

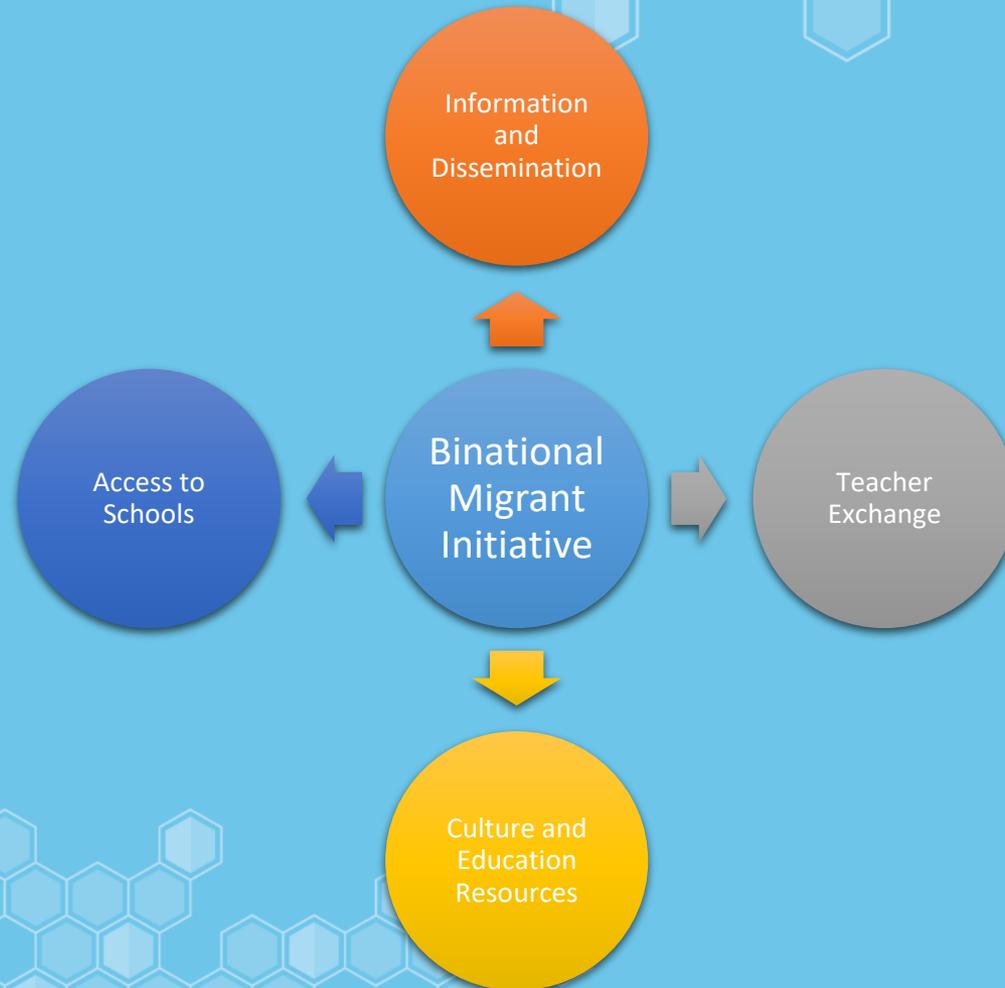


COLORADO
Department of Education

Goals for the Binational Migrant Education Initiative

Migrant Education Program

Components





I. Information and Dissemination

Design, develop, and disseminate information to enable educators to meet the educational needs of the binational migrant child

II. Teacher Exchange Program

Ensure effective educators for every student and effective leaders for every school and district.

III. Access to Schools

Build the capacity of schools and districts to meet the needs of Colorado students and their families.

IV. Culture and Education Resources

Build the best education system in the nation.



Information and Dissemination

GOAL 1 - Design, develop, and disseminate information to enable educators to meet the educational needs of the binational migrant child

- Identify a pedagogical model that specifically addresses the instructional needs of the binational migrant child.
- Conduct a comparative analysis of the curriculum in both countries to allow teachers to diagnose and prepare instructional materials suitable to each student's educational level. Use the media and Internet to disseminate results.
- Design and deliver professional development workshops for administrators, teachers, students, and parents
 - a) Identify groups that should receive training as well as the type of information they need
 - b) Provide staff development on the use of the textbooks received from Mexico, cultural awareness and cultural materials, and the BMEP Teacher Exchange Program.
- Disseminate the benefits of the BMEI to all stakeholders (i.e., achievement, student progress, testimonials).
- Disseminate general information about school systems and policies regarding academics (i.e., Inform stakeholders that immigration status does not limit students' rights to a free education); discipline; roles of administrators, counselors, teachers, parents, and students; administrative structures; facilities; schedules; reading and interpreting documents.



GOAL 2 – Put systems in place to promote the participation of parents and other members of the educational community in the BMEI

- Conduct information and dissemination meetings for teachers, parents, administrators, state and local authorities, and migrant associations/clubs
 - Promote the need for social assistance services for migrant families
 - Encourage teachers to know the family and socio-cultural context through home and community visits
- Conduct awareness and sensitivity campaigns through mass media (print, electronic, toll-free hotlines, radio and TV spots; school and municipal councils, community centers, parent associations, etc.)
 - Place posters and permanent murals in strategic locations
 - Use recruiters and community liaisons to relay information in both directions
- Design awareness materials (tri-fold brochures, posters, articles, media spots, etc.) specifically for parents.
- Provide training for parents on their role in school, the value of their opinions, and the positive effects of their involvement in the teaching-learning process
 - Promote parent participation in their children's education through respect of their culture and values
 - Organize parents to increase free time use to support their children's education
 - Provide workshops related to the health of migrant families



GOAL 3 – Synthesize and conduct research on the education of the binational migrant child and ways to improve services

- Investigate the impact of the binational initiative on the involvement of parents in their children’s education.
- Investigate the academic impact of the BMEI.
- Investigate student placement criteria and practices.
- Investigate methodologies for communicating curriculum to monolingual Spanish speaking students.
- Investigate instruments for data collection and sharing (i.e., those used by PA, CA, Michoacán, and Jalisco).
- Investigate how often and in what ways information and training related to the binational student are presented at migrant conferences.
- Investigate whether the Transfer Document is distributed in locations with high migrant populations.
- Synthesize studies related to the education of binational students (i.e., English acquisition, socio-cultural incorporation, achievement, mobility, successful instructional strategies, and special education).
- Track migrant students’ academic and social progress using a personal data form that includes pertinent information such as name, age, place of birth, place of residence, migration pattern, grade level, academic level, transfer documents, report card, vaccination record.
- Develop systems for the dissemination and use of research findings to gain legislative support, and to develop educational plans and services for binational children.



FOCUS AREA II

Teacher Exchange Program

GOAL 1 – Implement concrete strategies to improve the logistics and lines of communication between the U.S. and Mexico

- Provide opportunities for direct communication between the Mexican coordinators and the directors of the institutions receiving the Mexican teachers.
- Organize trainings and guides to inform the receiving sites in the U.S. about ways to develop procedures to help exchange teachers secure the J-1 visa.



GOAL 2 – Expand participation in the Teacher Exchange Program to collect, analyze, and disseminate information about its activities, benefits, and outcomes

- Maintain evaluation processes employing instruments that measure the quality and quantity of the work of BMEI teachers from both countries.
- Establish joint processes for the evaluation in both countries of the Teacher Exchange Program. Include the presentation of results using a consistent format.



GOAL 3 - Increase and improve the reciprocity of the Teacher Exchange Program

- Provide detailed information about the Teacher Exchange Program to educators at the state, district, and school levels through presentations at educational conferences.
- Develop a directory containing the contact data for U.S. migrant educators who can disperse the information about the Teacher Exchange directly to school districts and schools.
- Develop and distribute a procedural manual that clarifies information on the Teacher Exchange Program (i.e., program purpose, objectives, timelines, selection procedures, application process, and the entire process for facilitating the Teacher Exchange Program).
- Include administrators in the data reported about the Teacher Exchange Program (Educator exchange).
- Recommend time frames during the Mexican school year that will enable U.S. teachers to participate in exchanges (i.e., plan visits around established holidays).
- Include U.S. teachers in training events for Mexican exchange teachers, and include Mexican teachers in training events for U.S. teachers. Expand and improve the training of the exchange teachers in both countries.
- Ensure that the requirements delineated in Mexico's Convocatoria are met, especially the participant selection criteria and the timelines.



FOCUS AREA III

Access to Schools

Goal 1 – Investigate how to distribute the Transfer Document more efficiently

- Determine the extent to which schools are aware of how and where to obtain the transfer document.
- Determine the value, use, and understanding of the Transfer Document in both countries.
- Determine the extent to which parents are participating in the awareness and distribution of the document.
- Research the accessibility of the Transfer Document on the Internet.
- Research ways that consulates are sharing information with school districts related to the Transfer document.
- Determine a plan for the dissemination of information about the transfer document and how to efficiently distribute it.



GOAL 2 – Design and produce a “How to provide access to schools” document

- Develop a document to increase access to schools that includes information regarding:
 - Diagnostic and placement assessments
 - An academic database
 - Information related to educational and academic records
 - Information related to legal aspects of education and enrollment
 - Information on other documents used in the enrollment of children in schools (i.e., birth certificate, immunizations, etc.)
- Develop a plan for increasing binational student access to schools to include in the “How To” document

GOAL 3 – Address problems that result in migrant students being denied access to schools

- In planning, consider problems such as inappropriate placement of children because of lack of knowledge regarding the educational systems (for both countries), children arriving at the end of the school term who are not being registered in school, absence of immunization records which creates difficulties in the registration process in the U.S., school officials lack of knowledge about the enrollment process and the confidentiality of documents, parents' fears about how their citizenship status may affect their children's opportunities in school, and monolingual students are not being placed in the appropriate grade for age.
- Use State and federal resources earmarked for access and equity and work in collaboration with SEA Binational staff.
- Evaluate students appropriately (i.e., in their primary language, using modifications, etc.).
- Maintain information centers to help provide information related to binational students.
- Initiate a computerized registry of binational students.
- Develop website links among service providers; include placement guidelines for binational students.



FOCUS AREA IV

Culture and Education Resources

GOAL 1 - Expand the Free Textbook Distribution Program

- Prepare a manual to help teachers in the U.S. to better integrate the books from Mexico into their curriculum.
- Encourage the Mexican consulates to collaborate (through SRE) on documenting the processes used for the distribution and use of the free textbooks.
- Share information about access to the www.sep.gob.mx web page.



GOAL 2 - Increase the use of culture and education resources to support binational students

- Invite teachers working with binational students to share effective strategies, materials, and experiences at Binational forums as a presenter during breakout sessions.
- Donate books to Mexico, including:
 - ✓ Literature for young children
 - ✓ Literature for intermediate-aged children
 - ✓ Literature for older youth
 - ✓ English as a second language books

GOAL 3 - Explore and document educational materials that have been successful with binational students

- Develop a Binational web page that contains a link to each state that participates in the BMEI.
- Disseminate information on the materials produced by CONAFE.
- At the next BMEI Forum, sponsor a materials exposition to showcase materials from both countries.
- Develop materials that portray current life of binational families.
- Explore inexpensive technology-based instructional methodologies.

