Higher Education Act (HEA) Reauthorization

Simplify the FAFSA and verification barriers so that more students and families can complete the financial aid process, including restoring the 2011 cut to the “auto-zero” level for Pell Grants.

Reform unfair campus-based aid formulas for Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) and Federal Work Study (FWS) so institutions serving the most low-income students receive a fair allocation of resources.

Strengthen consumer protections to guard against students ending up at predatory institutions that are not as affordable, and have poorer outcomes than, community colleges.

Avoid “risk sharing” and “program-level” accountability proposals that would be administratively burdensome, costly for under resourced institutions, and reduce college access.

College Affordability

Create a state-federal partnership to incentivize states to reinvest in public higher education and need-based financial aid to put college within reach for low-income students.

Invest in the federal Pell Grant Program by boosting the maximum award and indexing it to inflation.

Make Pell Grants available to students who are pursuing high-quality short-term training programs.

Restore the amount of federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over a lifetime from 12 semesters to the previous 18 semesters to help nontraditional and transfer students.

Reinstate Pell Grant eligibility to incarcerated students.

Maintain full eligibility for “Ability-to-Benefit” (ATB) students and direct the Department to conduct outreach to expand the use of ATB.

Expand investments in on-campus child care such as the CCAMPIS program.

Streamline paths to student debt relief to help borrowers move forward with their lives, improve college repayment rates, and expand families’ economic mobility.

Workforce Development

Increase funding for the occupational and adult education programs authorized in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Increase funding for colleges, programs, and services that improve equity, persistence, and completion for students of color, low-income students, and other historically underrepresented groups.

Ensure access to high-speed broadband so students everywhere, including rural and incarcerated students, can benefit from educational resources and innovations.

Basic Needs Assistance

Connect financial aid recipients with means-tested benefits programs through the FAFSA to reduce food and housing insecurity and help students afford other costs of living.
Update **TANF to expand access to high-quality training and education** that leads to career pathways and replace the outdated “work participation rate” model with a new outcomes-based system aligned with the WIOA common measures that supports long-term success for participants.

Increase the lifetime cap on **vocational training for TANF recipients from 12 to 24 months**. This will align with Washington state's WorkFirst program and ensure no loss of federal funds to Washington.

**Remove restrictions on SNAP** that prevent students from accessing food benefits including on college campuses.

Enhance supports for SNAP E&T students by **treating required textbooks the same as tuition expenses**, not as participant reimbursements.

Increase access to work-based learning opportunities for SNAP E&T students by including state-funded work study as a reimbursable activity.

**Undocumented Students**

Create a **path to citizenship** for undocumented students who are U.S. residents.

Encourage more states to offer **in-state tuition and financial aid to undocumented students**.

Make **undocumented students** eligible for all federal financial aid.

**Student Veterans**

Fund new and existing programs to better serve veteran students, including **veteran student centers**.

Protect **veterans against exploitation** of their G.I. Bill education benefits.