



AT A GLANCE: ADVANCING EQUITY

America's higher education system is not working for many of today's students. The *College Affordability Act* will expand opportunities for students from all backgrounds by providing flexible college options and stronger support to help students graduate and move into the workforce.

The *College Affordability Act* provides low-income students greater financial support by cutting the cost of tuition and covering other basic expenses that can interfere with their education. The bill...

- Creates a new federal-state partnership program to provide tuition-free community college and a path to a tuition-free four-year degree, freeing up students' federal financial aid dollars to cover non-tuition expenses.
- Increases the value of Pell Grants to cover a larger share of tuition and put more money in students' pockets to pay for food, housing, and other basic essentials.
- Gives schools the tools to connect their students with federal safety net programs, including food assistance programs like SNAP and WIC.

The *College Affordability Act* gives students more flexible college options that offer both an accelerated path to the workforce and the opportunity to get a two- or four-year degree. The bill...

- Allows Pell Grants to be used for quality, short-term programs that can launch graduates into successful careers while also giving them a path to a two- or four-year degree.
- Expands access to dual enrollment for high school students and improves the transferability of short-term credentials and college credits to give students' a broader array of options.
- Increases total Pell eligibility from 12 to 14 semesters and allows students to use unspent Pell dollars toward a graduate degree, empowering students to continue building their skills.

The *College Affordability Act* gives a new, more diverse generation of students the support they need to graduate and move into the workforce. The bill...

- Invests in programs that advance access to education for students with disabilities, foster youth, students who struggle with homelessness, and student veterans.
- Provides access to affordable on-campus childcare for students with children.
- Blocks Secretary DeVos's survivor-blaming Title IX rule and strengthens prevention and reporting of incidents of campus sexual assault, harassment, and hazing.
- Makes undocumented students and individuals in the country under temporary protected status eligible for federal student aid.
- Supports campus diversity by strengthening civil rights enforcement to prevent discrimination on campus.
- Expands opportunities for justice-involved individuals to get an education and successfully reenter their communities by providing incarcerated students access to Pell Grants.

The *College Affordability Act* strengthens Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). The bill...

- Increases and permanently reauthorizes mandatory funding for HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs.
- Authorizes new grant programs to support innovation at HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs, preserve and revitalize Native American Languages, and increase opportunities for graduate and doctoral studies.