

IMPACT

Biden Administration Announces Big Investment Totals for HBCUs



FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN SPEAKS AT THE 2024 NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCU) WEEK CONFERENCE ON SEPT. 16, 2024, IN PHILADELPHIA, PA.

During the Biden-Harris Administration’s three-plus years in office, historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) received over \$16 billion in investments. This investment in HBCU funding included resources received from their COVID-19 American Rescue Plan (ARP) law and other routine, annual investments like the Education Department’s Strengthening HBCUs program and Pell Grant programs.

“UNCF works with both political parties and is nonpartisan, and even with that I can tell you no other administration has prioritized HBCUs like this one,” said Dr. Michael L. Lomax, president and chief executive officer, UNCF.

\$16B in ‘Whole of Government’ Investments

“HBCUs have been chronically underfunded, systemically, since inception,” Dr. Lomax continued. “While the efforts of the Biden-Harris Administration are helpful, let me be clear: more is needed via federal and state governments as well as our philanthropic partners.”

“Big efforts like this are done purposefully, not by happenstance,” said Lodriguez Murray, senior vice president, public policy and government affairs, UNCF. “President Biden and Vice President Harris came into office proposing nearly \$9 billion for HBCUs via the ARP and their infrastructure plan.”

“The funds in the \$16 billion federal investment showcase a dual strategy that we at UNCF have also embraced, prioritizing institutions and students,” Murray added. “Infrastructure funds are necessary for institutions, and students coming from a lower socioeconomic background must have the Pell Grant doubled. We at UNCF want to work with everyone to ensure these outcomes are achieved.”

And that kind of support helps lead to better futures for all Americans.