

IS YOUR CAMPUS SUPPORTING FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS?



BACKGROUND

Food insecurity among college students is widely felt but rarely discussed as a barrier to attaining higher education. About $\frac{1}{3}$ of college students at four-year institutions and 38% at two-year institutions face food insecurity, even with tuition aid. It's essential to address the issue of food access on college campuses through collective advocacy and interventions so that every Texan college student has an equal opportunity to reach their career aspirations.

5 PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT FOOD INSECURE STUDENTS

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT

A yearly assessment is essential to increasing awareness of college hunger, understanding the impact of existing resources, and acquiring critical data on barriers such as transportation and affordability to guide interventions.

STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

Food insecurity can hit students suddenly, and emergency assistance is imperative for students to remain in good health to perform well academically.

ACCESSIBLE FOOD PANTRY

Having a no-means policy for obtaining food is essential to ensure that barriers like social stigma don't interfere with access for low-income populations. The pantry should also be widely promoted.

SNAP ENROLLMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Colleges can play a proactive role in supporting the health of their students by helping to educate students about SNAP and encouraging eligible students to enroll through targeted outreach.

GROCERY SHUTTLE

This gives students the agency to purchase their own food and have a variety of options to accommodate various diets. Smaller retail stores that exist in college neighborhoods are often too expensive for the typical college student.

LEARN MORE



HOW IS YOUR CAMPUS DOING?

- Does your campus offer student food relief programs on your campus?
- Can you name the programs that are available to students as a means to provide food resources?
- Is there an allocated budget for food insecurity programs on your campus?
- Are the food insecurity programs on your campus led by someone with training in nutrition?
- Does your institution monitor the impact of any of the food insecurity programs on your campus?
- Were there any changes to the food insecurity programming on campus due to COVID-19?
- Is/are the food insecurity initiative(s) student-driven?
- Do you know what funding mechanism is used for each food resource programming on campus?
- Do you know where the responsibility (management) sits for the food resources on your campus?

TOTAL (OUT OF 9)