

Proclamation recognizing The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley for receiving the Seal of Excelencia Certification

- Whereas* Excelencia in Education's mission is to accelerate Latino student success in higher education to address the U.S. economy's need for a highly educated workforce and for civic leadership; and
- Whereas* the Seal of Excelencia certification recognizes trendsetting institutions that are ensuring America's future through unwavering commitment to intentionally serve Latino students, while serving all. Institutions earn the Seal by demonstrating alignment across the three core areas of data, practice, and leadership; and
- Whereas* the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) is a comprehensive academic institution of higher education accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelors, master's and doctorate degrees; and
- Whereas* in the fall of 2020, UTRGV enrolled 27,272 undergraduate students, with a significant proportion of the undergraduate population identifying as first-generation college students. Over 90% of the student body identifies as Hispanic/Latino; and
- Whereas* UTRGV has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring the enrollment and success of undergraduate students through innovative educational programs, grant initiatives and enrollment strategies; and
- Whereas* on October 29, 2021, for its efforts in accelerating Latino student success in higher education, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley was bestowed with the prestigious national Seal of Excelencia Certification.

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby recognizes The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley on being one of just ten institutions throughout the nation to receive this prestigious three year certification.

Approved this 16th day of November 2021.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk