



Measuring Food and Housing Insecurity in Higher Education

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Please join us

Last fall, the Wisconsin HOPE Lab revealed the results of a survey conducted at 10 community colleges. We found that 20% of students were undernourished, and 13% were homeless.

These are startling numbers. The purpose of this new study, "Measuring Food and Housing Insecurity in Higher Education," is to find out if these findings were unique to the original study or if they are representative of a greater student population. We also want to know if the prevalence of these issues varies across different parts of the country, or for certain student populations.

We invite you to become one of the up to 75 community colleges in this year's survey.

The results will be shared in a report that will summarize findings across colleges (without connecting colleges to their specific results) and shared with key policymakers and service providers around the nation. Your college will also receive a report on your own results, which you can utilize to serve your students, to raise funds for their support, and for other related purposes.

Coverage of last year's report appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, MSNBC, and many other major media venues. The survey data were used to advance a federal policy proposal, helped numerous community colleges fundraise for their own programs, and stimulated new efforts led by nonprofits around the country.

Details

This year's survey was constructed by the Wisconsin HOPE Lab and will be fielded in September 2016 on an online platform. It is short and to the point. We will provide a link to the survey and you will need to distribute that information to students, along with an invitation to participate.

It is critical to boost student participation in this survey beyond the 9 percent participation rate of last year's survey. There is no cost to institutions to join this effort beyond your commitment to provide \$1,000 for incentives to your students to participate. Specifically, each participating college will incentivize student participation through a lottery that will award \$100 prizes to 10 students who complete the survey.

We are enclosing the draft survey, a consent form, and an FAQ to help you make a decision. You can direct your questions to the project coordinator, Anthony Hernandez, at the Wisconsin HOPE Lab by telephone at 818-625-5061 or by email at hernandez26@wisc.edu.

If you would like to join this year's effort, please complete the Acknowledgement of Participation and return it by Monday August 8 to Anthony Hernandez at the Wisconsin HOPE Lab by email at hernandez26@wisc.edu