

ABSTRACT

There has been growing research investigating college students' basic needs, specifically exploring homelessness and food insecurity in the California State University (CSU) system (Crutchfield, 2018; Goldrick-Rab, Broton, & Gates, 2014). However, previous research has not yet examined college students' basic needs during the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). This new research is important to better understand the impact COVID-19 has had on college students' basic needs in higher education. This mixed-methods study will examine the experiences of students at four CSU campuses who were basic needs insecure before and/or during the COVID-19 pandemic. Surveys will be sent to students who have accessed campus basic needs support programs at California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), California State University Long Beach (CSULB), and Humboldt State University (HSU). Further, a sub-sample of those students will participate in interviews and focus groups. The essence of the study is to examine how students who were experiencing basic needs insecurity are managing with and without campus programs such as CalFresh, campus food pantries, emergency grant funding, and short-term student housing during the pandemic. We will explore how campus programs and services are and are not able to support students during the pandemic in order to promote how the CSU system can better help students face basic needs insecurity in the near future.



PROPOSED RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- ❖ To what extent are campus programs accessible to students who experience basic needs insecurity during the COVID-19 crisis?
- ❖ To what extent do programs and services influence retention of students who experience basic needs insecurity during COVID-19?
- ❖ Do equity gaps exist between student groups based on race, income, and other demographic factors?



FUTURE WORK

- ❖ We are looking for new ways on how to improve on- and off-campus resources for college students facing basic needs insecurity
- ❖ Identify the impact that COVID-19 had on students' who experience basic needs insecurity
- ❖ To examine the different programs on how they offer support to students and their requirements

CONCLUSION

- ❖ There are high rates of students in the CSU system that lack basic needs
- ❖ There needs to be improvement on how these different programs can provide a better experience for college students that are marginalized during the COVID-19 pandemic
- ❖ Faculty must be made aware of the resources on- and off-campus that help students with financial difficulties

REFERENCES

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INTRODUCTION

- ❖ CSU students who face food insecurity, homelessness, and or both have faced many challenges that have had a negative influence on their academic success (Crutchfield, 2018; Goldrick-Rab, 2014).
- ❖ Student incidence of basic need insecurity's in the CSU system is high (Crutchfield, 2018; Goldrick-Rab, 2014), and there is a need for ongoing study.
- ❖ This study will be based on the challenge's college students have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background

- ❖ In 2016, the first phase of the study on Student Basic Needs provided preliminary researching on students who face food and/or housing insecurity in the CSU system (Crutchfield, 2018; Goldrick-Rab, 2014).
- ❖ In Phase 2 of the same study 41.6% of CSU students reported to be food insecure; for women (42.6%), and for men (39.3%) (Crutchfield, 2018).
- ❖ In the Phase 3 study it uses a mixed method analysis. It was also reported in the study that first generation African American students experienced homelessness at higher rates (18%) than any other ethnic group (Crutchfield, 2018).



PROPOSED METHODS

Mixed-Methods Study

A survey will be sent to students who have accessed basic needs programs during or after the Fall 2018 semester at CSUDH, CSULB, CSUMB, and HSU. Of those students, those who volunteer to participate in qualitative data collection and report basic needs insecurity will be recruited to participate. A total of 80 students (20 from each campus) will participate in interviews or focus groups.

Quantitative Data: The participants will take an online survey that assess for basic need insecurity and perception of the different programs or resources on- and off-campus. The online survey is a self-report that will also address hardships that they have faced during COVID-19 specifically concerning food insecurity and homelessness.



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