

Los Angeles City College



Coordinated Strategies to End Hunger on Campus
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Presenters

- Dr. Mary Gallagher, President of Los Angeles City College
- Daren Lynne, Director of Special Projects & Academic Support, LACC Foundation
- Martha Pelayo, Director of Corporate/Foundation Relations & Government/Strategic Partnerships, LACC Foundation

About LACC

- Established in 1929
- Serves 19,526 students
- 45% First generation college students
- 20% Full-time students
- 57% receive financial aid (FAFSA, BOG, PELL grant, Cal Grant B)
- Demographics:
 - 69% Latino, 12% White, 11% API, 6% African American, 2% other
 - 62% Female
 - 44% are age 24 and under, 24% age 25-34, 22% age 35-54, and 10% are 55+

Data from Fall Semester 2019

Overview

EBT, CalFresh, SNAP

EBT Guidebook, RMP, & SNAP Retailer

LACC Food for Thought

Social Media #laccccares

Funding Basic Needs

Collecting Information - We Are Data Driven

Next Steps

Link to Resources



EBT CalFresh (SNAP)

- ▶ CalFresh or SNAP (also known as Food Stamps) is for people with limited income to pay for food.
- ▶ Benefits come on the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card that works like a debit card.
- ▶ College students qualify for CalFresh if they meet student requirements.
 - ▶ Students may qualify even if they receive money from a job, Disability, Unemployment, Social Security, CalWORKs, General Assistance, or Retirement.

Leveraging CalFresh on your Campus

Restaurant Meals Program

Requirements:

- MOU with County Department of Public Social Services
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Application with USDA
- Approval by USDA/FNS
- Point of Sale (POS) equipment to process RMP benefits
- AB612 allows all community colleges to participate

Retailer

- USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is the only source that authorizes retailers
- FNS does not work with outside entities to authorize retailers for SNAP
- After successful authorization, retailer is issued a SNAP Permit
- There is a required product mix to be approved as a SNAP retailer

CCC EBT Guidebook

<https://www.cccstudentmentalhealth.org/docs/CCC-EBT-Guidebook.pdf>



California Community Colleges Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Guidebook

College student hunger is a pressing concern. Researchers find that up to one-third of community college students regularly experience very low food security.¹ (Wisconsin HOPE Lab, 2017). There is a significant body of research linking student health—both behavioral and physical—to academic retention and success. Hunger and housing problems cause students to miss classes and school activities, avoid buying required textbooks, and even drop classes.² In a recent survey of more than 43,000 students, 42-44 percent of students receiving D's or F's in college had very low food security, compared to only 24 percent of students receiving A's.³ With growing awareness of these challenges, more and more colleges have begun to implement basic needs support programs on campus.

Federal and state benefits programs such as CalWORKS and CalFresh are powerful tools for addressing hunger. Many California Community College (CCC) students have low income status and are eligible for these benefits. When colleges participate in these programs as benefits retailers, students can use their EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) card to buy groceries and other items on campus. However, most CCC are not currently set up to accept EBT cards at campus stores or dining halls. This creates a missed opportunity to support these students.

Part 1: Introduction to the EBT Guidebook

We developed the *CCC EBT Guidebook* to help CCC understand and pursue the process for accepting EBT benefits at campus stores, dining halls, and other point-of-sale (POS) locations. It is intended as a practical document with step-by-step guidance, tips, and tools you can use.

The *EBT Guidebook* was created using resources linked throughout this document. The *EBT Guidebook* was also developed using information and insights provided by Daren Lynne, Director of Special Projects & Academic Support, Los Angeles City College Foundation. Ms. Lynne was integral to the food security efforts of Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTC) and Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD).

The *Guidebook* focuses on helping colleges apply to accept EBT benefits at POS locations. If you are interested in learning about comprehensive approaches to CCC student hunger and homelessness, visit the new Basic Needs section of the California Community Colleges Health & Wellness (CCC Health & Wellness) website: www.cccstudentmentalhealth.org

¹ Goldrick-Rab, S., Richardson, L., & Hernandez, A. (March 2017). *Hungry and Homeless in College: Results from a National Study of Basic Needs Insecurity in Higher Education*. Wisconsin HOPE Lab.

² Dubick, J., Matthews, B., & Cady, C. (October 2016). *Hunger on Campus: The Challenge of Food Insecurity for College Students*. College and University Food Bank Alliance and partners.

³ Goldrick-Rab, S., Richardson, L., Schneider, J., Hernandez, A., & Cady, C. (April 2018). *Still Hungry and Homeless in College*. Wisconsin HOPE Lab.



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Program Components

➤ Pop-up Food Pantry

- Fresh fruits and vegetables/easy to prepare foods/pre-packaged food

➤ Mid-Term and Final Exam Meals

- Meals that include Breakfast, Lunch, water, and snacks
- Partner with Campus Bookstore

➤ Partner with Local Food Bank

- Partner agencies must have 501 (c)3 status
- Reporting

LACC Foundation
Food for Thought

Fall Midterm Meals

THURSDAY: 10/17/2019
MONDAY: 10/21/2019
TUESDAY: 10/22/2019
WEDNESDAY: 10/23/2019

The first 400 students, per day, who go to the LACC Cub Convenience Store, will receive up to \$10 worth of snacks to enjoy during midterms!

LOCATION: LACC CUB STORE,
1ST FLOOR OF STUDENT UNION

LACC
LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

Pop-Up Logistics

How it Works:

- Partner with local food agency to receive donated items
- Use facilities staff to pick up, set up, and dispose of trash
- “Pop-Up” Farmer’s Market style to allow choice
- One project coordinator on site to oversee student workers and collect student ID card swipes
- Use student workers and student volunteers to assist students in the line
- Coordinated through LACC Foundation

Social Media

- ▶ Use #lacccares to share information with community partners, donors, media outlets, and other colleges
- ▶ Notify students via Instagram what is available at Pop-Up and the time it will be opening
- ▶ Social media student team interviews students and collects stories. We place these videos on Instagram @lacitycollege

Leveraging Resources and Partnerships

Costs approximately \$250,000 annually

- Hunger Free
- LACC Foundation
 - Donors
 - Fundraising Campaigns
 - Grants
 - EFSP United Way
- Partnerships are Key!
 - Community
 - Corporate
 - Government

“POP UP” FOOD PANTRY Program



laccarees hashtag on Twitter
twitter.com



laccarees hashtag on Twitter
twitter.com



laccarees hashtag on Twitter



laccarees hashtag on Twitter
twitter.com



Collecting Data

- Simple student ID capture program
- Students swipe their ID in a card reader
- Info stored on an excel spreadsheet by date
- LACC Office of Institutional Effectiveness runs data on participating students

- Data on food collected through invoices (both donated & purchased)
- Weekly report provided to our Food Bank Partner on amount of food distributed (pallets or pounds), type of food, and number of students served
- Bi-Monthly report provides date, number of students, and food items (sent to college administration, District office, and stakeholders)

LACC Data - By the Numbers

Food for Thought:

- Total of 5,988 unique students verified since January 2019
- 74,970 LACC student visits to the Pop-up Food Pantry
- Over 1.9 million pounds of food distributed
- Over 23,950 meals distributed to our students during midterm and final exams

Who are we assisting?:

- 29% are first year students
- 55% Receive Pell or College Promise Grant
- 52% have a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 35% are under the age of 24
- 32% are also receiving EOPS support



Next Steps:

- Curate and share best practices in food interventions.
- Develop and support policy that allows us to engage in positive change.
- Develop research to better understand impact of food insecurity interventions.



Questions?

State & Federal Resources

<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/media/file/Retailer-Training-Guide.pdf>

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailer/eligible>

<https://www.cccstudentmentalhealth.org/docs/CCC-EBT-Guidebook.pdf>

<https://www.efsp.unitedway.org/efsp/website/index.cfm>

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB612

Thank You

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