



## SAMPLE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students often have the lowest educational attainment rates in the United States and nearly 65 percent of adults 25 or older, in some AAPI subgroups, will never attend college.

Despite these disturbing facts and statistics, most people choose to believe some of the longstanding stereotypes and misperceptions about the AAPI community that causes students to be overlooked and underserved by campus administrators, higher education leaders, and policymakers. The “We’re the Changing Face of America” campaign wants to help increase access and completion among AAPI students as well as remind everyone that past access and success challenges experienced by the AAPI student population cannot continue.

The face of American education from K–12 to higher education is at the crossroads of a tremendous demographic change. According to the 2010 U.S. Census data, the AAPI population is projected to reach nearly 40 million people by 2050. Data also show AAPI students will experience a 35 percent increase in college enrollment over the next decade. AAPI students are undoubtedly a rapidly growing population; and, therefore, supporting them can only produce greater civic engagement, economic growth, and leadership development.

Unfortunately, college completion remains elusive for many young AAPI students. This student population experiences harsh realities and unique challenges that hinder them from gaining access to higher education and/or earning a college degree. Although nearly half of all AAPI students enrolled in higher education are attending community colleges, they are more likely to enter with lower levels of academic preparation in English and mathematics. For example, 55.2 percent of AAPI students entering two-year colleges in 2003 had never taken a math course beyond Algebra II in high school, compared to only 12.7 percent of AAPI students entering four-year institutions in that same year.

The “We’re the Changing Face of America” campaign is directed by the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund and the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education, the leading AAPI student- and research-focused organizations, respectively.

Campaign partners across the country—along with other supporters at business, civil rights, community-based, and student- and youth-advocacy organizations—are joining the “We’re the Changing Face of America” campaign to raise awareness about college access and completion among AAPI students. Educational materials are being

distributed at local events and presentations emphasizing how the U.S. higher education system can equitably meet the unique needs of AAPI students are being hosted across the country. Locally, [INSERT DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL EVENT].

To learn more about helping AAPI students, please visit the “We’re the Changing Face of America” website for more information at [www.changingfaceofamerica.com](http://www.changingfaceofamerica.com).