

Supporting the College Success Needs of Black Students: Findings from Florida Student Surveys

October 7, 2021



Welcome!



Kimberly Lent, MPH

Assistant Director for Research and Policy
Florida College Access Network

klent@FloridaCollegeAccess.org



@krlent

Today's Presenters

THE **hope** CENTER

For College, Community, and Justice

HOPE4COLLEGE.COM



@hope4college



Kallie Clark, Ph.D.

Senior Research Associate,
The Hope Center for College,
Community, and Justice



Vanessa Coca, Ph.D.

Director of Research,
The Hope Center for College,
Community, and Justice

Questions & Conversation

- Submit your questions in the box
- Share on social media

Twitter: @FLCollegeAccess
#FCAN
#TalentStrongFL

This webinar is being recorded; all materials will be available within a week of recording



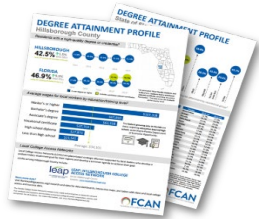
Our mission:

We lead the collaborative movement to ensure every Floridian achieves an education beyond high school and a rewarding career.

Our vision:

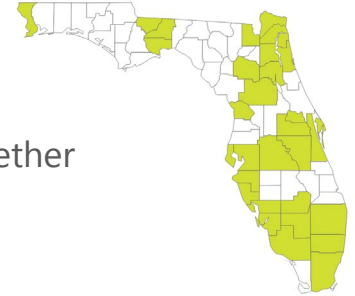
A Florida working together, where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.

FCAN's Work



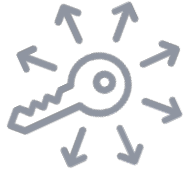
Research and Data FCAN publishes research and data on evidence-based practices and policy opportunities to strengthen Florida's talent pool.

Local college access networks (LCANs) LCANs support 82% of the state's population. These organizations are made up of community leaders who come together to create solutions and partnerships to support local talent development.



Statewide Initiatives FCAN coordinates 4 College Ready Florida initiatives that provides schools and community organizations resources to help students continue their education after high school.

Seven Conditions That Make Florida Talent Strong



Opportunity for
Everyone



Clear Information
and Guidance



Affordability



Multiple
Pathways



Lifelong
Learning



Data-informed
Decision-making

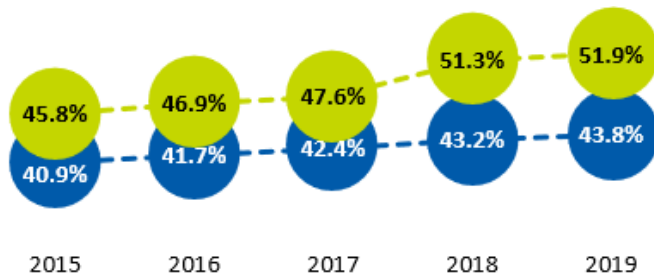


Community
Collaboration

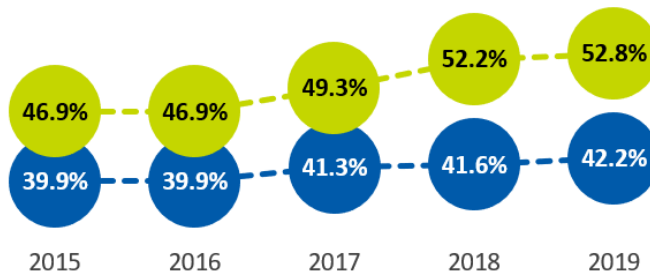
Introduction

Florida Continues to Make Progress Toward the SAIL to 60 Goal

UNITED STATES
51.9% ↑ **6.1%**
 since 2015



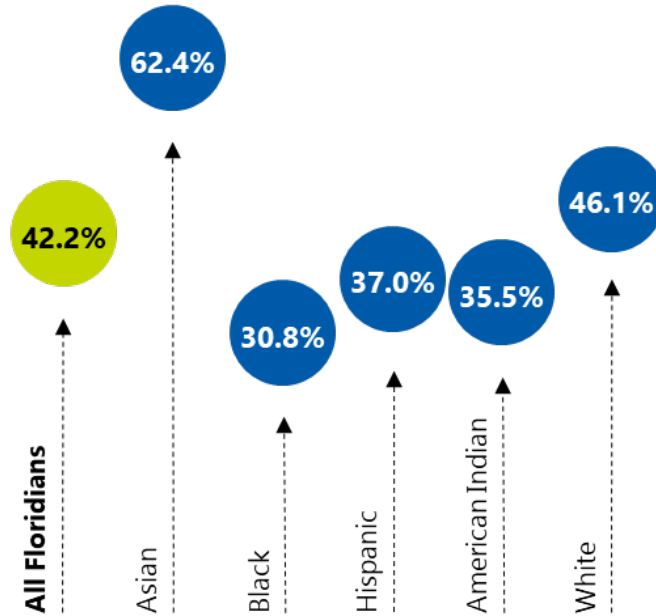
FLORIDA
52.8% ↑ **5.9%**
 since 2015



■ 2-year degree or higher ■ Includes workforce-relevant certificates

*An estimated **10.5% of Florida residents and 8.1% of U.S. residents hold a workforce-relevant short-term credential**, according to Lumina Foundation. Short-term credential data are not yet available at the county level.

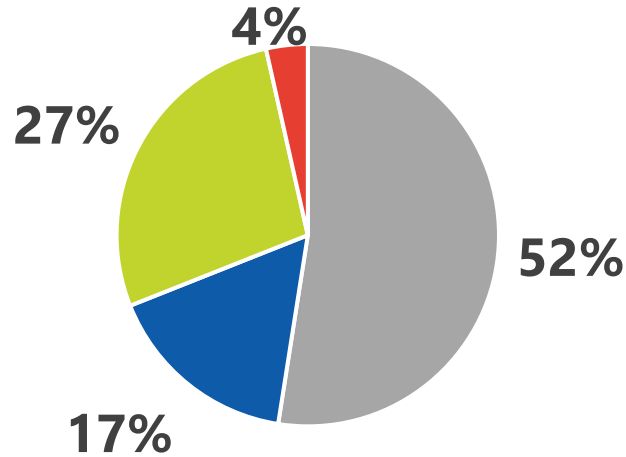
While 42.2% of all Floridians have a 2-year degree or higher, differences in attainment exist by race and ethnicity...



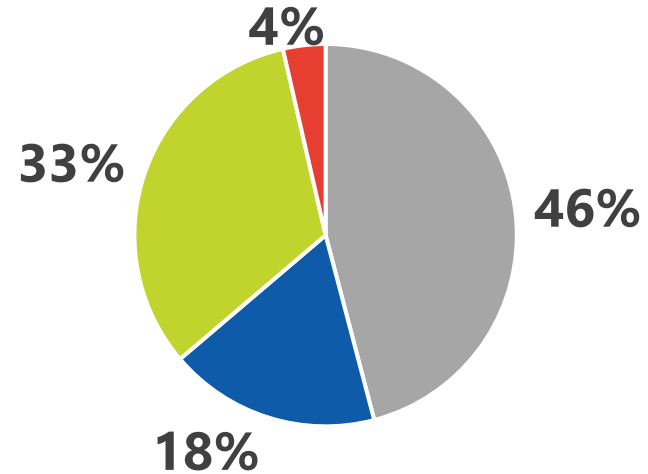
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Most Floridians of Working Age Will Be Non-White by 2030

Working-Age Adults: 2019



Working-Age Adults: 2030



■ White ■ Black ■ Hispanic ■ Other

Source: University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research

Opening Remarks

Paul Perrault, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President,
Community Impact and Learning
Helios Education Foundation

 @HeliosEdFnd





SUPPORTING THE COLLEGE SUCCESS NEEDS OF BLACK STUDENTS: FINDINGS FROM FLORIDA STUDENT SURVEYS

Dr. Paul G. Perrault, Senior Vice President, Community Impact and Learning
Helios Education Foundation

Helios Education Foundation

We Believe:

- Education Changes Lives and Strengthens Communities.
- Education Is an Investment, Not an Expense.
- Every Student, Regardless of Zip Code, Deserves a High-Quality Education.
- We Will Achieve Our Mission through Partnership and Collaboration.

Why did we do this research?

WE BELIEVE

COMMUNITY • EQUITY • INVESTMENT • PARTNERSHIP

Today's Presentation



Today's Presenters

THE **hope** CENTER

For College, Community, and Justice

HOPE4COLLEGE.COM



@hope4college



Kallie Clark, Ph.D.

Senior Research Associate,
The Hope Center for College,
Community, and Justice



Vanessa Coca, Ph.D.

Director of Research,
The Hope Center for College,
Community, and Justice

Barriers to College Enrollment:

An In-depth Look at the Expectations and Challenges of Black, Two-Year College Applicants in Florida

Kallie Clark,
Vanessa Coca, &
Sara Goldrick-Rab

Helios[®]
Education Foundation

THE **hope** CENTER

For College, Community, and Justice

HOPE4COLLEGE.COM



About Hope

- Experts in basic needs & affordability
 - Interdisciplinary team of 50
 - 100% grant/contract funded
- Part of Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Temple University, Philadelphia
- We support students & colleges with:
 - Applied research & evaluation
 - Technical assistance and professional development
 - Policy advising
 - Strategic communications

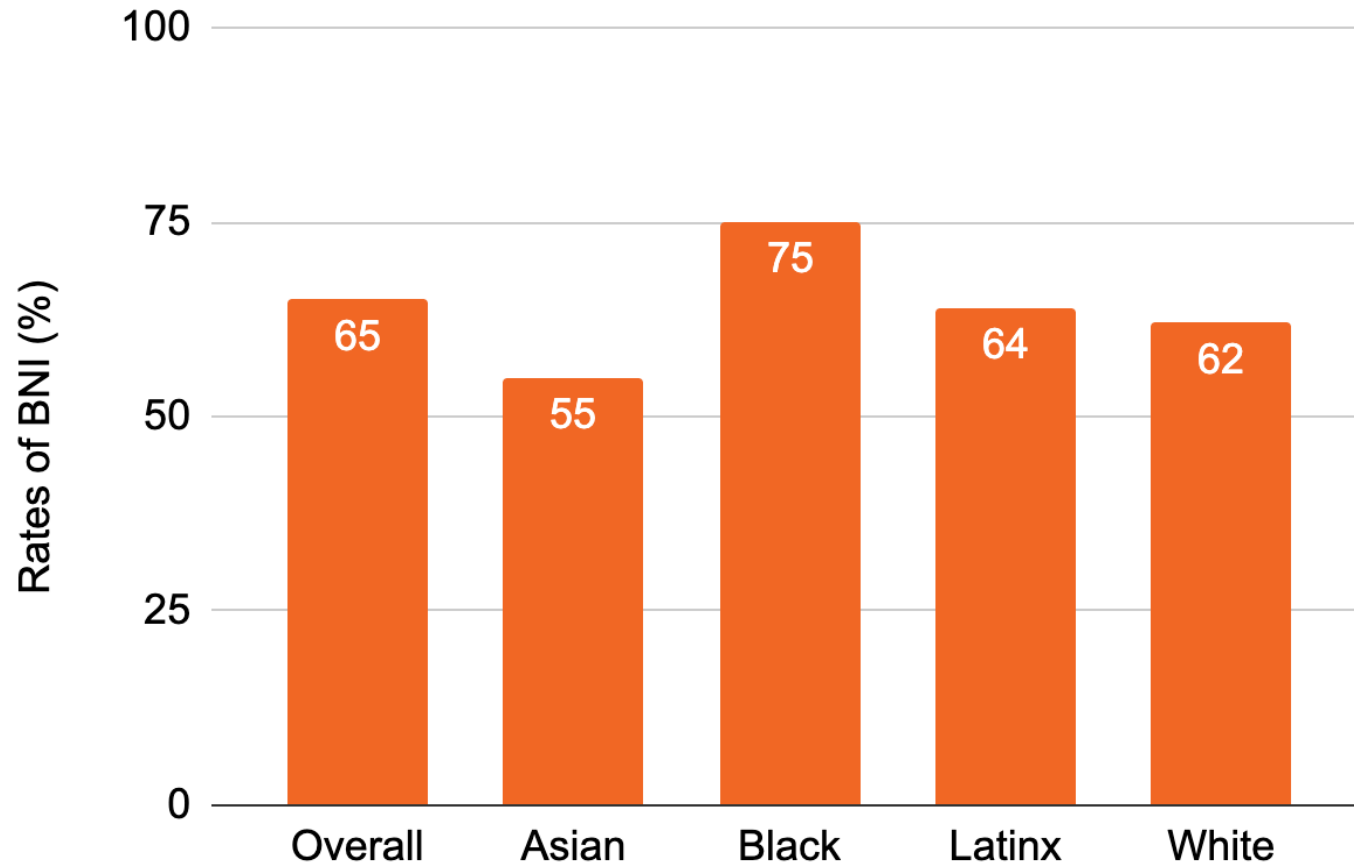
Declining community college enrollment rates disproportionately impact Black Floridians.

Completion rates 10-15 percentage points below Latinx and White peers

This has only been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Enrollment dropped by 11% for Black students in 2020

Basic Needs Insecurity in Florida Colleges Disproportionately Impacts Black Students



Source: 2019 #RealCollege Survey, 18–20-year-olds

Project Goals

1. Understand the expectations, challenges, and obligations Black students face on the road to college enrollment.
2. Identify points of intervention to better support Black students in the transition to college.

College Transitions Survey

- First time applicants to Miami Dade College or Hillsborough Community College (18 years old+)
- Number of survey invitations sent: 13,843; 1,188 responded

FINAL SAMPLE: 257 students who identified as Black, 711 Latinx students, and 515 White students.


Characteristics of Black College Applicants

- Ethnically diverse:
 - 83% African American
 - 31% Black Hispanic
 - 17% Caribbean
 - 10% African



Characteristics of Black College Applicants


- 82% below age of 20
- 68% are first generation students
- 80% recent high school grads



Compared to
Latinx: 85%
White: 65%

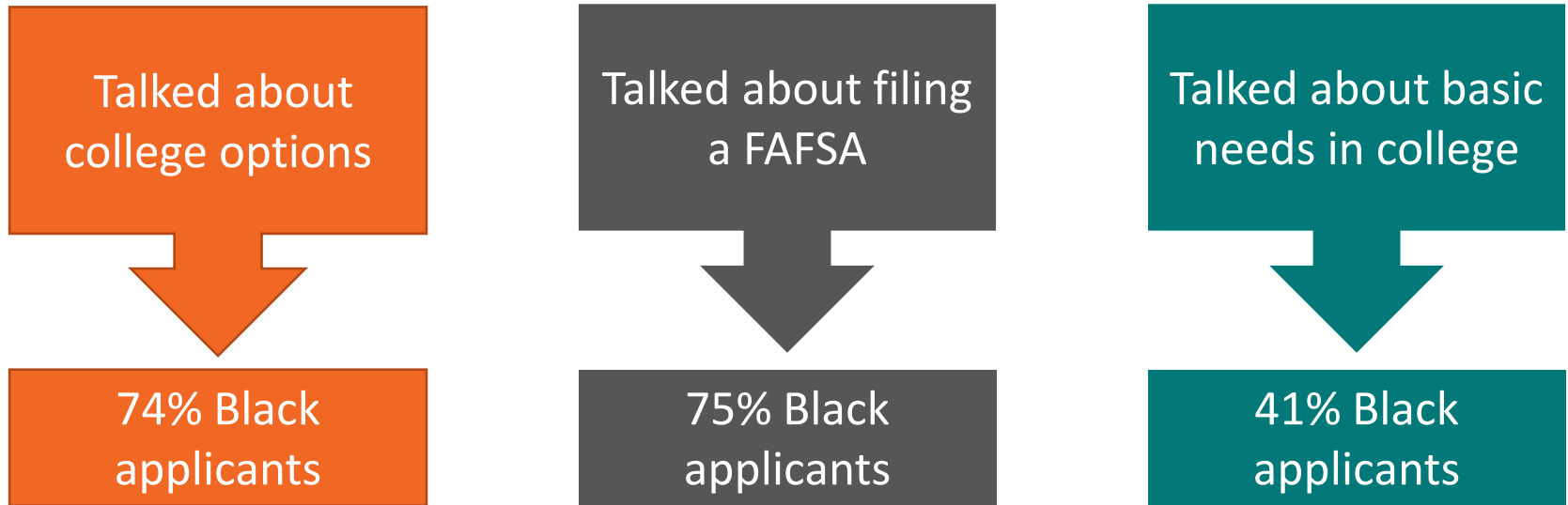
Characteristics of Black College Applicants

- 82% below age of 20
- 68% are first generation students
- 80% recent high school grads

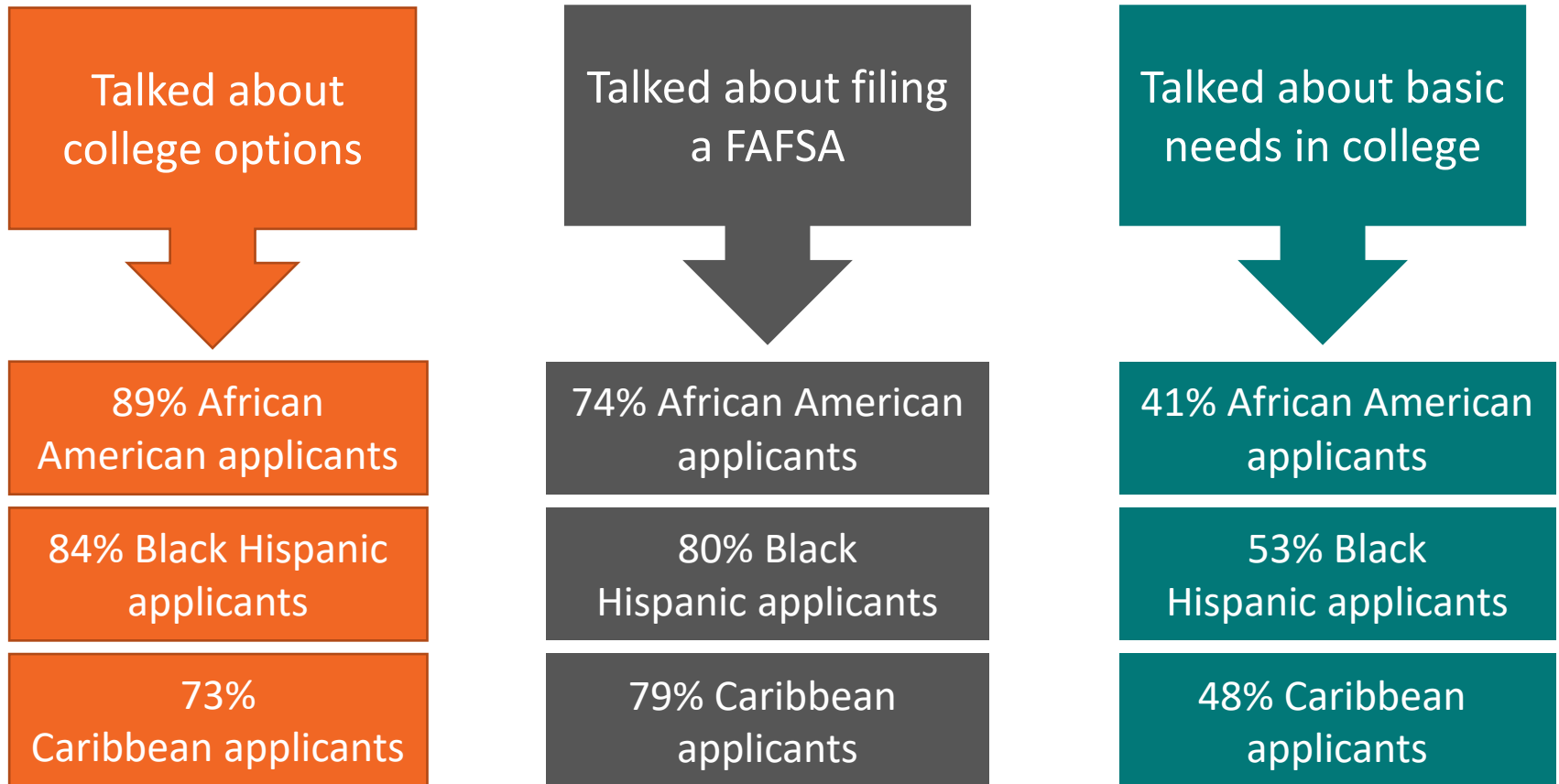


Among Black students:
Black Hispanic: 89%
African American: 80%
Caribbean: 76%
African: 50%

Advice Before College



Advice Before College



Financial Challenges of Black College Applicants

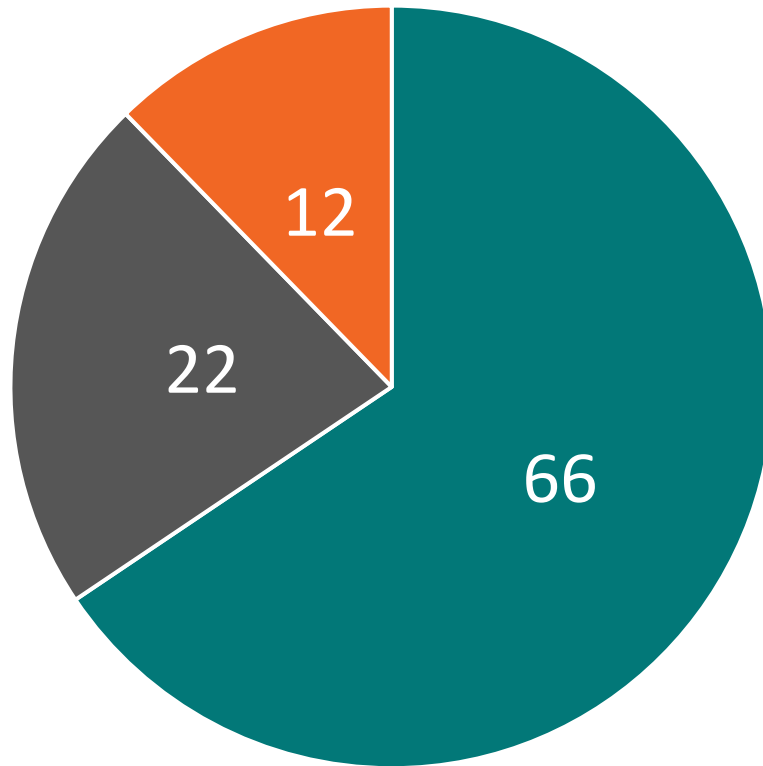
- 59% receive a federal benefit such as SNAP, Medicaid, or free and reduced-price lunch
- 30% meet criteria to file independent on the FAFSA
- 16% have childcare responsibilities
- 7% have family-care responsibilities

**Compared to 15%
for White students**

Fall Enrollment Plans

Percentage (%) of applicants

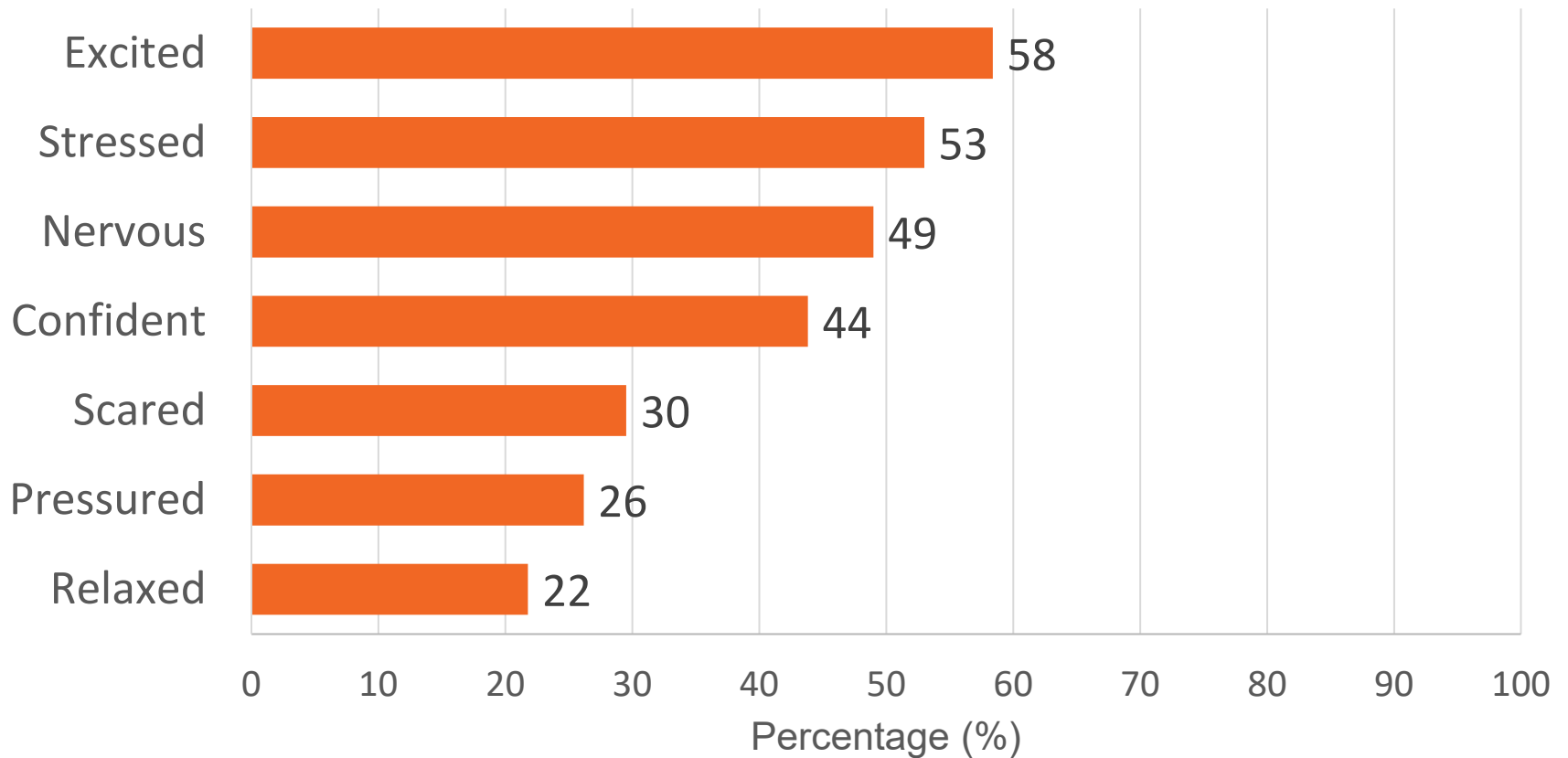
- Full-time
- Part-time
- I'm not sure



Among Black applicants:

Black Hispanic: 59%
African American: 64%
African: 65%
Caribbean: 81%

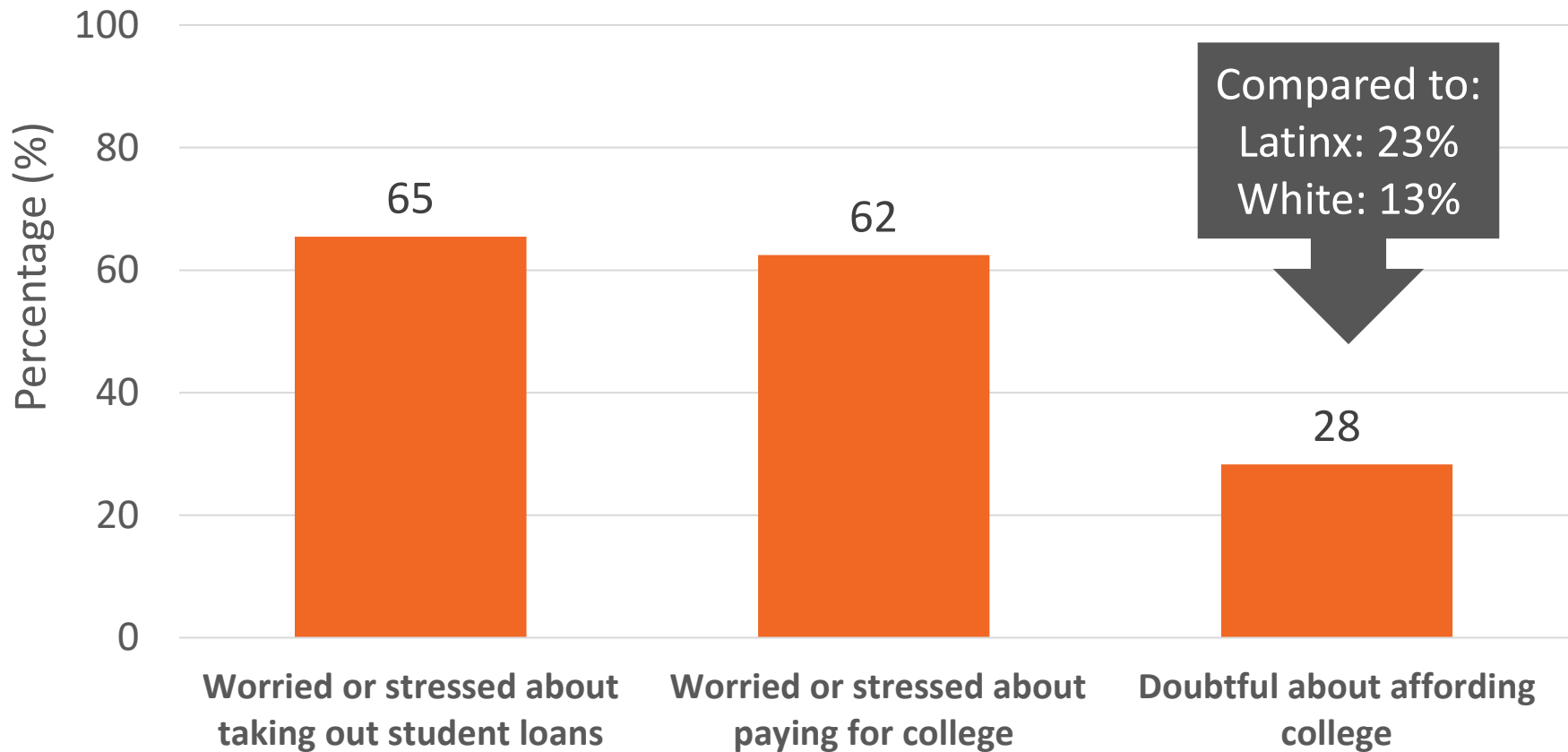
Students' Feelings About Attending College



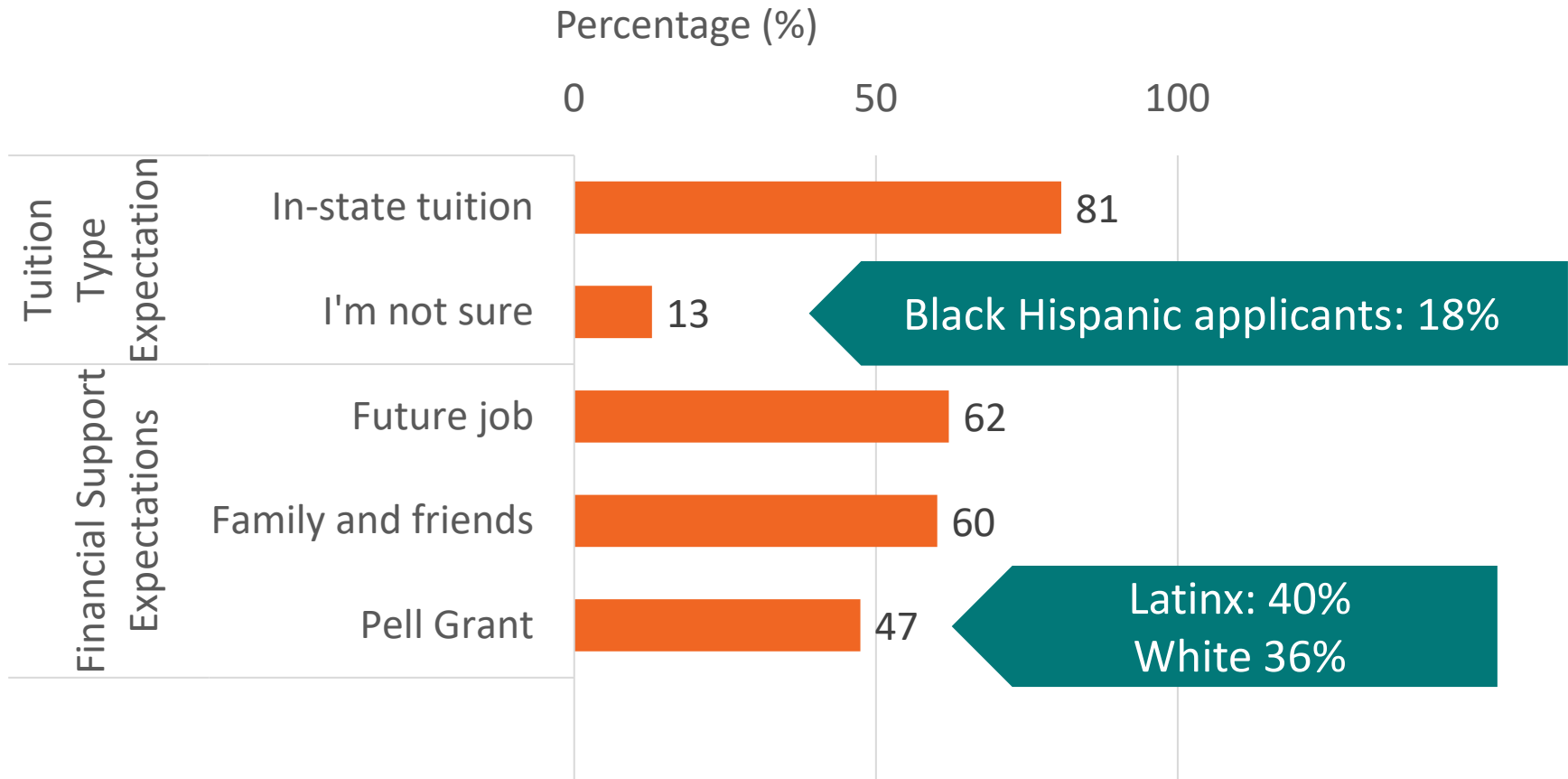
Challenges and opportunities for supporting Black student success



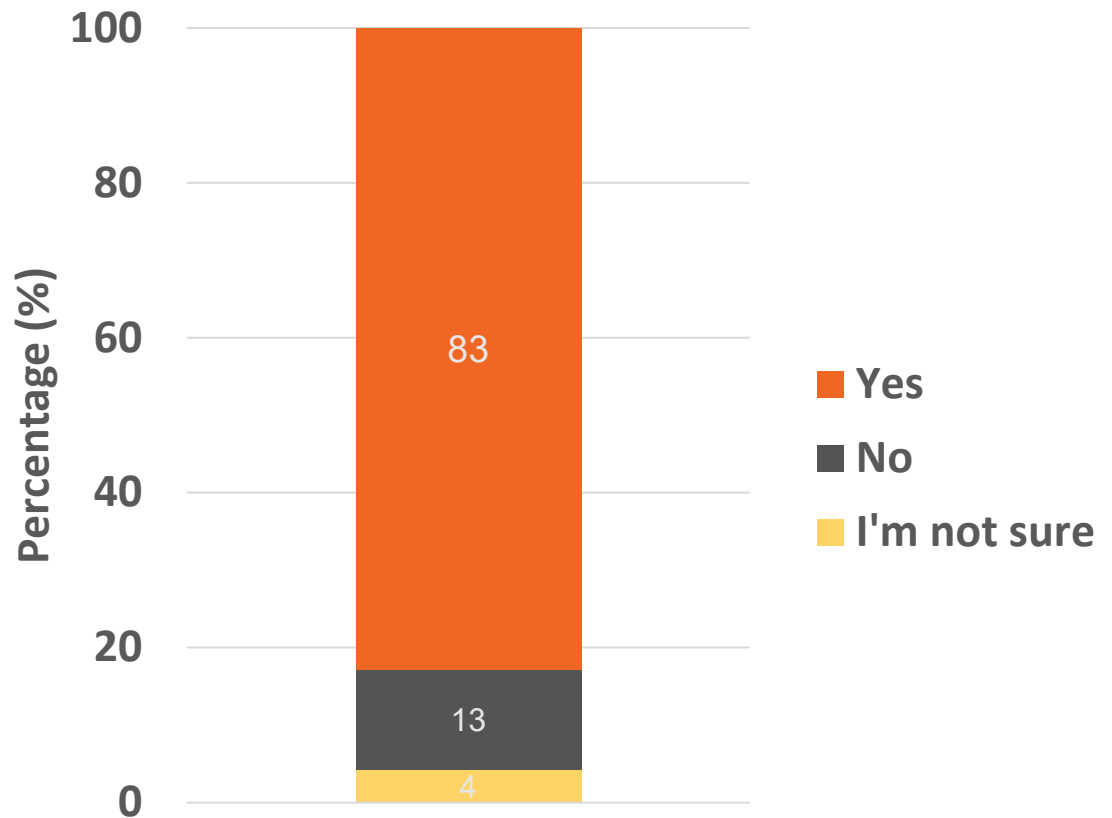
Black Students' Feelings About Affording College



Black Applicants Expectations for Paying for College

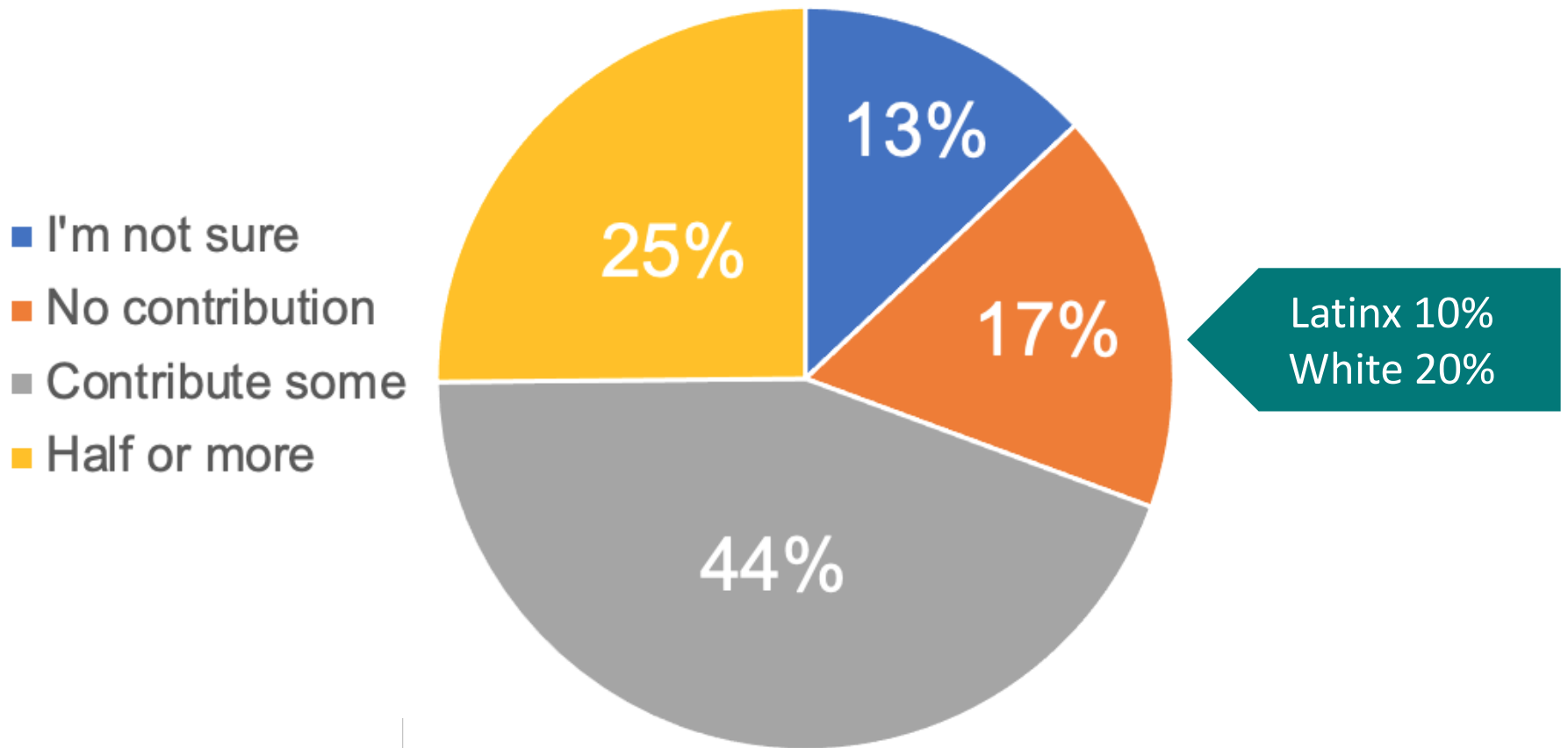


One-fifth of Black Students Who Expect Financial Aid have not yet filed a FAFSA

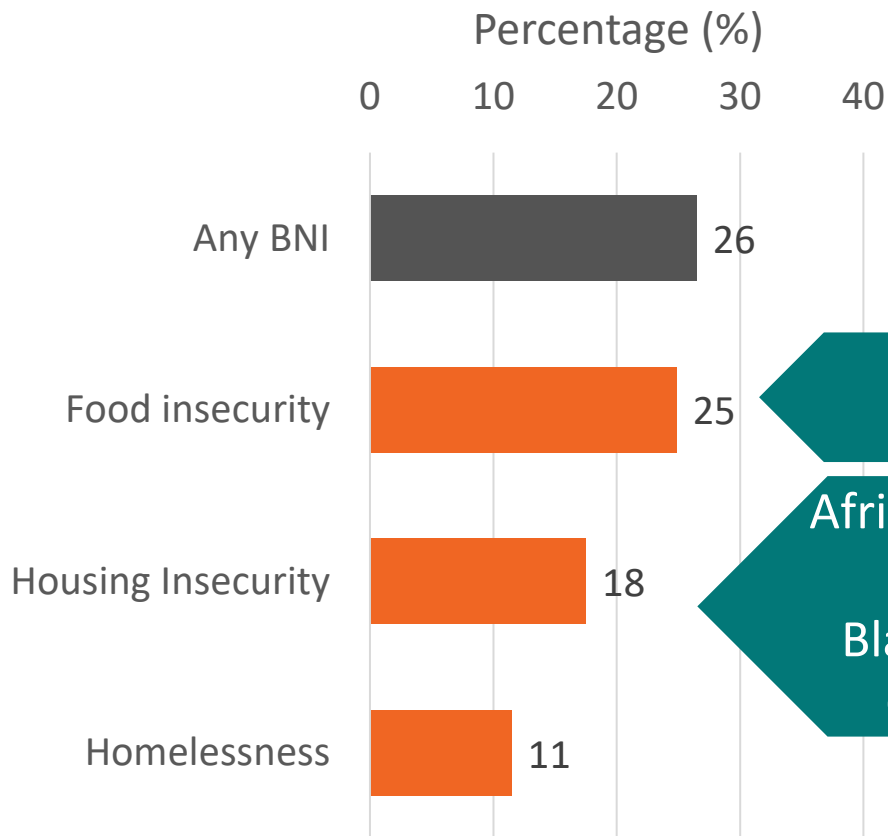


Among Students who Expect Federal or State Aid

Black Students' Expectations for Providing Financial Support to Family During College



One Quarter of Black Applicants Currently Experiencing Basic Needs Insecurity (BNI)



Latinx applicants: 10%
White applicants: 15%

African American applicants: 15%
African applicants: 40%
Black Hispanic applicants: 33%
Caribbean applicants: 30%



Conclusions and Recommendations



The Bottom Line for Black Applicants



Most face financial challenges as they transition to college.



Many are unsure of how they will pay for college.



A good portion who expect state or federal aid still had not filed a FAFSA by the summer before fall term.



About 1 in 4 students have dependent care obligations.

Recommendations: Before College

- FAFSA completion support
- Postsecondary coaches
- Emergency aid during the transition to college



Recommendations: During College

- Supports to students with family obligations
- Connect to public benefits programs
- Use Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds for emergency aid
- Greater mental health support



THE **hope** CENTER

For College, Community, and Justice

Real. Responsive. Rigorous

HOPE4COLLEGE.COM

Learn More:

Join us for our next webinar!

Strengthening Campus Connections: How Living Learning Communities Increase Student Success

October 20, 1-2PM EST

For upcoming webinars, policy briefs, and promising practices, subscribe at:

FloridaCollegeAccess.org/subscribe