

Delivery of Pandemic Emergency Aid to Students Requires Support for Colleges & Universities

New Hope Center Study: Getting Pandemic Emergency Aid to Students Requires Fast Delivery Systems for Colleges and Universities

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, UNITED STATES, October 27, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As federal policymakers debate major investments in higher education, including a \$9B "college completion fund," new research from [The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice](#) highlights the need to focus on how funds are delivered to students.



The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice

“Over the last year, Congress has given colleges and universities from coast to coast \$75 billion in relief, over \$30 billion of which must be spent on [emergency aid](#)—a potentially transformative investment that could help millions survive the pandemic and reach graduation. But for those dollars to help, they must reach students fast. Colleges and universities need structures and systems for that work, and right now most don’t have them,” said [Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab](#), President and Founder of The Hope Center.

“

Congress has given colleges and universities...\$75 billion in relief, over \$30 billion of which must be spent on emergency aid, a potentially transformative investment for students”

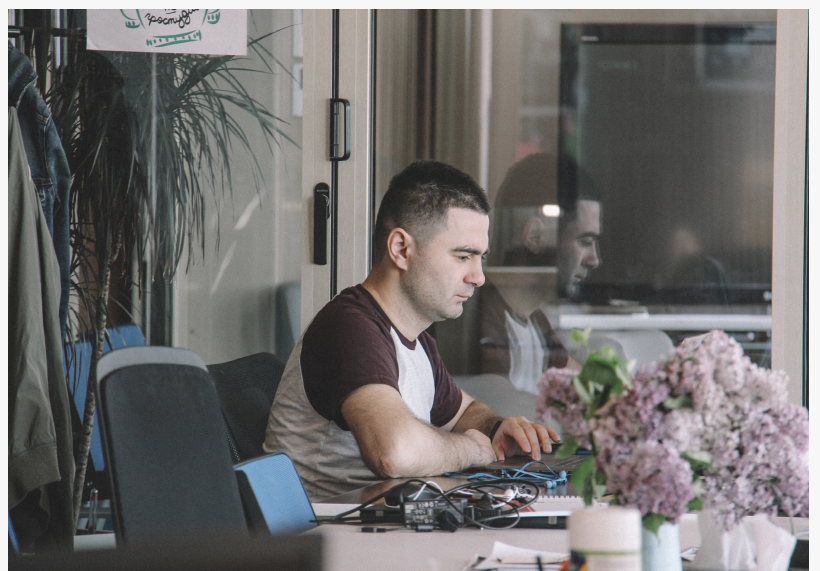
*Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab,
President and Founder of The
Hope Center*

During the 2020-2021 academic year, researchers collected data from more than 195,000 students and staff at the 202 institutions they attended. They learned that 66% of students with food, housing, or other needs did not apply

for emergency aid. Colleges and universities struggled to make students aware that dollars were available, had difficulty establishing and implementing equitable eligibility standards, and distributing large amounts of money fast. This is mainly because the bureaucratic structures

built for traditional financial aid are not useful for distributing fast cash to large numbers of students during a crisis.

Some institutions, including Grambling State University, Metropolitan State University Denver, University of Hawaii Hilo, and Normandale Community College innovated by cutting red tape, but many others did not. On average, students waited about 2 weeks to receive financial support at a time when they needed it much more quickly.



Students Need Fast Delivery of Emergency Aid

The report concludes that federal emergency aid will be needed for years to come and that its effective delivery requires investing in the administration of emergency aid programs. A corresponding brief also examines the particular challenges facing students with children and highlights lessons learned for supporting them with emergency aid.

This research is supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Imaginable Futures, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

To read the full report visit: <https://hope4college.com/when-care-isnt-enough-scaling-emergency-aid-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

About The Hope Center

The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice is an action-based research center in The Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University that is redefining what it means to be a student-ready college with a national movement centering on #RealCollege students' basic needs. Our work is guided by five pillars: action research, institutional transformation, policy and advocacy, communications, and sustainability.

DEIRDRE HOPKINS

The Hope Center for College, Community & Justice
deirdre.hopkins@temple.edu

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/554817053>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2021 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.