



2024 PRIORITIES 118th CONGRESS SECOND 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.

DACA/DREAM ACT

ASACC asks Congress to work with the administration to settle the fate of the Dreamers.

ASACC further requests that Congress pass the bipartisan Dream Act of 2023 sponsored by Senator Durbin of Illinois and co-sponsored by Senator Lindsay Graham (R-SC). Doing so would have a life-changing impact on the students who qualify, dramatically increasing their average future earnings – and consequently the amount of taxes they would pay – while significantly reducing criminal justice and social services costs to taxpayers.

PELL GRANT

ASACC members are most grateful to Congress for the strong and consistent support of Pell Grants. ASACC asks Congress to double the Pell Grant maximum for FY2024 and FY2025 to \$15,000 and fund the Pell Grant program with yearly increases while maintaining the current surplus.

We also encourage Congress to reinstate access to year-round Pell for all students, allow Pell to be used for short-term workforce training programs, revise the current semester limits, and fully restore Title IV aid eligibility for all “ability-to-benefit” students.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION (HEA)

ASACC asks Congress to complete the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act during this session of Congress.

We urge consideration of ways to support community college access, improve student aid programs, ensure accurate and complete measurement of student success, and improve institutional support. Reauthorization is also an opportunity to alleviate the heavy burden of student loans by capping the student loan interest rate and eliminating the risk for participating institutions. Since the Higher Education Act provides the road map for higher education policy and priorities for the country, it should be of the utmost importance, considering it has not been reauthorized since 2013.

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Representing America's 12 Million Community College Students