



**Inside
Higher
Ed**

Supporting Student Success: Case Studies in Making College More Affordable

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Webcast| Supporting Student Success: Case Studies in Making College More Affordable

Hosts:

Ashley Mowreader,
Inside Higher Ed

Doug Lederman,
Inside Higher Ed

Colleen Flaherty,
Inside Higher Ed

Speakers:

Ivan L. Harrell II,
President of Tacoma
Community College

Catherine Brown,
Senior Director of Policy and
Advocacy at the National College
Attainment Network

Margaret McMenamin
President of UCNJ, Union College
of Union County, NJ

About Our Booklet

Articles explore:

- Public perceptions of value and affordability
- Disparities in financial security among students, by race and gender
- Affordability and why students stop out
- Differential tuition efforts and their implications for equity and cost transparency
- The link between state funding models and student outcomes
- The benefits of housing assistance programs for housing-insecure students
- Using FAFSA data to help students meet basic needs
- MassConnect/MassEducate
- Colorado Promise: Two Free Years of College Expanded
- How AI might reduce higher ed costs

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Affordability and (Versus?) Value

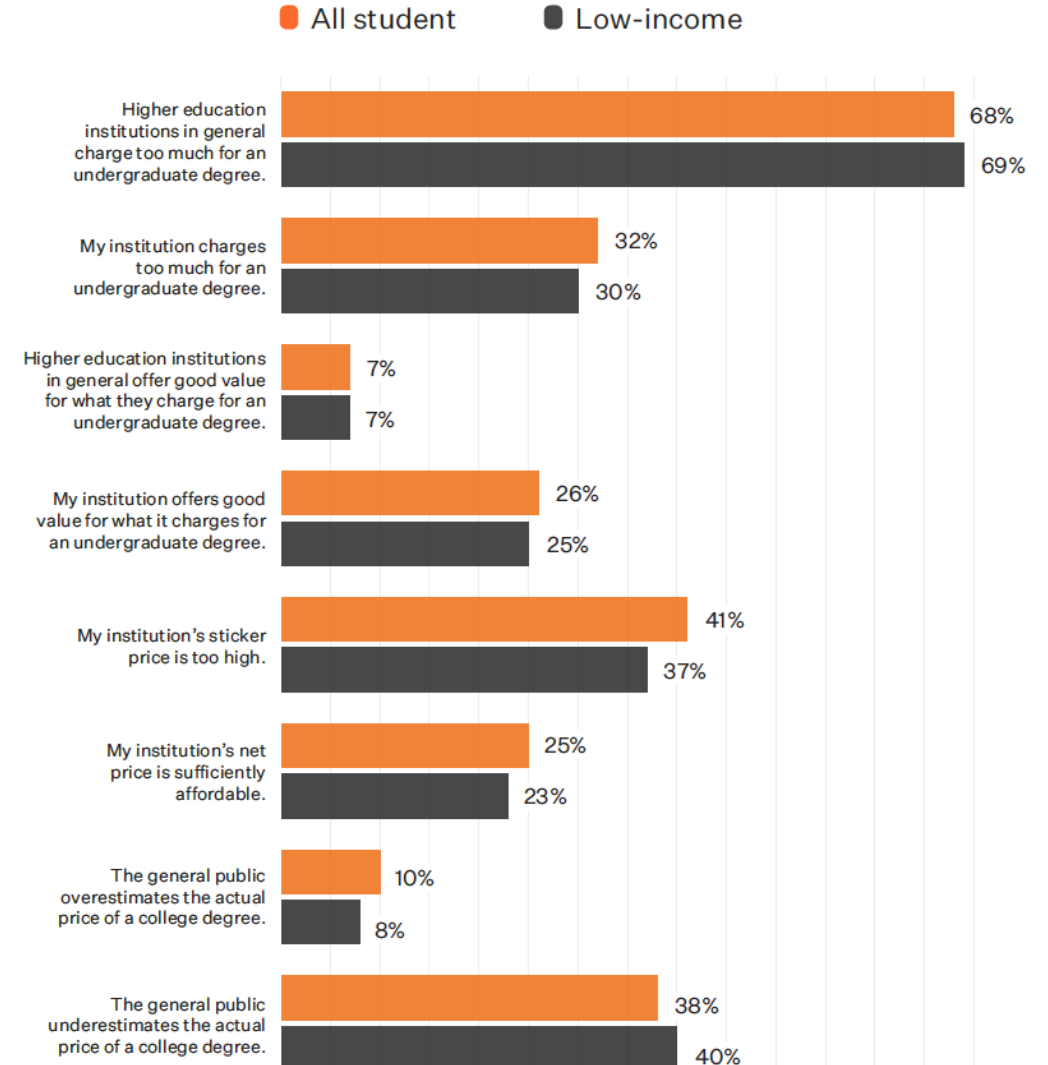
“Some of the best data tells us unequivocally, higher education is going to leave you better off economically. [But it is] hard for myself as an individual to really understand what a million dollars over the course of a lifetime means, whereas immediately, I know I have certain bills, I know that I have to worry about housing and other basic needs.”

—Julie Ajinkya, senior adviser at HCM Strategists

Source: “Students, Parents and Voters Agree
—Higher Ed Costs Too Much,” *Inside Higher Ed*

Higher Ed Generally Unaffordable, Students Say

Students share their feelings on the affordability of their college education.



Affordability: The Stakes

● April 18, 2024

NEWS

STUDENT SUCCESS

Report: Cost of College, Stress Pushes Students to Consider Stopping Out

New survey data identifies trends among students who left college and those who are still enrolled but seriously consider leaving.

By [Ashley Mowreader](#)



Student survey data shows the cost of college can be a barrier to learners' completion, graduation and overall student success.

Kameleon007/iStock/Getty Images Plus

- Top reasons students consider stopping out, per 2024 Ipsos/Sallie Mae poll: financial challenges (30%); motivation or life changes (24%); and mental health challenges (18%)
- 1 in 4 students are currently “at risk” of not retaining; of these, 53% say it’s difficult to meet the cost of tuition and 50% struggle with other expenses
- At-risk students are more likely than “on-track” students to be first-gen, low-income, Hispanic and Black
- Additional research from Gallup and Lumina identifies emotional stress (54%), mental health concerns (43%) and the cost of a degree (31%) as top reasons for considering stopping out

Source: *Inside Higher Ed*

Solutions Case Study 1: Housing Assistance

● May 17, 2024

NEWS

STUDENT SUCCESS

Study: Housing Assistance Boosted Graduation for Homeless Learners

New analysis from Education Northwest finds housing support for homeless community college students in Washington state helped with completion rates among participants.

By [Ashley Mowreader](#)



Community college students facing homelessness in Tacoma, Washington were supported by a partnership led by their college and the local housing authority, boosting retention among participants.

Dobрила Vignjevic/E+/Getty Images

College Housing Assistance Program, Tacoma CC:

- Voucher-based, in partnership w/Tacoma Housing Authority
- 2 in 3 participants completed a credential, transferred to a university or remained enrolled and on track to a degree
- Additional benefits: increased employment and higher levels of food and financial security

Other examples:

- LaGuardia CC partnered w/Airbnb for short-term housing for students experiencing homelessness
- Fort Lewis College partnered with local nonprofits and community members to provide free rapid housing assistance to students in need
- Columbus State CC has a tiered housing support program for short- and long-term support for housing-insecure students, w/nonprofit partners

Source: *Inside Higher Ed*

Solutions Case Study 2: Using FAFSA Data to Help Students Meet Basic Needs

February 05, 2024

NEWS

GOVERNMENT

Using Financial Aid Data to Help Students Meet Basic Needs

A new report says using FAFSA data to identify students who qualify for public assistance programs will help pay for their basic needs and boost retention and completion rates.

By [Jessica Blake](#)



Meeting students' basic needs, such as food security, is becoming a growing focus for colleges and universities.

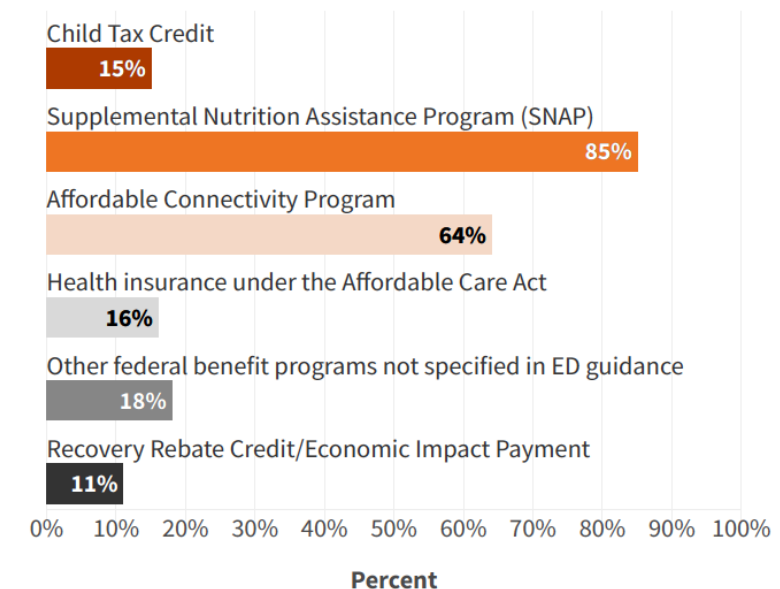
MangoStar_Studio/iStock/Getty Images

Source: *Inside Higher Ed*

27%: Share of institutions doing direct student outreach about federal benefit programs

Programs that institutions target for outreach

SNAP and ACP are the most popular programs for targeted outreach using FAFSA data



Source: [HLA + NASFAA](#)

Solutions Case Study 3: Colorado Promise

● June 04, 2024

NEWS

GOVERNMENT

Colorado to Cover Two Years' Tuition at Any Public College

The tax-credit-based aid program provides a last-dollar reimbursement to cover up to 65 credits for any student with a household income of \$90,000 or less.

By [Jessica Blake](#)

IHE's Very Official™ LinkedIn Poll:



The recent promise program bill isn't the only way Governor Jared Polis has supported higher education this year. He also signed a state budget in April, pictured here, which increased spending by \$134.9 million, or about 10 percent.

Helen H. Richardson/MediaNews Group/The Denver Post via Getty Images

What do you believe is the biggest barrier to implementing free college programs nationwide?

The author can see how you vote. [Learn more](#)

Lack of funding ✓	40%
Political opposition	45%
Logistical challenges	5%
Perceived value of a degree	10%

Source: *Inside Higher Ed*

Panel Discussion



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Sponsor Chat



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Audience Q & A

Thank you!

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