



Congresswoman

VERONICA ESCOBAR

Texas' 16th Congressional District

March 2023

Agenda

- **Introductions**
 - 118th Congress
 - Investing in El Paso's Future
- **Federal Funding Opportunities**
 - Appropriations Process
 - Community Project Funding
 - Grant Services
- **Constituent Services**
 - Casework
 - Congressional Art Competition
 - App Challenge Competition
 - Library of Congress Surplus Books Program
 - Service Academy Nominations
 - Internships
 - Congressional Youth Advisory Council
 - Additional Services
- **Q&A**



118th Congress

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP

Democratic Policy and Communications Committee (DPCC)

Co-Chair

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The House Armed Services Committee

- *Military Personnel Subcommittee*
- *Readiness Subcommittee*

The House Judiciary Committee

- *The Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government*
- *The Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement*

The House Ethics Committee



Investing in El Paso's Future: Implementation of Key Democratic-Led Legislation



- ✓ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- ✓ Inflation Reduction Act
- ✓ CHIPS and Science Act

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



- This once-in-a-generation investment was signed into law on November 15, 2021
- A \$1.2 trillion spending bill, with over \$550 billion in new spending.
- The law directs \$284 billion (52 percent) of the \$550 billion in new investments toward modernizing and making improvements across all modes of transportation, with the majority of funding reserved for highways, roads and bridges.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Toplines

- **Roads, Bridges, & Major projects:** \$110B
- **Water Infrastructure:** \$55B
- **Broadband:** \$65B
- **Airports:** \$25B
- **Land Ports of Entry:** \$3.85B
- **Electric Vehicle Charging:** \$7.5B
- **Public Transit:** \$39.2B
- **Clean School Buses:** \$5B
- **Western Water Infrastructure:** \$8.3B
- **Addressing Legacy Pollution:** \$21B
- **Reconnecting Communities:** \$1B
- **Resiliency:** \$47.2B
- **Power and Grid:** \$65B

CHIPS and Science Act

(In 2022, Speaker Nancy Pelosi named Congresswoman Escobar to the Conference Committee for the America COMPETES Act, which negotiated the CHIPS and Science Act & other critical supply chain bills.)



- On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law, marking the most significant action Congress has taken on clean energy and climate change in the nation's history.
- The bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 provides **\$52.7 billion** in federal funding to revitalize the U.S. semiconductor industry, including \$39 billion in semiconductor incentives, \$13.2 billion in R&D and workforce development, and \$500 million to strengthen global supply chains.

CHIPS and Science Act Toplines

- In total, \$52.7 billion for the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Fund.
- \$1.5 billion to spur movement toward open-architecture, software based wireless technologies, funding innovative, ‘leap-ahead’ technologies in the U.S. mobile broadband market.
- \$81 billion for NSF including for research and related activities, STEM education and major research equipment.
- \$10 billion for NIST including \$2.23 billion for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)
- \$829 million for the Manufacturing USA Program, a national network of manufacturing innovation institutes.
- \$11 billion in investments to build job-creating hubs.

Inflation Reduction Act

- On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law, marking the most significant action Congress has taken on clean energy and climate change in the nation's history.
- The Inflation Reduction Act's \$370 billion in investments will lower energy costs for families and small businesses, accelerate private investment in clean energy solutions in every sector of the economy and every corner of the country, strengthen supply chains for everything from critical minerals to efficient electric appliances, and create good-paying jobs and new economic opportunities for workers.



Inflation Reduction Act Toplines

- \$40 billion in loan authority to guarantee loans for innovative clean energy projects.
- \$27 billion for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.
- \$3 billion for Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles.
- \$1.55 billion for Methane Emission Reduction Program.
- Over \$250 million to fund innovative projects that tackle Climate Pollution through the EPA.
- \$100 million for Environmental Justice Grants through the EPA.
- Clean Energy Production and Investment Tax Credits.

Federal Funding Opportunities



Fiscal Year 2024

House Appropriations Process

Appropriations 101

Every year, Congress aims to pass 12 appropriations bills to fund the government. Appropriations bills fund the discretionary portions of the federal budget:

- 1. Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration**
- 2. Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies**
- 3. Defense**
- 4. Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies**
- 5. Financial Services and General Government**
- 6. Homeland Security**
- 7. Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies**
- 8. Labor, Health and Human Services, Education**
- 9. Legislative Branch**
- 10. Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies**
- 11. State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs**
- 12. Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies**

Appropriations 101 (cont.)

Types of appropriations requests:

1. **Programmatic Request:** A request to fund a specific federal agency or program in the bill at a certain level.
Example: *Provide \$68 billion program increase for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*
1. **Language Request:** A request to include specific bill or report language that does not direct funding to a particular entity but direct or encourage specific actions by federal agencies.
Example: *“The Committee encourages the Department of Education to study the impact of the availability of student loans on increases in enrollment rates.”*
2. **Community Project Funding:** A request to fund a specific local project in a Member’s district.
Example: *Provide \$5.2 million for the El Paso County to build a full-scale community kitchen with the capacity to prepare, serve, and deliver 10,000 meals daily.*



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Services

Appropriations Requests

General Programmatic & Language Appropriations Requests

Please use [this form](#) to submit Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) general programmatic and language appropriations requests to Representative Escobar's office. If you have multiple requests, please submit a separate form for each request. Please provide as much of the requested information as possible to ensure we can fully evaluate your request.

Please DO NOT use this general appropriations requests form for Community Project Funding requests.

The deadline for submitting requests to our office is **March 17, 2023**.

For additional information, please see the Frequently Asked Questions below. If you have any further questions, please feel free to call my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 225-4831 or directly email our appropriations inbox at TX16.approps@mail.house.gov

Community Projects Funding Requests

To submit a request for Community Project Funding, please visit our Community Project Funding page [here](#). Any requests for Community Project Funding submitted through the general FY24 appropriations request form above will not be considered.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is an appropriations request?

Every year, Congress is responsible for allocating overall funding for offices, programs, and grants administered by the federal government. As your Representative in Congress, Rep. Escobar has the opportunity to advocate on behalf of programs that are important to Texas' 16th Congressional District. For example, Rep. Escobar can advocate to maintain or increase the total funding for federal grants, agencies, and programs that support El Paso's infrastructure and transportation priorities, Fort Bliss' defense needs, and the health, safety, and economic prosperity of all El Pasoans.

Important Dates

Now – March 17: Accepting Community Project Funding & General Appropriation Submissions.

Late March: Announcing top 15 Community Project Funding requests selected.

Community Project Funding Requests

Key Guidelines for Community Project Requests

- **Only 15 projects will be selected** and submitted for consideration by the Congress.
- **State, local, or tribal governments and non-profit organizations are generally eligible for Community Project Funding.** For-profit entities are not eligible.
- **Projects must have demonstrated community support.** Examples include, but are not limited to, supportive letters from local elected officials, press articles, inclusion in community development plans, or resolutions passed by local government entities.
- **State/local matching funding must be available for some of the federal projects** that are open for Community Project Funding requests (matching funding does NOT have to be in-hand, but officials must have a plan to fund in order to meet this requirement).

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Key Guidelines for Community Project Requests

- **Each project is funded only for FY 2024** and should not be viewed as multi-year funding. Any funding awarded through this process should not be viewed as a replacement for other sources of funding.
- **Neither the Congresswoman nor her immediate family can have any financial interest in the proposed project.** Our office will provide a certified letter stating this to the Committee.
- **You will need to provide a budget breakdown** for how you intend to use the funding for your project.
- **[NEW] Funding cannot be used for memorials, museums, or commemorations.** These projects may be eligible for federal grant programs.
- **[NEW] A Federal nexus must be identified** that ties the project to a federal authorization law.

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Project Name: El Paso Children's Hospital Pediatric Mobile Clinic

Recipient: El Paso Children's Hospital

Address: 4845 Alameda Ave, El Paso, TX 79905

Amount Requested: \$595,000

Project Description: This project would be used for the acquisition of a mobile medical vehicle and the ability to outfit it with technology and equipment necessary for a Mobile Pediatric Clinic. The Mobile Clinic will be able to provide both basic and specialty pediatric healthcare throughout El Paso County while targeting areas in the County that oftentimes lack access to pediatric care and medical resources. Additionally, the unit will provide clinical services, vaccinations, financial education and resources for parents, and education with school district nurses and teachers.

Financial Disclosure Letter

VERONICA ESCOBAR
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS
ASSISTANT WHIP
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM,
AND HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP
HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MILITARY PERSONNEL, VICE CHAIR
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBER, INNOVATIVE
TECHNOLOGIES, AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE:
1505 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4831

EL PASO OFFICE:
221 N. KANSAS STREET, SUITE 1500
EL PASO, TX 79901
(915) 541-1400

<http://escobar.house.gov>

VICE CHAIR
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS
DEPUTY WHIP
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,


I am requesting funding for the El Paso Children's Hospital Pediatric Mobile Clinic in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is El Paso Children's Hospital, located at 4845 Alameda Ave, El Paso, TX 79905.

The funding would be used for the acquisition of a mobile medical vehicle and the ability to outfit it with technology and equipment necessary for a Mobile Pediatric Clinic. The Mobile Clinic will be able to provide both basic and specialty pediatric healthcare throughout El Paso County while targeting areas in the County that oftentimes lack access to pediatric care and medical resources. Additionally, the unit will provide clinical services, vaccinations, financial education and resources for parents, and education with school district nurses and teachers.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,


Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

FY 2023 Projects (\$25,097,706)

- El Paso Children's Hospital Pediatric Mobile Clinic, **\$595,000**(Rep. Anello)
- The El Paso International Airport Solar Covered Parking Project, **\$1,750,000**(Rep. Hernandez)
- The El Paso ISD After-School Community Learning Centers: STEAM Learning Ecosystems, **\$2,000,000**(Rep. Canales)
- The Heritage Tourism Business Connection, **\$500,000**(Rep. Rivera)
- The SAC 1 Sediment Detention Basin, **\$1,000,000**(Rep. Fierro)
- The TTUHCEP El Paso Border Health Center, **\$3,000,000**(Rep. Anello)
- The town of Anthony, Police Department, Municipal Court, and Emergency Shelter Facility, **\$1,925,000**
- The El Paso County Animal Welfare Pet Wellness Clinic, **\$1,300,000**(Rep. Rivera)
- The El Paso County Senior Meal and Community Kitchen, **\$4,000,000**(Rep. Rivera)
- The Horizon City Transit-Oriented Development Phase 1, **\$1,735,000**
- La Casa de los Abuelitos, **\$2,442,706**(Rep. Canales)
- A Planning Study conducted by Texas A&M Transportation Institute, El Paso to Improve Land Border Crossing Transit and Pedestrian Connectivity to Business Districts in the El Paso Region for Equity, Accessibility and Economic Development, **\$750,000**(City Wide)
- For Vinton Water and Wastewater Phase III, **\$4,000,000**
- Appraisal Study for Future Projects on the Franklin Canal, **\$100,000**

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

The Subcommittees accepting Community Project Funding requests this year are:

1. Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies
2. Commerce, Justice, Science ,and Related Agencies
- ~~3. Defense~~
4. Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies
- ~~5. Financial Services and General Government~~
6. Homeland Security
7. Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
- ~~8. Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies~~
9. Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
10. Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related agencies

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

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- For Vinton Water and Wastewater Phase III, **\$4,000,000**
- Appraisal Study for Future Projects on the Franklin Canal, **\$100,000**

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

FY 2023 Projects (\$17,252,706)

- ~~• El Paso Children's Hospital Pediatric Mobile Clinic, \$595,000 (Rep. Anello)~~
- ~~• The El Paso International Airport Solar Covered Parking Project, \$1,750,000 (Rep. Hernandez)~~
- ~~• The El Paso ISD After-School Community Learning Centers: STEAM Learning Ecosystems, \$2,000,000 (Rep. Canales)~~
- ~~• The Heritage Tourism Business Connection, \$500,000 (Rep. Rivera)~~
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- For Vinton Water and Wastewater Phase III, \$4,000,000
- Appraisal Study for Future Projects on the Franklin Canal, \$100,000

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

- **Department of Agriculture—Farm Production and Conservation Programs**
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations)
- **Department of Agriculture—Research, Education, and Economics**
 - Agricultural Research Service (Buildings and Facilities)
- **Department of Agriculture—Rural Development**
 - Rural Housing Service (Community Facilities)
 - Rural Utilities Service (ReConnect Program)
 - Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants)
 - **[NEW]** Rural Utilities Service (Rural Water and Waste Disposal Grants)

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

- **Department of Commerce**
 - NIST—Scientific and Technical Research
 - NOAA—Coastal Zone Management
 - ~~National Institute of Standards and Technology—Construction~~
- **Department of Justice**
 - COPS Technology and Equipment
 - Byrne Justice
- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration**
 - Safety, Security, and Mission Services

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Energy and Water Development

- **Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)**
 - Investigations
 - Construction
 - Mississippi River and Tributaries
 - Operation and Maintenance
- **Department of the Interior/Bureau of Reclamation**
 - Water and Related Resources
- ~~**Department of Energy Projects**~~

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Homeland Security

- **Federal Emergency Management Agency**
 - Federal Assistance—Emergency Ops. Centers
 - Federal Assistance—Pre-Disaster Mitigation

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- **Environmental Protection Agency**
 - STAG—Clean Water State Revolving Fund
 - STAG—Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
- ~~Department of Agriculture—U.S. Forest Service—State and Private Forestry~~
- ~~Land and Water Conservation Fund—Land Acquisition~~
- ~~Department of Interior—National Park Service—Save America's Treasures~~

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

- Army
- Army National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Navy & Marine Corps
- Navy Reserve
- Air Force and Space Force
- Air National Guard
- Air Force Reserve
- DoD, Defense-Wide
- ~~Department of Veterans Affairs~~
- ~~Minor Construction~~

Community Project Funding Requests (cont.)

Community Project Funding-Eligible Accounts

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

- **Department of Housing and Urban Development**
 - CDBG – Economic Development Initiatives
- **Department of Transportation**
 - Airport Improvement Program
 - Highway Infrastructure Projects
 - Transit Infrastructure Projects
 - **[NEW]** Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements
 - **[NEW]** Port Infrastructure Development Program

Grants Services

- Congresswoman Escobar's office can help find relevant federal grant and funding opportunities that your entity may be eligible for.
- We can be your advocate when communicating with federal agencies.
- If you have a question about a grant, want to know where your application is in the process, or if you have been awarded a grant, our office can help obtain that information.
- On a case-by-case basis, the Congresswoman will offer letters of support to include in your federal grant application. In addition to including them in your application, these letters are also sent to the Secretary or Director of the executive agency where the grant originated from.
- These Letters of Support are only included for applications to Federal Grants. Requests for a Letter are not considered for a State or Local grant application.
- If you would like the Congresswoman to write a letter of support for your application, please reach out to our Grants and District Representative, Manny Rodriguez at Manny.Rodriguez@mail.house.gov

Constituent Services

How Can Our Office Assist You?

- Navigating and understanding government agencies can be confusing so we are here to help.
- If your issue is regarding a Federal Agency, we can assist by requesting status updates, submitting requests and at times filling gaps that may be holding your case up.
- It is important to us that our constituents are informed of what is going on with their cases, regardless of the agency. But it is important to note that we do not have the authority to change the agency's decision.
- How do I know if my issue or concern is Federal?

Process to Receive Assistance

- **Step 1** – Provide a **Privacy Release Form** in which you outline your issues and concerns. Properly filling this form out is essential to our office aiding you. You can access this digital form on our website at www.escobar.house.gov and clicking on “Help with a Federal Agency”.
- **Step 2** – Allow the agency adequate time to provide our office with an update or formal response to your inquiry. Agency responses can take up to 30-60 days.
- **Step 3** – Our office will provide the agency response to you; per House Ethics rules we are not able to intervene in any established processes or ongoing investigations.

Digital Privacy Release Form



Veronica Escobar Digital Privacy Release Form

Complete the form below to request help with a Federal Agency. When complete, click Submit to send to our office for assistance.

Fields marked with * are required

Please Provide Applicable Identifying Information

Agency Involved

Prefix First Name

MI Last Name

Social Security Number

DOB

Email Address

Phone Number

Street Address Line 1

Street Address Line 2

City

State Zip Code

Agency Case Number

Mortgage Loan Number

RankMilitary Rank

Have you contacted any other elected official regarding this case?

If Yes, Officials Name?

Please explain the problem and the resolution/outcome you are seeking:

Constituent Authorization

To be able to assist you, we must have a signed privacy release form that clearly outlines your problem and the remedy you are seeking. By checking the box below you are giving our office permission to look into the matter on your behalf. Please make sure to attach below any relevant identifying information and supporting documents which relate to your inquiry.

☒ I hereby request the assistance of the Veronica Escobar to resolve the matter described below. I authorize the Veronica

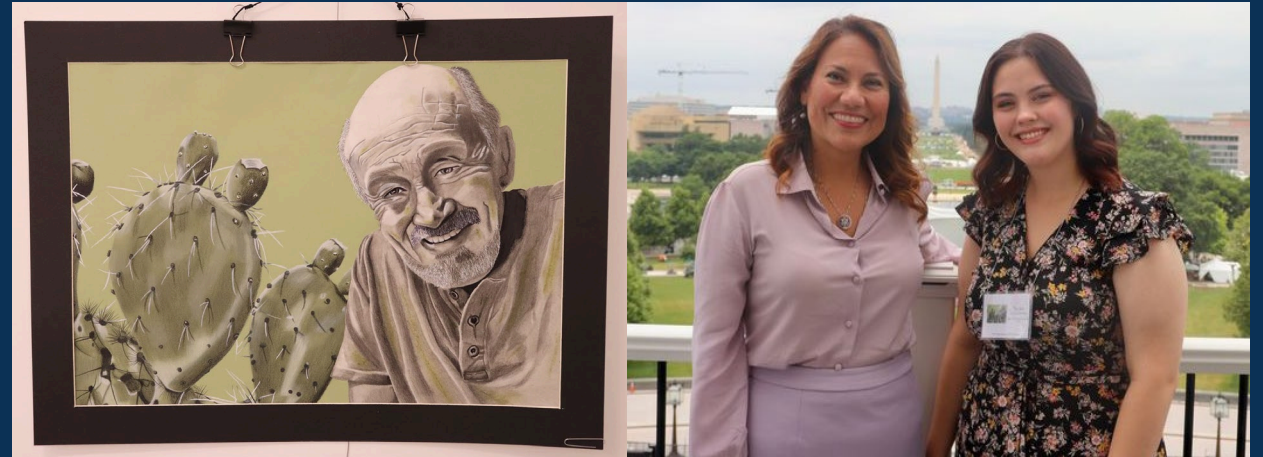
Escobar to receive any information that they might need to provide this assistance. The information I have provided to the Veronica Escobar is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. The assistance I have requested from the Veronica Escobar is in no way an attempt to evade or violate any federal, state, or local law.

Date/Time

* Signature



- Annual art competition, takes place every spring
- Open to all high school students in TX-16
- Winning artwork is displayed in U.S. Capitol for 1 year



2022 Congressional Art Competition Winner:
"Mi Querido Viejo" by Taylor Mollohan of Bel Air HS

Questions? Contact: Priscilla.Contreras@mail.house.gov

CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE



2022 Congressional App Challenge Winners

- Annual coding competition, takes place Fall of every year
- Open to all 6th-12th grade students in TX-16
- Winning app is displayed in U.S. Capitol for 1 year

The 2023 Congressional App Challenge will be open from June 15th to November 1st

Questions? Contact: Priscilla.Contreras@mail.house.gov

Library of Congress Surplus Books Program

One of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar's priorities is to ensure that the institutions that help our district develop and grow have the tools necessary to succeed. She is pleased to announce TX-16's participation in the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program.

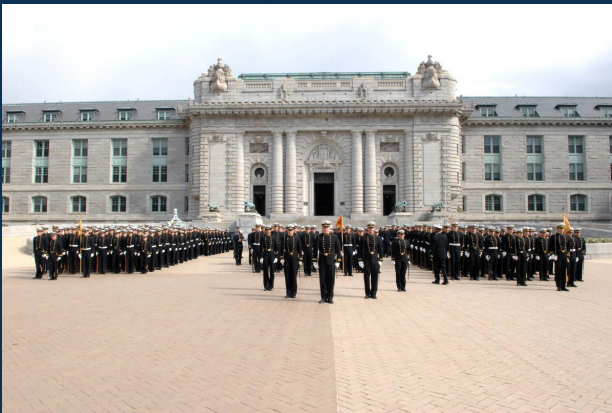
- The Surplus Books Program is a program offered by the Library of Congress through which books that are not needed for the Library's own uses are made available for donation to eligible organizations and institutions across the 16th Congressional District.

Any school, library or non-profit in the 16th Congressional District that is interested in learning more about Congresswoman Escobar's Library of Congress Surplus Book Program, contact Priscilla Contreras at Priscilla.Contreras@mail.house.gov



Congressional Nomination to a Service Academy

- Congresswoman Escobar provides nominations to four of the five Service Academies. The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point. Admission to the United States Coast Guard Academy, also a federal service academy, does not require a congressional nomination.
- Each student must apply and submit other required documents prior to the deadline, usually mid December.
- For more information contact: Emily Loya at Emily.Loya@mail.house.gov or visit our Service Academy web page at Escobar.House.gov



United States Naval
Academy



United States Air Force
Academy



United States Merchant
Marine Academy



United States Military
Academy

Internships in DC or El Paso

Congresswoman Escobar offers both part-time and full-time internships in her Washington, DC and El Paso offices. Internships are open to high school, college and graduate-level students and many affiliated schools and programs offer academic credit.

New classes are selected in the Fall, Summer and Spring.

DEADLINE for Summer 2023: March 31, 2023, at 11:59 PM MT

For more information about our internship opportunities in the El Paso or Washington, DC office, please visit our website.



Congressional Youth Advisory Council



Congresswoman Veronica Escobar started the Texas' 16th Congressional District's Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) as a leadership opportunity for high school students with an interest in public service and the legislative process.

The CYAC works with Congresswoman Veronica Escobar's office to research topics and bills while collaborating alongside their peers. All students living in the district and in grades 9-12 are eligible to apply.

The deadline for students to apply to be a part of next year's CYAC is in the Fall.

Questions? Olga.Avant-Mier@mail.house.gov

Additional Services

Washington, D.C Tour Requests

- White House Tours
- US Capitol Building Tours
- Library of Congress Tours
- Presidential Greetings for milestone occasions
- Flag Requests

Congressional Commendations

- Appointment to public office
- Awards or honors
- Citizenship
- Eagle Scout
- Election to public office
- Girl Scout Gold Award
- Graduation
- Heroism
- Other achievements of public distinction

Questions and Discussion