

Supporting the College Access and Success Needs of Black Students: Findings from a Study of Florida College Students

DATA-INFORMED DECISION-MAKING Track

Wednesday, May 11

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM



College Enrollment During the Pandemic

Insights into Enrollment Decisions among Black Florida College Applicants

May 11, 2022



For College, Community, and Justice

HOPE4COLLEGE.COM

Meet the Speakers



Motunrayo "Tutu" Olaniyan
Senior Research Associate,
The Hope Center for College,
Community, and Justice

 [@hope4college](https://twitter.com/hope4college)



Kimberly Lent Morales
Director of Research and
Evaluation, Helios
Education Foundation

 [@HeliosEdFnd](https://twitter.com/HeliosEdFnd)



< Activities

Moderate

Visual settings

Edit



When poll is active, respond at **PollEv.com/fcan2022**

Text **132817** and your message to **37607**

How would you describe your role in higher ed?



No responses received yet. They will appear here...

About The Hope Center



- 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

“How Are You?”

**“I’m not ok. I
haven’t eaten
in two days.”**



A simple question – an unexpected response



When poll is active, respond at PollEv.com/fcan2022

Text **FCAN2022** to **37607** once to join

Do you know what Basic Needs Insecurity means?

Yes, it sounds familiar.

No, but tell me everything!

Basic Needs Insecurity

Students' basic needs include access to nutritious and sufficient food; safe, secure, and adequate housing—to sleep, to study, to cook, and to shower; healthcare to promote sustained mental and physical well-being; affordable technology and transportation; resources for personal hygiene; and childcare and related needs.



Food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food, or the ability to acquire such food in a socially acceptable manner



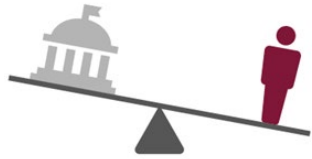
Housing insecurity encompasses a broad set of challenges that prevent someone from having a safe, affordable, and consistent place to live.



Homelessness means that a person does not have a fixed, regular, and adequate place to live.

The New Economics of College in a Pandemic

BURDEN OF PRICE



THE STUDENT
COVERS 60%-75%

FAMILY ECONOMICS



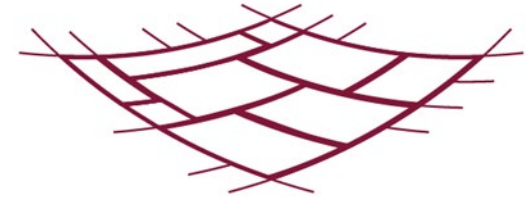
PLUMMETING GROWTH



MASSIVE INEQUALITY

RACIAL WEALTH GAP

SOCIAL SAFETY NET



HEALTH & WELL-BEING



WORKING IN COLLEGE



OPPORTUNITY



MINIMUM WAGE

This work was made possible by:



About Helios

- Helios Education Foundation is dedicated to creating opportunities to succeed in Arizona and Florida.
- We invest our knowledge and resources to advance student preparedness and to foster college-going cultures.



College Enrollment among Black Floridians



Only **31%** of Black Floridians hold a college degree.



Barriers to enrollment **pose equity gaps** in college access and success.



The **pandemic exacerbated declines** in college enrollment across racial groups.



18.8% drop in enrollment among Black students at community colleges between 2019 and 2021.



When poll is active, respond at PollEv.com/fcan2022

Text **FCAN2022** to **37607** once to join

What is the largest barrier to college enrollment among Florida applicants?

No responses received yet. They will appear here...

College Enrollment During the Pandemic

Goal: Identify key factors related to the enrollment decisions of community college-intending students

Partnered with Miami Dade College (MDC) and Hillsborough Community College (HCC)

In summer 2021, surveyed over 15,000 applicants to the two colleges

1,213 applicants responded to the survey (8%); 262 identified as Black

Factors That Jeopardize Postsecondary Enrollment and Success for Black Students in Florida

—
Summary Findings from a 2021 Survey
by The Hope Center



Summary Findings from the Brief

1. Black applicants came from diverse backgrounds.
2. Most Black applicants did not plan to use financial aid to pay for college.
3. Most Black applicants were worried or stressed about paying for college.
4. Most Black applicants received some pre-college preparation.

Two Enrollment Outcomes

- Enrolled in the fall
- Enrolled full-time or part-time (among enrolled students)

Enrollment outcomes examined among **all applicants** and a subsample of **Black applicants**

Four sets of factors

- Applicants' background characteristics
- Plans to pay for college
- Concerns about paying for college
- Access to pre-college supports

Racial Disparities in Enrollment

Black applicants were less likely to enroll in the fall.



Ethnic Differences among Black Applicants

- Total Fall Enrollment:
 - 85% West Indian or Caribbean
 - 82% Black Hispanic
 - 76% African American
 - 62% African



Applicants' Financial Characteristics Can Influence Decision to Enroll



Expectations of Financial Support Contributed to Enrollment Decisions

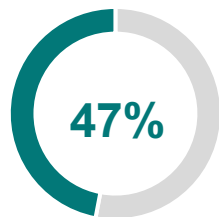
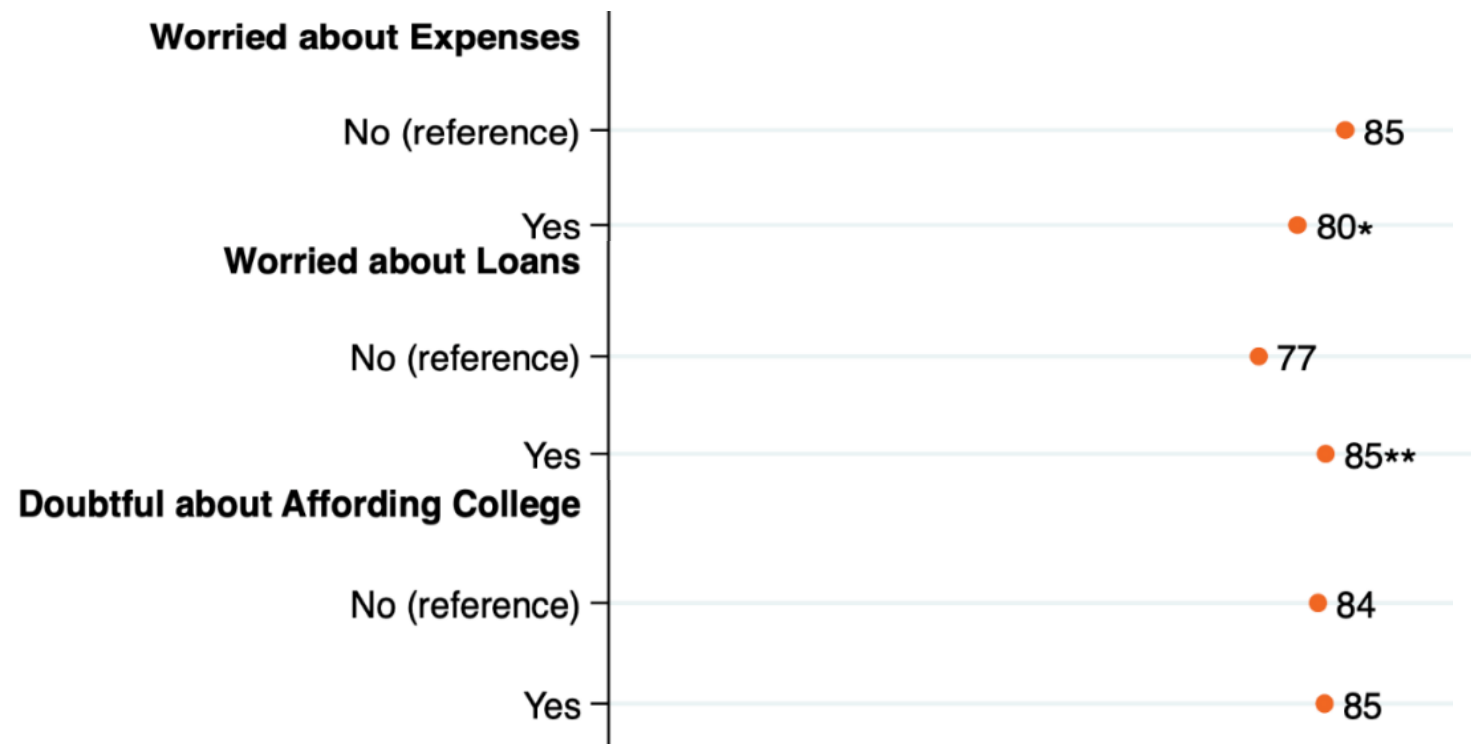
Fall Enrollment Rates

90% who expected to receive a Pell Grant

78% who expected to use their savings

76% who expected to take out loans

Key Financial Barriers to Enrollment

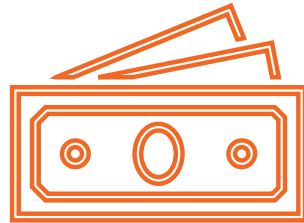


Did not plan to use loans

Pre-College Supports Encouraged Full-Time Enrollment

79%

of applicants who received help understanding financial aid



76%

of Black applicants who received any pre-college supports



Summary & Implications

Supporting College Applicants

- Many applicants experienced financial barriers to enrollment
- Address education equity gap:
 - Financial aid advising and resources
 - Info on non-tuition supports
- Engage in outreach efforts to prospective students
- Promote a culture of care



Questions

THE HOPE CENTER



For College, Community, and Justice

HOPE4COLLEGE.COM