

Leveraging State & Federal Resources to Fight Student Hunger

Community College League of California · 2018 Annual Convention

November 15, 2018



California Community Colleges



FOUNDATION *for* CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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California Community Colleges



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Presentation Overview

- **Food, Housing & Basic Needs Efforts**

Chancellor's Office Updates

- **Foundation for California Community Colleges**

Equity Programs

- **CalFresh Outreach**

- **Fresh Success**

CalFresh Employment & Training Program

- **LA Trade Tech**

EBT Application & Restaurant Meals Program



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Food, Housing & Basic Needs Efforts

Chancellor's Office Updates

- Guided Pathways & Vision for Success

Student Challenges in Meeting their Basic Needs

- Recent Study from the Wisconsin Hope Lab of 70 community colleges indicated
 - 56% of students were food insecure
 - Nearly half were experiencing housing insecurity (35%) or homelessness (14%)
 - Fall 2017 survey of California community colleges found 56.8% of respondents had direct contact with students experiencing basic needs insecurity.



Food, Housing & Basic Needs Efforts

#RealCollege Survey

- Chancellor's Office partnered with the Hope Lab from Temple University to complete a third wave of the #RealCollege student survey
- CCC's were sent communications in August 2018 for voluntary college participation
- Colleges will receive individual data reports
- 54 California community colleges participated in the Fall 2018 survey



Food, Housing & Basic Needs Efforts

Food Security

- Distributed funds for CalFresh enrollment services and establish campus-based pantries.
 - 17-18 Budget \$2.5 Million
 - 18-19 Budget \$10 Million
- Approximately 111 campuses have food pantries partially due to this funding.
- Coordinated with the California Association of Food Banks to bring CalFresh Outreach workers on campus to support students with CalFresh enrollment & leverage low cost food to stock campus food pantries.
- CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program & EBT on campuses
 - Working with food/housing advocates & CDSS on supporting colleges to participate
 - Los Angeles Trade Tech – presenting about their Restaurant Meals Program



About the Foundation

We are the official non-profit supporting the Chancellor's Office and Board of Governors.

Our mission is to benefit, support, and enhance the missions of the California Community Colleges - the largest system of higher education in the nation.

Our programs and services support students, colleges, college foundations, and the system as a whole – in alignment with statewide priorities and initiatives.



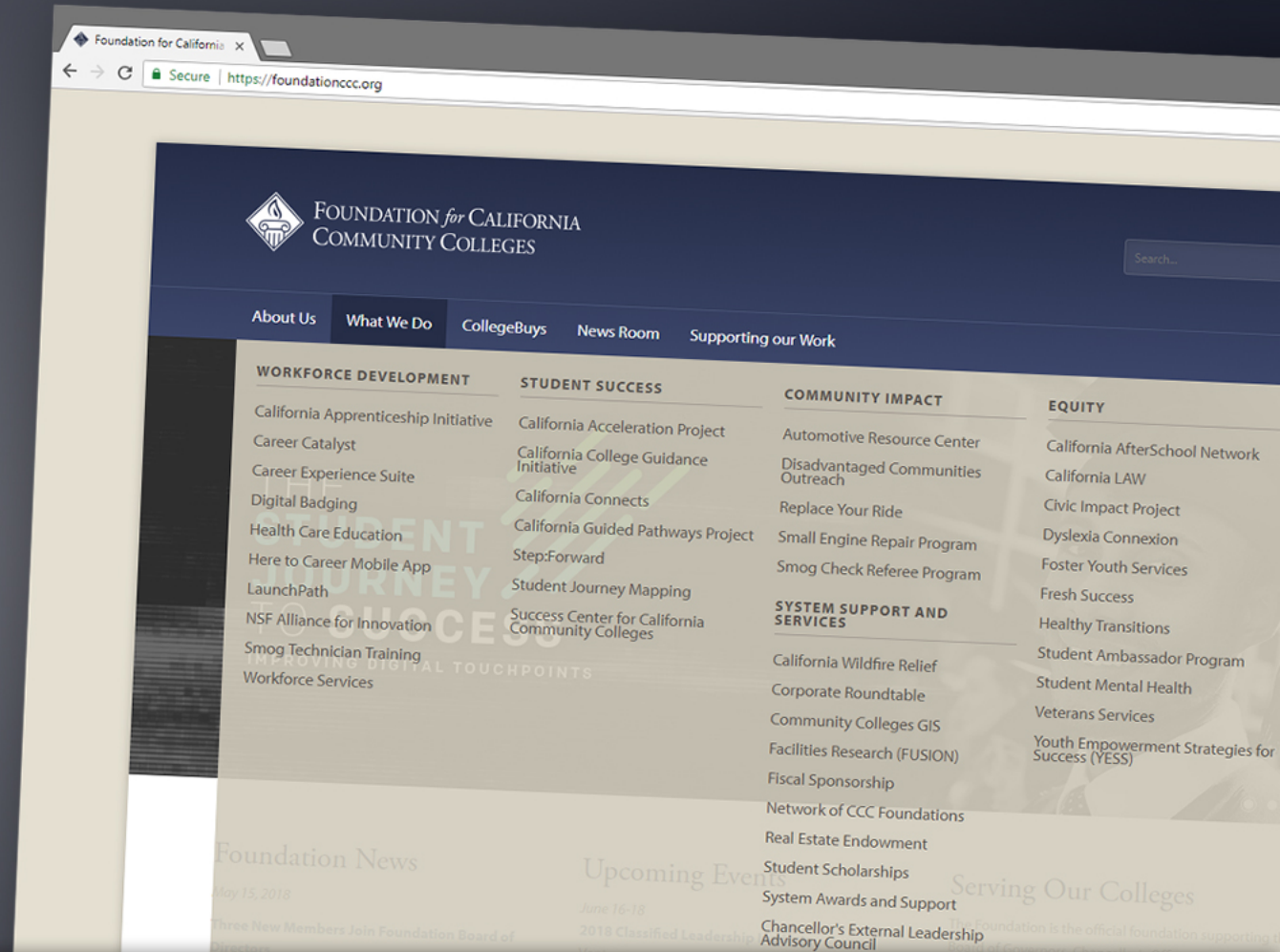
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Programs & Services Partnering across the system

Our areas of impact include:

- Student Success
- Workforce Development
- **Equity**
- Community Impact
- System Support and Services

Learn more at foundationccc.org



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Chancellors Office & Foundation Joint Initiatives

Workgroups

- Hosted Food, Housing, and Basic Needs workgroup to identify, strategize and promote best practices and identify resource gaps
- Working with California Department of Social Services on a CalFresh eligibility AB 1930 workgroup to identify student exemption listed on ACL 1705
- Participate in leading an *Intersegmental Higher Education Basic Needs Workgroup* with CSU and UC to support development of best practices and advocacy around policy to address student needs around food and housing
- Hosted system-wide Basic Needs Summit in April 2018, over 300 attendees



Chancellors Office & Foundation Joint Initiatives

CalFresh Outreach

- Contract through Chico State – Center for Health Communities
- 15 California Community Colleges
- Expansion to additional CCC's

Student Outreach Ambassadors

- Exploring funding opportunities to expand Student Wellness Ambassador program to include CalFresh Outreach
 - Trained in peer outreach and mental health and wellness
 - Equipped with outreach materials
 - Complete 1 to 1 outreach, presentations, activities and events



Chancellors Office & Foundation Joint Initiatives

- The **California Community Colleges Student Mental Health Program** launched in 2011 and is a statewide effort focusing on prevention and early intervention (PEI) strategies which address the mental health needs of California community college students.
- Partnership between the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, Foundation for California Community Colleges.
- Mental Health and Wellness materials, information, trainings, for CCC faculty, staff and students.



California Community Colleges

Student Mental Health Program



Resource Website

- CCCstudentmentalhealth.org
- Mental health, health, basic needs, homelessness and foster youth resources/information
- New fact sheet – Basic Needs & Mental Health

E-Newsletter

- Sign-up Sheet



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CCC Student Mental Health Program



- **107 of 114** California Community Colleges have access to all 6 Kognito modules
- Over **80,000** CCC faculty, staff, and students are accessing Kognito
- Tips and Resources for campus promotion

 Kognito

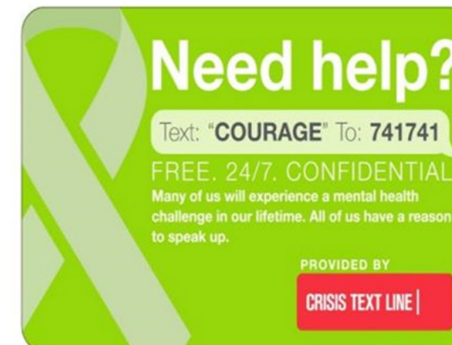


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CCC Student Mental Health Program



- Crisis Text Line - launched in May 2017
- Free 24/7 Crisis Support
- “COURAGE” – CCC key word data



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Addressing Student Food Insecurity through CalFresh

Jessica Smith, Foundation for California Community Colleges

Student Hunger



Over half of college students face food insecurity



Up to 62.7% of LACCD students experience some level of food insecurity



Campus food pantries /
community food banks



2018-19 budget: \$10
million one-time funds
for food security
programs



CalFresh!

CalFresh Benefits



- ✓ California's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ✓ Previously known as "food stamps"
- ✓ Federally funded
- ✓ AB 1930 makes many more students eligible for CalFresh (see ACL 17-05)
- ✓ Money for groceries and other non-prepared foods

Assembly Bill 1930

- Previously, most students were ineligible for SNAP (CalFresh) unless they met very specific exemptions

But now...

- *"for the purposes of determining eligibility, certain educational programs, as determined by the State Department of Social Services, shall be considered employment training programs, thereby qualifying a student participating in one of those programs for an exemption"*

Assembly Bill 1930

- The bill also required CDSS, in consultation with representatives from other specified organizations (CCCCO, CSU Chancellor's Office, UCOP), to establish a protocol to identify and verify all potential exemptions
- and to identify and verify participation in educational programs, including self-initiated placements, that would qualify a student for an exemption.

“Certain educational programs”? Enter All County Letter 17-05

In order to be eligible for CalFresh, a student must be working a minimum of 20 hours/week OR satisfy one of the exemption criteria:

- Working in paid employment for 20 hours per week OR 80 hours averaged monthly;
- Approved for (or awarded or accepted) for federal or state work study and anticipating a placement;
- Enrolled in a state-funded program that increases employability (EOP, EOPS, WIOA, DSPS, CARE, UC McNair, Puente, or MESA);
- Enrolled in a program that increases employability for current and former foster youth (Guardian Scholars, FYSI, CAFYES, Chafee (ETV), or Extended Foster Care);

“Certain educational programs”? Enter All County Letter 17-05

Continued...

- Parent with a dependent child under age 6;
- Parent with a dependent child between age 6-12 and lack adequate childcare (as determined by the county on a case-by-case basis);
- Enrolled full time in an institution of higher education and a single parent of a dependent household member under the age of 12;
- Receiving CalGrant A or B (most CCC students do not)
- Participating in the CalFresh Employment and Training Program (CFET) or be a recipient of CalWorks or JOBS

And more.... Check [CDSS CalFresh Student Eligibility: Approved Programs list](#)



Many students are eligible for CalFresh benefits



Current and former foster youth are largely not accessing CalFresh



Approx. 60% of current and former foster youth are not receiving CalFresh



We can help with this!

CA ranks 3rd to last nationwide for SNAP/CalFresh participation

- 3 million Californians are eligible but not participating in CalFresh
- CA misses out on \$2.5 billion/year in federal dollars as CalFresh benefits
- CA misses out on a potential \$4.5 billion/year in generated economic activity



Outreach to students about CalFresh matters!

Why...?

3%

Percent of all college students (nationally) receive that SNAP benefits

18%

Percent of all college students (nationally) that are actually eligible for SNAP benefits

Encourage students to apply!



Many students don't even know they are eligible



Eligibility is based off income, household size, student status, and several other factors



"Congrats! You applied for (or qualified for) financial aid, now don't forget to apply for 'food aid'"

CalFresh Outreach partnerships



CODE *for*
AMERICA



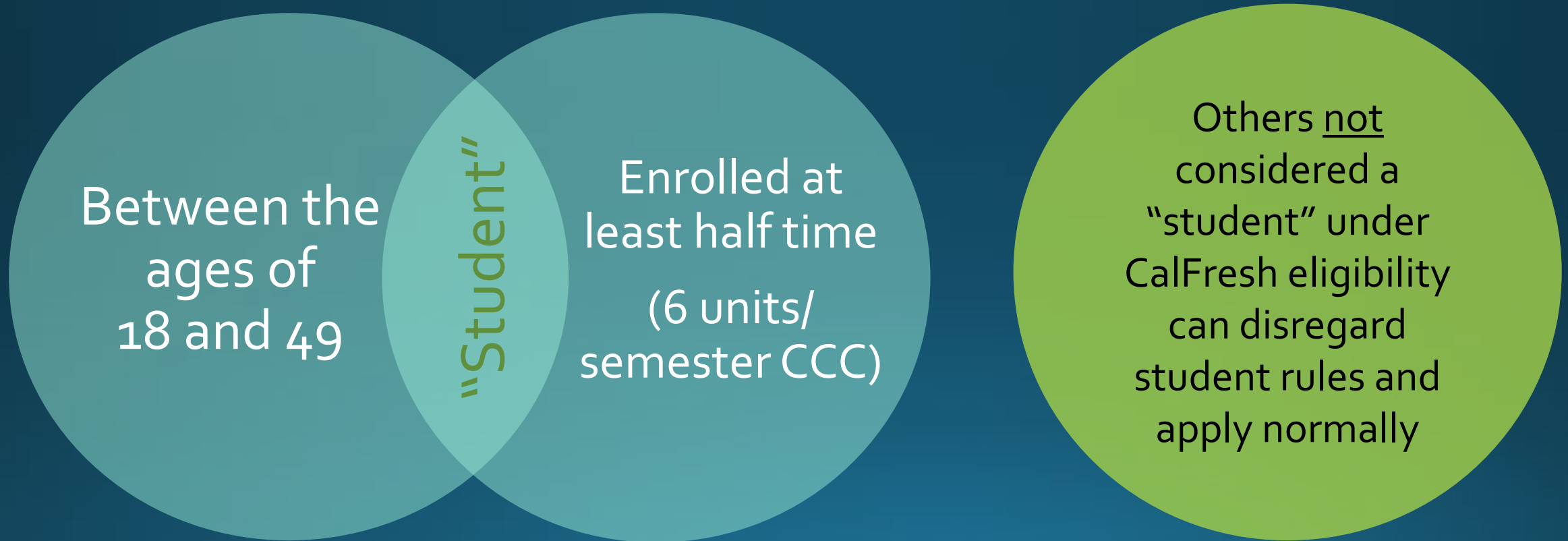
California Community Colleges

CalFresh outreach so far...

- CalFresh outreach toolkits to each campus (coming 2019)
- Training, support, technical assistance to both subcontracted and non-subcontracted campuses
- Resource distribution
- Support with leveraging local programs (local food banks, county offices, etc.)
- More to come!

Student Eligibility Basics

Student Eligibility



MONTHLY INCOME LIMITS	
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$2,024
2	\$2,744
3	\$3,464
4	\$4,184
5	\$4,904
6	\$5,624

CalFresh Income Eligibility Guidelines

(figures effective October 1, 2018—September 30, 2019)

What counts as income?

- Income from a job
- Stipends (if paid directly to the student)
- Money/allowances from a parent
- Private grants and scholarships (after allowable educational expenses are subtracted)

For additional guidance please refer to the [LSNC Guide to CalFresh Benefits](#)

Does financial aid count as income?

- Grants, scholarships and work study are not counted as income when determining CalFresh eligibility. They are considered exempt income.

Examples: Pell grant, Chafee grant, Cal Grants, Stafford, Perkins, PLUS, and consolidation loans.

CalFresh benefits do not count as income and do not affect taxes or financial aid eligibility

How does CalFresh define a “household”?

- An individual or unit of individuals that buy and prepare food together.

A CalFresh household must meet income guidelines and reside in California as a legal resident or citizen.

Student Eligibility

If you are a student (as defined by CalFresh) and also meet income eligibility, you must also meet any ONE of the following:

- Working in paid employment for 20 hours per week OR 80 hours averaged monthly;
- Approved for (or awarded or accepted) for federal or state work study and anticipating a placement;
- Enrolled in a state-funded program that increases employability (EOP, EOPS, WIOA, DSPS, CARE, UC McNair, Puente, or MESA);
- Enrolled in a program that increases employability for current and former foster youth (Guardian Scholars, FYSI, CAFYES, Chafee (ETV), or Extended Foster Care);

Student Eligibility

Continued...

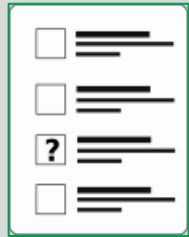
- Parent with a dependent child under age 6;
- Parent with a dependent child between age 6-12 and lack adequate childcare (as determined by the county on a case-by-case basis);
- Enrolled full time in an institution of higher education and a single parent of a dependent household member under the age of 12;
- Receiving CalGrant A or B (most CCC students do not)
- Participating in the CalFresh Employment and Training Program (CFET) or be a recipient of CalWorks or JOBS

Tips for students experiencing homelessness when applying for CalFresh benefits:

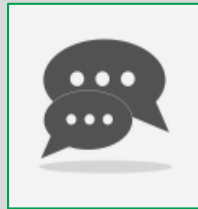
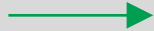
- Reliable (or updated) phone number
- Free PO box using general delivery at their local post office
- Many campuses allow students to receive mail on campus
- Other immediate food assistance resources available (food pantry, community food bank, gift cards, etc.)
- Expedited benefits

For additional guidance please refer to the [LSNC Guide to CalFresh Benefits](#)

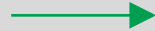
30-Day Application Process:



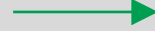
Submit
application
(Today)



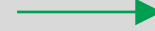
Complete an
interview
(about 1
week)



Submit
documents to
verify eligibility
(within 30 days)



Submit semi-annual
report to reconsider
eligibility
(6 months after
application was
submitted)



Submit annual report to
reconsider eligibility
(1 year after application
was submitted)

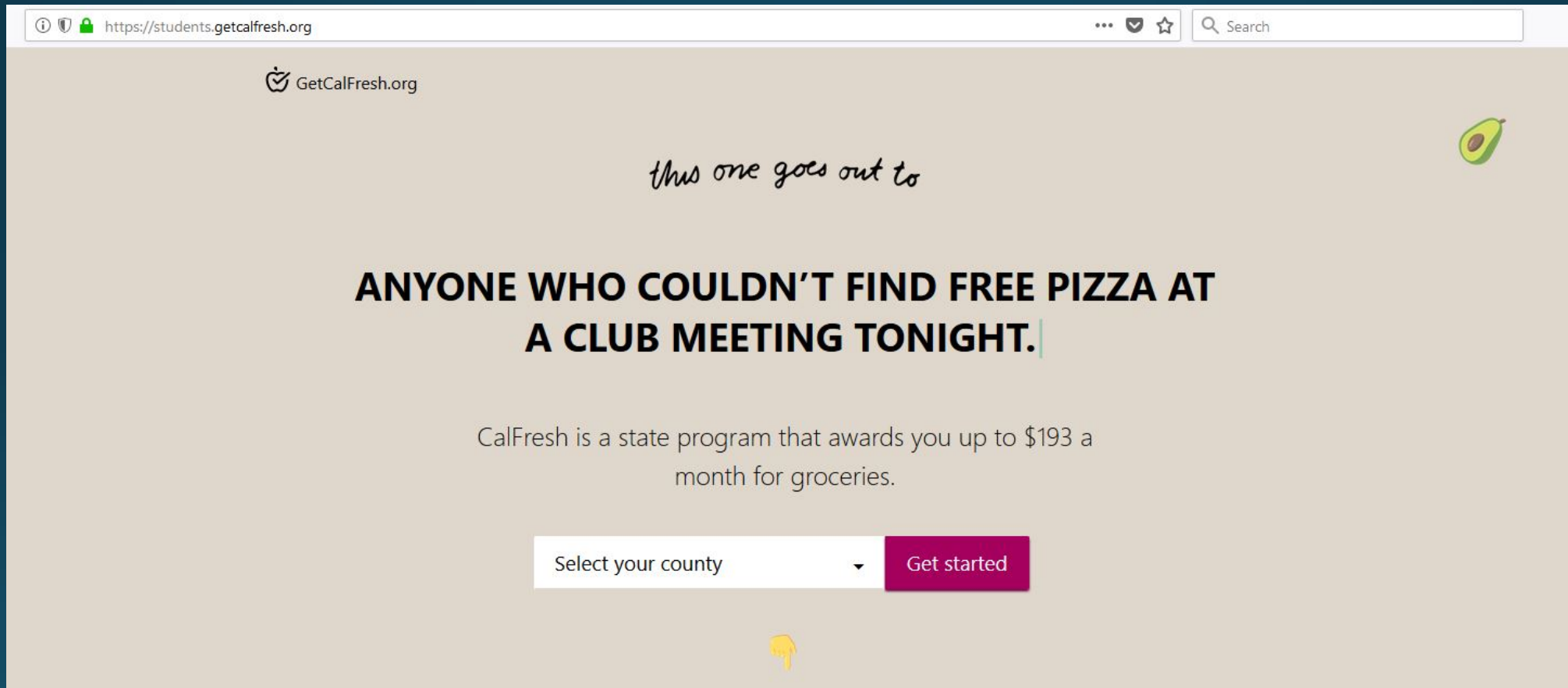
Typical Required Verification Documents*:

- Identification
- Pay stubs (if employed)
- Proof of residency (a piece of mail with current address)
- Utility bill (can sign own affidavit if obtaining this is a barrier or bill is not in applicant's name)
- Financial Aid/Work Study award letter
- Proof of enrollment and number of units

**other documentation may be requested*

Students can apply online at:

students.getcalfresh.org/s/ccc



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://students.getcalfresh.org>. The page has a light beige background. At the top left is the GetCalFresh.org logo. In the top right corner, there is a search bar with the text "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. The main content area features the text "this one goes out to" in a cursive font, followed by the bold statement "ANYONE WHO COULDN'T FIND FREE PIZZA AT A CLUB MEETING TONIGHT." with a green cursor at the end. Below this, a paragraph explains that CalFresh is a state program awarding up to \$193 a month for groceries. At the bottom, there is a white dropdown menu labeled "Select your county" and a purple "Get started" button. A yellow hand cursor is pointing at the bottom center of the page.

GetCalFresh.org

this one goes out to

**ANYONE WHO COULDN'T FIND FREE PIZZA AT
A CLUB MEETING TONIGHT.**

CalFresh is a state program that awards you up to \$193 a month for groceries.

Select your county ▼

Get started

CalFresh Outreach Video

Coming Soon!



CalFresh Outreach toolkits:

- Sticker decals, postcards, posters, etc.



Increase awareness



Destigmatize



Encourage students to apply!

Questions?

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916-325-8562

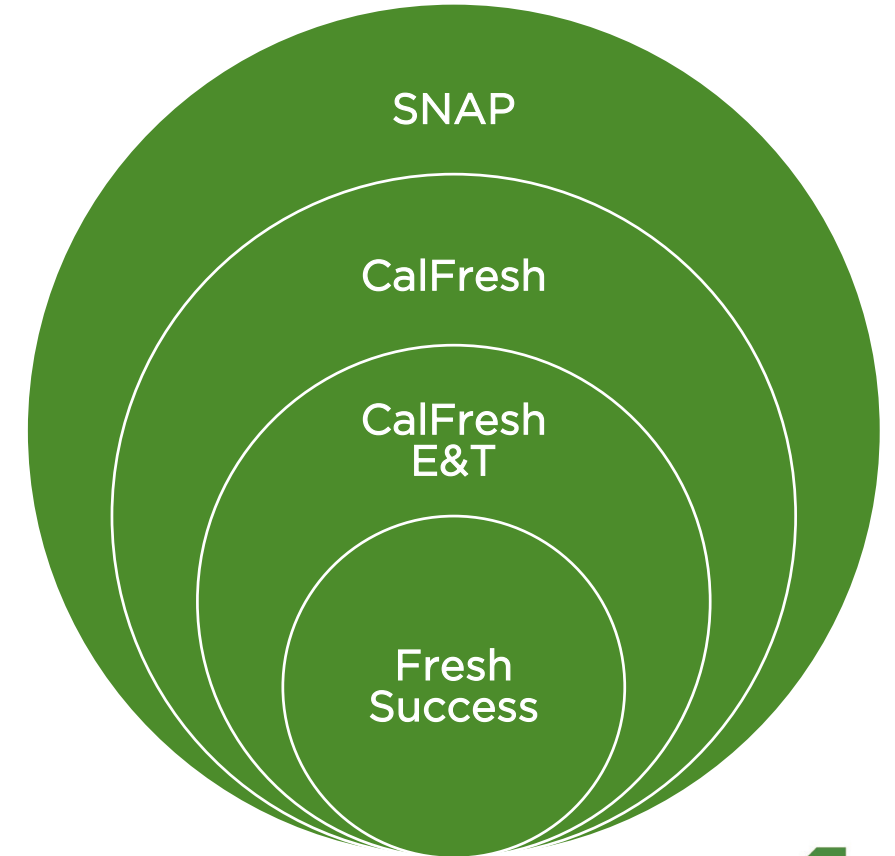
Fresh Success

Helping Low-Income Californians
Become More Employable



What is Fresh Success?

- Helps colleges and community-based organizations access federal SNAP Employment & Training funding
- Funding allows partners to expand services for low-income participants to improve their employability
- Improves student food security





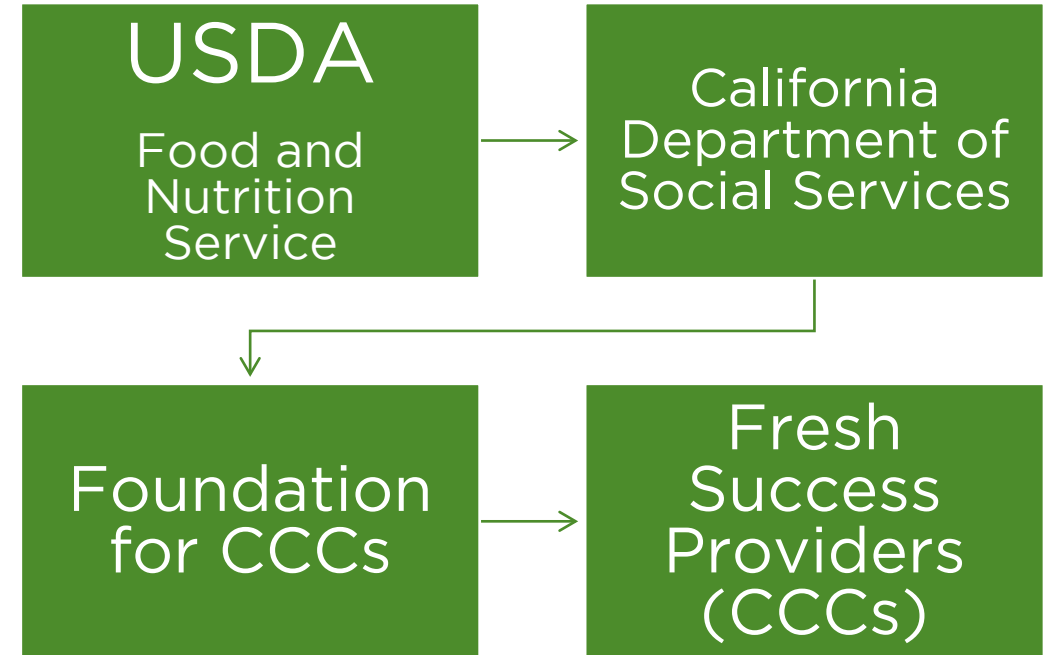
What is Fresh Success?

-
- Video available at <https://foundationccc.org/What-We-Do/Student-Services/FreshSuccess>



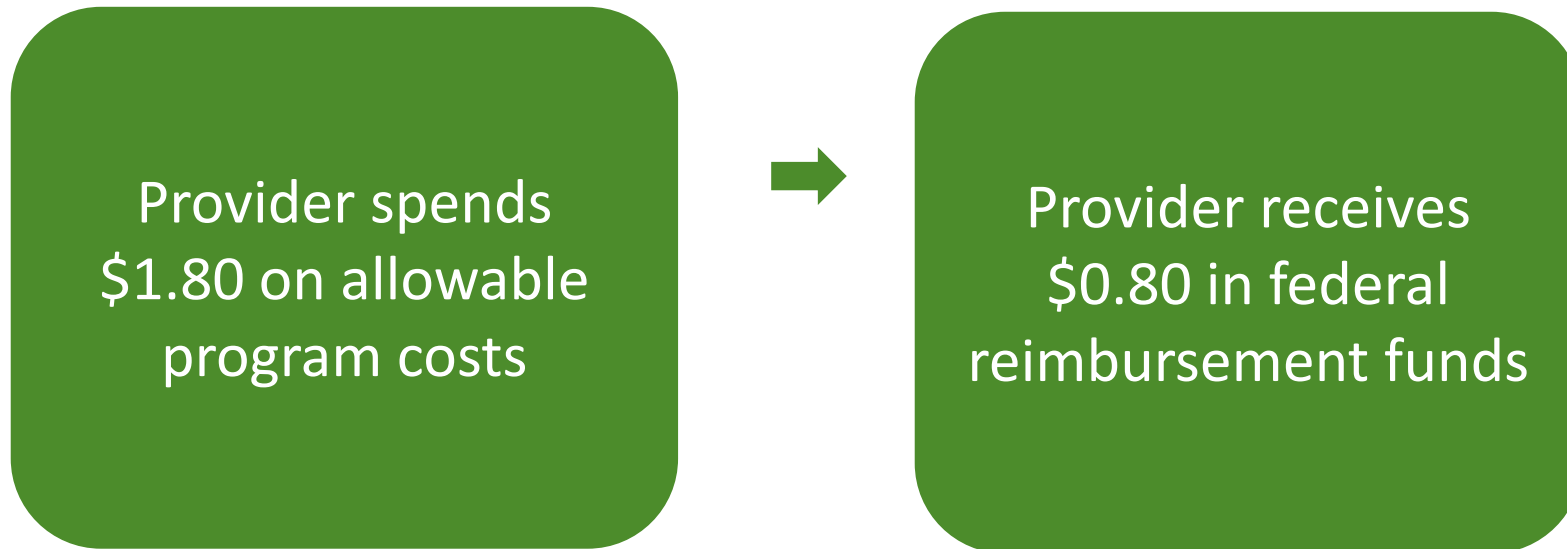
How is Fresh Success funded?

- Federal reimbursement program funded by USDA SNAP Employment and Training (E&T)
- Sustainable and non-competitive



How much funding is available?

- The amount of federal funding depends upon your available non-federal funding





What qualifies for reimbursement?

- Non-federal funds that
 - are being spent on allowable services to qualifying participants
 - are not already being used as match for another federal program
- Possible sources include Student Equity, EOPS, California Promise Grants (BOG Fee Waiver), Strong Workforce, AB86 Adult Ed, district funds, philanthropic funds



What are allowable activities?

- Providing employment and training services
- Reimbursing participants for certain costs
- Program administration and evaluation





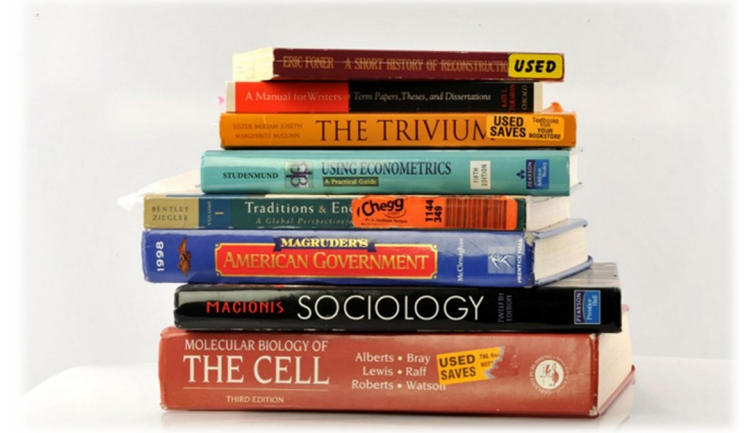
Program Services

- Supportive services
 - Academic and career counseling
 - Academic monitoring
 - Career and job readiness workshops
 - Tutoring
 - Homework labs
 - Case management
 - Job search, placement, and retention services



Program Services

- Financial help to reduce barriers to participation, such as reimbursement for
 - transportation
 - textbooks
 - course supplies
 - testing fees
 - emergency rent and one-time utility payments to avoid shut-off
 - eye exams/glasses and minor dental work
 - dependent care





**fresh
success**

Who is a qualifying participant?

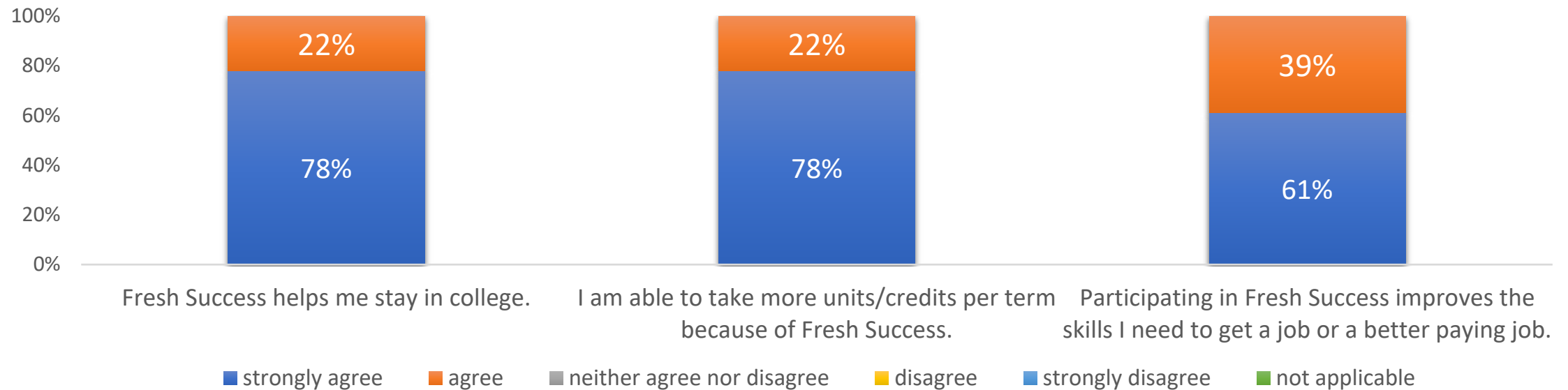
To qualify for Fresh Success, a potential participant must:

- be a CalFresh recipient (current or eligible to enroll)
- not be in CalWORKs (timed out CalWORKs students are eligible!)
- (for colleges) taking at least one CTE, ESL, GED, or basic skills class
- have the skills, interest, and capacity to benefit from Fresh Success



Participant Survey

Student Perceptions of Fresh Success



“Fresh Success has helped me pay for books which I wouldn’t have been able to pay. Plus they give me gas cards to be able to get to college. Without Fresh Success I wouldn’t have been able to afford to stay in school this semester.”





Early Results

As of September 30, 2018:

- 343 students served (597 total participants)
- Over \$420,000 in federal reimbursement to 3 colleges
- Over \$290,000 in direct participant supports



Supporting you at every step.

Fresh Success focuses on helping you meet your educational goals by understanding your needs and offering a wide range of support.



Academic and Career Counseling



Textbook and Supply Assistance



Monthly Transportation Stipend
UP TO \$100



Free Parking Permit

Eligibility

- Reside in Contra Costa County
- Enrolled in at least one CTE, ESL, GED, or basic skills course
- Enrolled in or eligible for CalFresh
- NOT enrolled in CalWORKS

How to Apply

www.examplecollege.com/freshsuccess
or visit 123 Example Hall,
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.





What is the Foundation's role?

- Engage potential new Fresh Success providers
- Contract directly with providers
- Offer tools, training, and technical assistance
- Facilitate partnership between the provider and County
- Act as a liaison with state and federal E&T agencies
- Conduct program and fiscal reviews





How do I know if my college is a good fit for Fresh Success?

- Interest in expanding services and/or participants
- Interest in diversifying funding (infusion of federal dollars)
- Able to administer program with support from Foundation
- Commitment from County





Current Fresh Success Partners



Coming soon: Contra Costa CCD and Foothill-De Anza CCD





I'm interested. What's next?

Foundation staff will work with you to:

- Introduce Fresh Success to other key decision makers in your organization
- Review potential program budget
- Confirm commitment from the County
- Discuss timing for becoming a new Fresh Success provider





Contact Information

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COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY / EAST / HARBOR / MISSION / PIERCE / SOUTHWEST / TRADE-TECHNICAL / VALLEY / WEST

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) System

CASH BENEFITS

- ▶ All cardholders may use their EBT (Golden State Advantage) card at participating retailers with a Point-of-Sale (POS) device.
- ▶ Benefits disbursed by CalWORKs, Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income, Refugee Cash Assistance, General Relief, Veterans' Cash Benefit, and Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) System

CALFRESH (SNAP) BENEFITS

- ▶ CalFresh SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps) is for people with limited income to pay for food.
- ▶ Benefits come on the EBT card that works like a debit card.
- ▶ College students can get CalFresh if they meet student requirements.
- ▶ Can be used at most grocery stores and many farmers markets.
- ▶ Individuals may qualify for CalFresh benefits even if they receive money from a job, Disability, Unemployment, Social Security, CalWORKs, General Assistance or Retirement.

State Mandates

- ▶ AB 1714, which went into effect January 2017, requires Universities and Colleges receiving public funds to accept the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card.
 - ▶ Additionally, it requires each public and private postsecondary education institution that is located in a county that participates in the Restaurant Meals Program to apply to become an approved food vendor that participates in this program.
- ▶ AB 214, signed into law July 2017, requires students be provided information on CalFresh eligibility and clarifies that on-campus food retailers that sell prepared food meant for onsite consumption are required to participate in the CalFresh Retailer or Restaurant Meals Program.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) System

SNAP RETAILER

- ▶ USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is the only source that authorizes retailers. FNS does not work with outside entities to authorize retailers for SNAP.
- ▶ For information on becoming a SNAP Retailer:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/apply>
- ▶ After successful authorization, retailer is issued a SNAP Permit, which includes the store name, store location.

RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM

- ▶ CalFresh RMP MOU with LA County Department of Public Social Services is required to participate.
- ▶ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Application with USDA is also required.
- ▶ Approval by USDA/FNS required.
- ▶ Special equipment to process CalFresh RMP benefits is required.
- ▶ Not all counties in California participate.

**The following California counties participate in the
CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program (RMP).**

Alameda County
Los Angeles County
Orange County
Riverside County
Sacramento County
San Diego County
San Francisco County
San Luis Obispo County
Santa Clara County
Santa Cruz County

Any college, in any county, can apply for SNAP Retailer Permit.

POP UP PANTRY PROJECT

- ▶ https://www.dropbox.com/s/8yrkq3gr89ahsf5/FoodPantry_Vid.mp4?dl=0

LATTC STUDENT SUPPORT



▶ **Pop-up Food Pantry**

- ▶ Fresh fruits and vegetables/easy to prepare foods/fresh pre-packaged food. Every Tuesday. Partnership with St. Francis.

▶ **Hot meals at St. Francis:** (across the street from LATTC)

- ▶ Breakfast is served:
Monday-7:30 a.m.- 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Saturday-8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.

LACC FOOD FOR THOUGHT



- ▶ **Pop-up Food Pantry**
 - ▶ Fresh fruits and vegetables/easy to prepare foods/pre-packaged food
- ▶ **Mid-Term and Final Exam Free Breakfast**
 - ▶ Providing hot meal or bagged cold meal
 - ▶ Partnering with Campus instruction or vendors (i.e. Office Depot)
 - ▶ Office Depot Core List Pricing
- ▶ **Partner with L.A. Regional Food Bank**
 - ▶ Partner agencies must have 501(c)3 status
 - ▶ Provide food pantry support or mobile food truck (MFT)

LAVC Helping Hands Food Pantry



- ▶ Helping Hands is a consortium of committed campus volunteers. The campus is working to formally institutionalize the resources and services.
- ▶ The LAVC Helping Hands Food Pantry distribution takes place twice per week to accommodate all students: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 am – 1 pm. It is currently run by CalWORKS and student workers.
- ▶ Food Forward provides fresh, organic produce weekly for our pantry.
- ▶ Monday through Friday, breakfast is brought in from a local elementary school for our food-insecure students.
- ▶ The Pantry is stocked through weekly food pick-ups from MEND (Meet Each Need with Dignity), a distribution point for the LA Food Bank.
- ▶ We have leveraged funds and partnerships to conserve SB 85 funds and to expand resources for students, workforce training participants, student athletes, and student parents.
- ▶ Oversees case management for over 100 students per semester to provide food and housing.

Next Steps:

- ▶ Curate and share best practices in food interventions.
- ▶ Develop and support policy that allows us to engage in positive change.
- ▶ Develop research to better understand impact of food insecurity interventions.

QUESTIONS?

Thank you



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