through engagement activities that included music, food, calligraphy demonstrations, and connections to RSOs and campus and community resources, students were able to expand their understanding of what the AANAPISI designation means to the University of Houston. For our first year we served 576 Cougars!

The primary reason for this base request is that the Center for Student Advocacy and Community was established on September 1, 2024, and although the department received financial assistance for transition and establishment, the remaining base maintenance and operations (M&O) dollars for programming remain very small for a campus department with such a wide reach. The HSI Day and AANAPISI Day celebrations need a base level of support to ensure the department has annual signature programs and to help the campus-wide committee plan and scale a campus-wide celebration.

Currently, there are no base programming dollars allocated for these events however, the popularity of our first years’ events shows great potential for growth for increasing programming from one-day events to a multi-day celebration. No other department is leading HSI and AANAPISI-specific initiatives at the scale that we are and without this funding, these programs will cease to exist.

We kindly request additional programming dollars to support the federal designation day effort in order to raise awareness and celebrate our unique designations.

Attendance data from the first year's events are listed below:

| HSI Events                          | Fall 2024 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| HSI Day Carnival Celebration        | 353       |
| Financial Literacy Session          | 3         |
| Bilingual Writers                   | 22        |
| HSI Day Together Thursday Breakfast | 66        |
| Tabling Organizations               | 14        |
| Total Attendance                    | 444       |
| AANAPISI Day CelebrASIAN Day        | Fall 2024 |
| Tabling Organizations               | 12        |
| Attendance                          | 576       |

DSA Strategic Initiative:

***Fostering Student Engagement***

- Increasing Sense of Belonging, Student Engagement, and Academic Success

**Funding Request (both events are included in the same request below)**

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Food and Activities | \$18,000        |
| Marketing           | \$1,600         |
| Subtotal            | \$19,600        |
| <u>Admin Fee</u>    | <u>\$1,176</u>  |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>\$20,776</b> |