

HIGHER EDUCATION VIRTUAL ADVOCACY DAY 2023

Tips for Speaking with Your Legislator

- Know about your legislator ahead of time, particularly how they think about your issue. Have they voted in favor of it, agreed to sponsor it, or spoken about it publicly?
- Be polite and courteous at all times.
- Try to make an appointment beforehand to ensure you have adequate time to speak.
- You may be nervous, but remember that you probably know more about the subject than the legislator does.
- Introduce yourself and any members of your group.
- Decide who will speak, who will ask questions, who will ask for the action, and who will take notes (if needed) beforehand.
- Include your personal story, but make sure it is related to the issue at hand and your “ask” of the legislator.
- Summarize the action (the “ask”) you would like the legislator to take.
- If the legislator asks you something and you don’t know the answer, say so. Offer to get the legislator the information at a later date.
- Leave a fact sheet with information on the issue with your legislator.
- Leave a number where the legislator can call you back.
- Write down important points and any follow-up information you agreed to provide to the legislator.
- Thank the legislator for his or her time.
- Write to say thanks and to follow up on information you agreed to provide.

For more information, contact **Danielle Stanley, Government Affairs Manager** at danielle@partnershipfcc.org

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