



The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) calls for a fundamental change in state and federal policy to support higher education as a public good.

The payoffs on public investments in higher education to the individual include higher earnings; increased participation in civic society; greater efficacy in political and personal life; greater satisfaction with life; and a host of other benefits. Society also benefits from citizens with advanced education—more skills for innovation and employment, greater political engagement, higher earnings (and therefore taxes), improved workforce and economic output, less imprisonment, and reduced need for some social safety net programs.

We support federal policies promoting these principles:

- Student-centric focus
- Transparency
- Equity
- Safeguarding against fraud and abuse
- Full funding for public higher education

For the 117th Congress, we encourage you to support:

Equity and College Access

- Increased funding for Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title I to advance equitable access to college preparatory curricula
- Funding for programs to eliminate systemic racism
- Passage of the DREAM Act

School Counselors and College Access Programs

- Increased funding for programs to hire, train, and equip school counselors, such as HR 614, the “Put School Counselors Where They Are Needed Act”
- An increased investment of \$1.6 billion for ESSA Title IV-A
- Increased funding for GEAR UP and TRIO programs

Need-Based Financial Aid for College

- Doubling the Pell Grant
- Increased investment in Federal Work Study (FWS) programs

Student Protections

- Protecting students and taxpayers against predatory behaviors by unscrupulous colleges