



Supporting College Students' Basic Needs: Food and Housing Interventions

2019 Blueprints for Success Conference

Westin LAX

October 29, 2019

Today's Presenters



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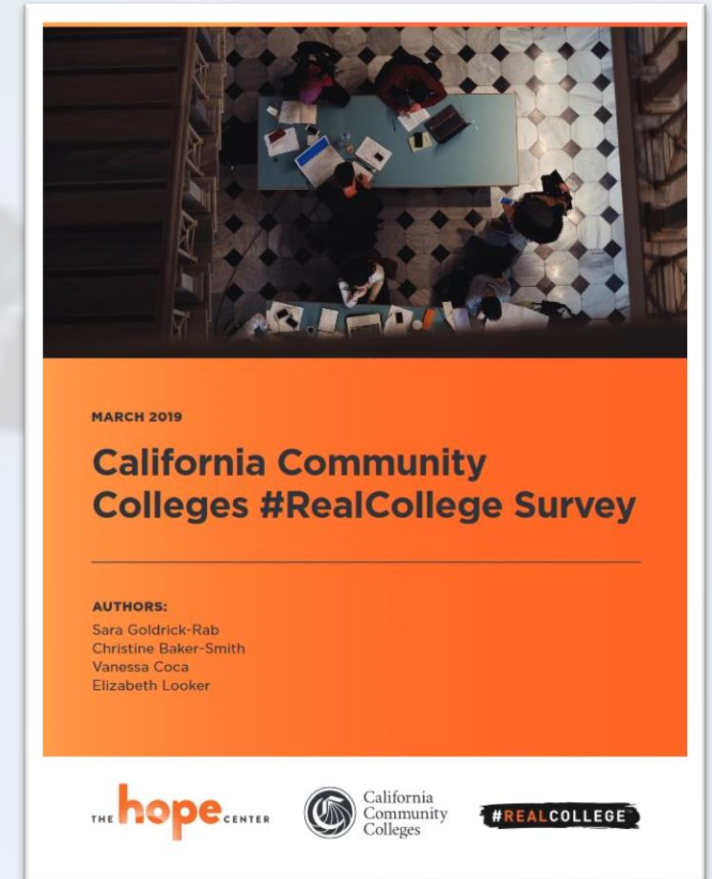
2018 #RealCollege Survey

- In 2018 the Chancellor's Office provided support to the Hope Center to administer 2018 #RealCollege survey across California Community Colleges system
 - 57 CCCs participated in the survey
 - 40,000 students responded



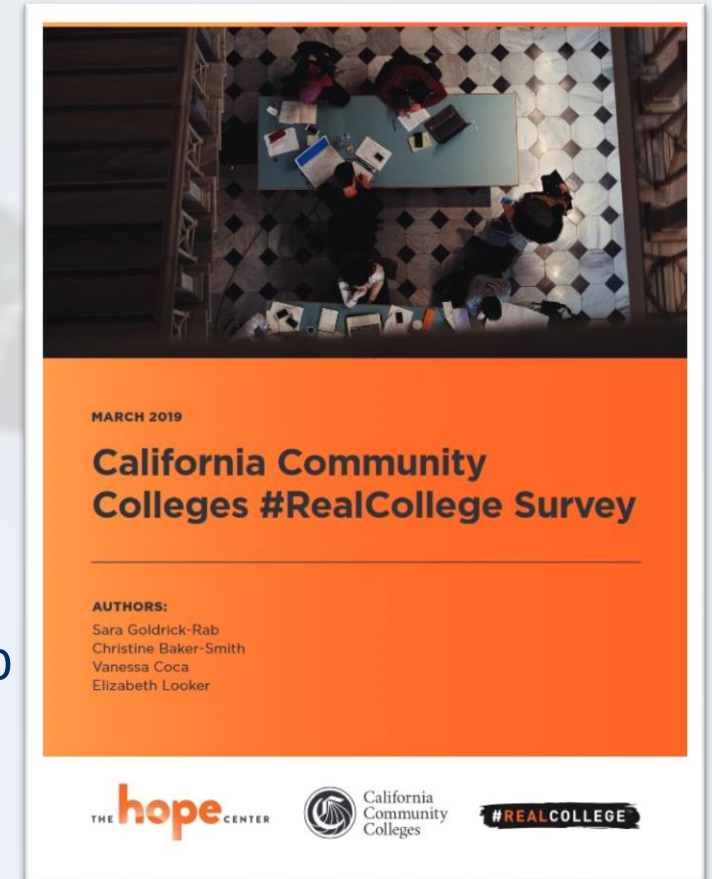
2018 #RealCollege Report

- Out of the 40,000 students at 57 campuses, the results indicated that:
 - 50% of respondents were food insecure in the prior 30 days
 - 60% of respondents were housing insecure in the prior 12 months
 - 19% of respondents were homeless in the previous 12 months



2018 #RealCollege Report

- 57% Pell grant recipients report food insecurity; 69% report housing insecurity
- 61% of students with physical or mental disabilities report food insecurity; 72% report housing insecurity
- 66% of students from foster care report food insecurity, 82% report housing insecurity and 43% report having experienced homelessness



CCC Hunger Free Campus Funds



2017-18: \$2.5 million

2018-19: \$10 million

2019-20: \$3.9 million



- 114 CCCs hosting food pantries or regular food distribution
- Majority providing support to students to enroll in CalFresh benefits,

CCC Hunger Free Campus Activities

- CalFresh Enrollment Support Services
- Expand Campus Food Pantry/Mobile Food Vans
- Hot Meal Voucher
- Meal Donation Give Back Programs
- Financial Literacy Programs
- Farmers Market Donation Programs
- Community Garden Programs



\$9 million for College Rapid Rehousing Pilot Program

- Work with up to 10 Community Colleges to pilot rapid rehousing services to CCC students
- Services will include:
 - Housing navigation services
 - Rental subsidize
 - Case management services



What is CalFresh?

- CalFresh is a federally funded, sustainable intervention for student hunger.
- Many students are eligible for CalFresh benefits, which feeds students and their families.



CalFresh benefits as an intervention



CalFresh is a nutrition program that can help households (including students) to buy healthy foods.



CalFresh is California's SNAP program (previously food stamps).



CalFresh benefits are issued on an EBT card that works just like a debit card. You can use debit card at most grocery stores and farmer's markets.

EBT = Electronic Benefits Transfer



No legitimate county representative will ever call a recipient to ask for their PIN – potential scams should be reported by calling (877) 328-9677

The History of Food Stamps – SNAP - CalFresh Food

1. 1930's - Great Depression Surplus
2. 1960's - War on Poverty
3. 1970's - Expansion
4. 2008 – Name change



CalFresh Food Funding

Farm Bill



CalFresh Outreach Program

The vision of the CalFresh Outreach CA Higher Ed program is to support development of college campus on-site CalFresh Outreach programs integrated with other related services.



CalFresh Outreach Program

GOALS

Spread correct, unbiased information about the program

Assist people through the application and verification process

Work in partnership with state and county social service offices

Provide support and create resources in multiple languages

Help interpret county notices, problem solve, and overcome the three hurdles

- **The Three Hurdles:** Application, Interview, and Verifications

Where can you use CalFresh food?



To see stores that accept CalFresh Food EBT, visit EBTNearMe.org

Many farmer's markets will accept CalFresh Food. To find markets that accept, visit FMFinder.org.

[Market Match](#)

Other benefits of an EBT card



CARE Program



California LifeLine



Free or reduced entry to museums



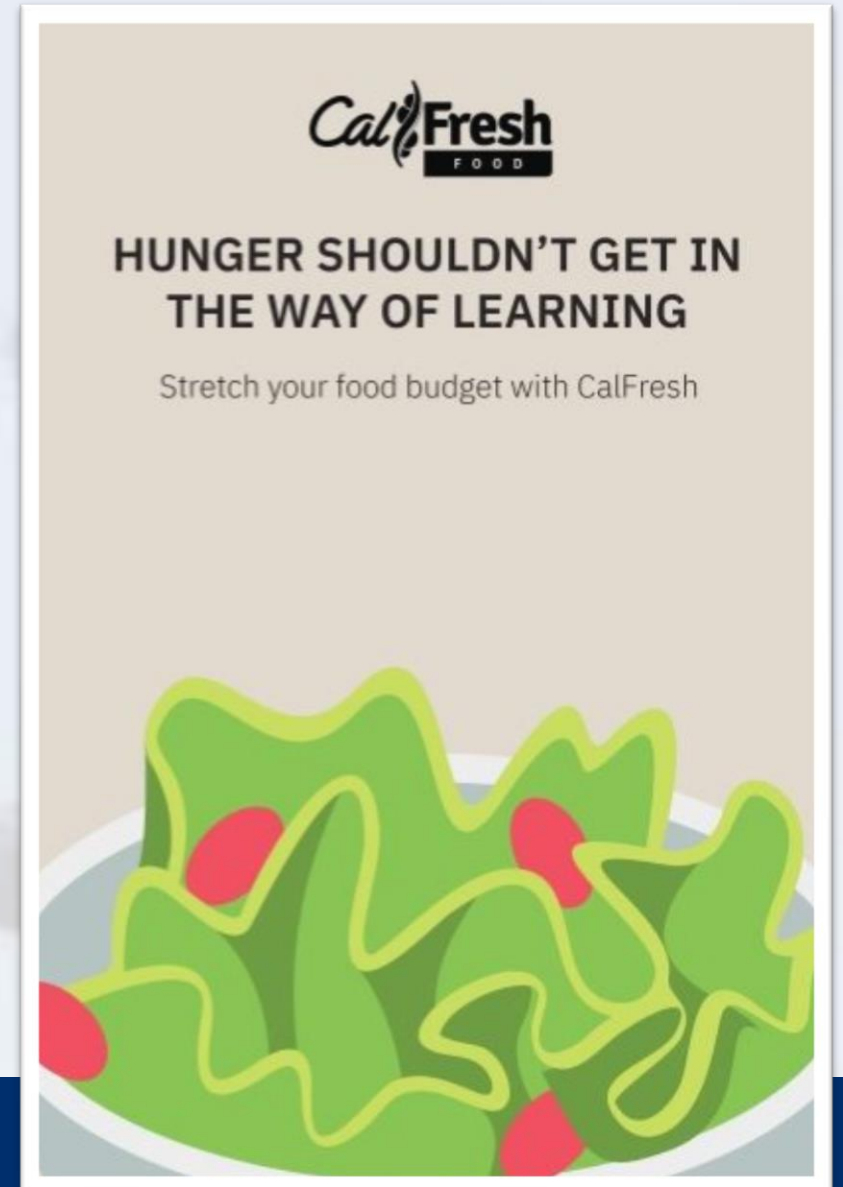
Amazon Prime discount



Low Cost Auto Insurance

CalFresh Eligibility

- CalFresh determines eligibility based off household and income.
 - Other eligibility requirements for students (will cover in the next few slides)
- How does CalFresh define a “household”?
 - An individual or unit of individuals that purchase and prepare food together.
- A CalFresh household must meet income guidelines and reside in California as a US citizen or legal permanent resident/Green Card holder



CalFresh Income Eligibility Guidelines

(FIGURES EFFECTIVE
OCT.1, 2019 -
SEPT.30, 2020)

MONTHLY INCOME LIMITS	
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$2,082
2	\$2,820
3	\$3,556
4	\$4,292
5	\$5,030

Student Eligibility

Between the
ages of
18 and 49

“Student”

Enrolled at
least half time
(6 units/
semester CCC)

Others not
considered a
“student” under
CalFresh eligibility
can disregard
student rules and
apply as a “non-
student”


Student Eligibility in CCCs

HOW TO APPLY

CalFresh provides free money for groceries. If you applied for financial aid, why not apply for food aid? Applying online takes just a few minutes. If approved, you'll get a free debit card for monthly groceries.

ELIGIBILITY

To be potentially eligible for CalFresh, students must meet **ONE** of the following exemptions. The list below is not intended to be exhaustive; additional programs might be referred to locally by another name.



PROGRAMS THAT INCREASE EMPLOYABILITY

- EOPS/CARE
- Disabled Student Programs & Services
- Puente Project
- MESA Program

PROGRAMS FOR CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

- Guardian Scholars
- Foster Youth Success Initiative
- NextUp
- Chafee ETV
- Extended Foster Care (AB 12/AB 212)

OTHER EXEMPTIONS

- Approved for work study
- Having dependent children under the age of 12
- Recipient of CalWORKs
- Working 20 hours/week; or average of 80 hours/month

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'”

Students can apply online at:

students.getcalfresh.org/s/ccc



this one goes out to

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

CalFresh is a financial aid program that awards you
an average of \$150 a month to buy groceries.



CalFresh and Foster Youth



Findings from 2016 CalYOUTH Study

- 1 in 3 non-minor dependents (NMDs) reported having ever received CalFresh
- 4 in 5 NMDs were not currently receiving CalFresh
- Youth in care were significantly less likely than youth who exited care to have ever received CalFresh benefits (29.6% vs. 45.7%)

Households and Foster Youth

How are shared living situations handled?

In shared living arrangements where meals are purchased and prepared **together**, the Head of Household would apply for CalFresh benefits on behalf of the entire household (i.e. foster/relative caregiver, guardian homes).

In shared living arrangements where meals are purchased and prepared **separately**, each individual may apply for CalFresh benefits separately (i.e. THP+FC, renting a room in a SILP).

Counting Income for Current & Former Foster Youth

What is counted as income?

Earned income → Wages (from employment)

Unearned income → Any foster care or program stipend received directly by the youth (i.e. the entire foster care payment or THP-Plus rate paid to the provider is not counted)

Application Tips

Once the application is submitted, the youth must complete an interview (over the phone unless otherwise arranged):

- The youth can reschedule the interview if they miss the call or are unable to conduct the interview at the scheduled time.
- Oftentimes, the interview will be an incoming call from a blocked number, so be sure they pick up the phone and/or are checking their messages often.

Information and resources

Student Eligibility: All County Letter 17-05

<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/ACL/2017/17-05.pdf?ver=2017-02-15-111331-970>

Treatment of NMD income: All County Letter I-68-17

https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/ACIN/2017/I-68_17.pdf?ver=2019-06-17-124548-120

FAQ by John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY)

<https://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NMD-and-CalFresh-FAQ-updated-for-FFY19-6-1-19.pdf>

“CalFresh for Foster Youth” Webinar by JBAY

<https://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/11-28-17-Web-Seminar-CalFresh-for-Foster-Youth-Students.pdf>

Legal Services of Northern California (LSNC)

website: <http://www.calfresh.guide>



Questions?

Contact us



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