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Policy Plenary

Contextualizing Student Hunger in the Current Moment



Steven Bloom,
Assistant Vice President,
Government Relations,
American Council on Education



T.A. Hawks,
Partner,
Monumental Advocacy

Higher Education: Pell, Loans, Medicaid & Tax Policy

Changes under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025

Steven Bloom
Assistant Vice President, Government Relations

American Council on Education

October 17, 2025

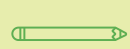


American Council
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Federal Context – Congress

“One Big Beautiful Bill” Act (OBBB) - Reconciliation



Pell



Loans



Medicaid



Tax Policy



Reconciliation – Pell & Loans

- Pell
 - Eligibility changes
 - Short-term grants
- Loans
 - New structure
 - New limits



Reconciliation – Medicaid

- Student impact
- State funding
- Hospitals & research

Reconciliation – Tax Policy

- Key higher ed provisions
 - Endowment tax
 - Employer Provided Educational Assistance
 - Taxability of Pell



Federal Context – Administration Research Funding

Executive Orders and new policies

Reviews/cancellations

Waivers

🔑 F&A caps

[illegible]

Federal Context – Administration International Students

✎ Expanded screening

✎ Processing freeze

▮ Visas & SEVIS



Student SNAP Eligibility & Work Requirements

Changes under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025

T.A. Hawks
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Monument Advocacy

October 17, 2025

MONUMENT
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Overview of SNAP Rules for Students

- Students enrolled half-time or more are generally ineligible unless exempt.
- Exemptions include: working ≥ 20 hrs/week, work study, caregiving, disability.
- Students less than half-time follow general SNAP eligibility rules.

«————» Key SNAP Changes under OBBBA

WORK REQUIREMENT AGE

- Expands work requirements to age 65 (previously up to 54).

LIMIT EXEMPTIONS

- Removes/limits exemptions for veterans, homeless, foster youth.

PARENT EXEMPTION

- Parent exemption now only for children under 14 (previously under 18).

STATE WAIVERS

- Restricts state waivers for high-unemployment areas.

Work Requirement Standards

- Able Bodied Adults w/o Dependents (ABAWDs) must work or train 80 hours/month.
- Fewer exemptions → more students affected.





Implications for Students

- Students with children age 14+ may lose exemption and be impacted.
- Veterans, homeless, foster youth now face work requirements.
- Greater need for students to meet 80 hours per month threshold.
- State-specific rules may further shape impact.

Federal Spending Shifting to States

	DC	Maryland	Virginia
SNAP Beneficiaries	137, 500	693,500	827,800
Administrative Match Requirement Increase	\$16M	\$52M	\$88M
FY28 State Food Benefit Match Requirement*	\$48M	\$233M	\$176M
TOTAL	\$64M	\$285M	\$264M

*Based on DC's, MD's, and VA's FY23 error rates



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Thank you

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