

Item 5

(Information Item)

Update on Fall COVID Survey

SUMMARY:

This item provides an update on the second student survey conducted in November 2020 by the California Student Aid Commission and the University of California, Davis, California Education Lab.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information item; no action is requested.

BACKGROUND:

In spring 2020, the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) partnered with the California Education Lab at the University of California, Davis to launch a survey and document the experiences of both college students and high school seniors who intended to enroll in college in the Fall of 2020. The survey report documented the obstacles college students faced early in the COVID-19 pandemic and the great uncertainty high school students expressed about their future college plans.

Eight months into the pandemic, a second survey was conducted to document and understand the student experiences in these unprecedented times. The survey was sent to all students statewide who submitted federal and state financial aid applications for the 2020-21 academic year. In the report, the survey focuses on respondents who indicated they were enrolled in college in the fall of 2020. Through selected response and open-ended questions, students shared how COVID-19 has changed multiple aspects of their college experience including course-taking, work, living situations, financial circumstances, and their mental health and well-being. The report also captured the differences in student experiences from self-reported race/ethnicity, income level (based on students' Estimated Family Contribution), and type of college attended--University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) or California Community College (CCC). The focus was on findings from the largest subgroups in each of these categories.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S):

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ATTACHMENT(S):

CSAC Survey Report

Fall COVID Survey presentation presented on June 23, 2021