



2025 PRIORITIES 119th CONGRESS FIRST SESSION

The American Student Association of Community Colleges is a student-centered national network of student governments. ASACC student leaders represent more than 12 million students enrolled in America's 1,200 community colleges. Its purpose is to educate its members in the dynamics of organizational leadership and development, public service, and political action.

SAVE STUDENT AID

Federal student aid is critical to the mission of community colleges and providing opportunities for students. Investing in education is investing in America. Students are our future. We encourage Congress to continue and expand funding to meet the needs of students in the programs below:

PELL GRANT

ASACC members are most grateful to Congress for the strong and consistent support of Pell Grants. ASACC asks Congress to protect and fully fund the Pell Grant. Pell Grant provides needed funding for many lower income and first-generation students. The program funded more than \$26 billion to more than 4 million community college students. Rural community colleges depend on this program to drive 50% of their enrollment. Protecting and expanding the Pell program and allowing for short-term programs is paramount. The Pell Grant is the most critical aid program for students.

FEDERAL WORK STUDY (FWS)

The Federal Work Study Program provides jobs for students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to a student's course of study on the campus. More than 400,000 students benefit from the \$853 million allocated to this program. Almost 50% of the students who benefit from this program come from families making less than \$42,000 per year.

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) provides grants to low-income undergraduates with the greatest financial need. Approximately 1.8 million recipients received an average grant of \$800. Just over 64% of dependent recipients come from families with an annual income of \$30,000 or less. This is a matching funds program with 25% of FSEOG dollars coming from institutional resources.

FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS

DIRECT SUBSIDIZED, DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED & DIRECT PLUS

Federal Student Loan Programs provide options for students to borrow for college. The Federal Direct Subsidized Loan Program provides low-interest loans to financially needy undergraduate students. Interest on the loans is paid by the government while the borrowers are in school. With more than 4 million students borrowing \$15.4 billion. The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program provides loans to students without considering economic circumstances. This program assists more than 5 million students with annual volume at \$43.7 billion. The Federal Direct PLUS Loan serves more than 600,000 students annually through loans parents take out to support pay for college expenses for their dependents. This program loans more than \$24 billion to 600,000 parent borrowers each year.

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Representing America's 12 Million Community College Students