

****College Funding Crisis: Policy Pamphlet****

****Overview****

Rising tuition, reduced state funding, and escalating student debt have created a nationwide college affordability crisis. Students take on larger loans to afford higher education.

****Key Drivers****

- Long-term decline in state funding for public universities
- Tuition increases not matched by income growth
- Increasing reliance on student loans
- Inequities in grant distribution
- Administrative and infrastructure cost growth

****Impacts****

- Higher debt burdens for graduates
- Barriers to degree completion
- Widening socioeconomic inequality
- Reduced access for first-generation students

****Policy Proposals****

1. Increase Pell Grant funding and eligibility.
2. Introduce tuition caps for public institutions.
3. Expand loan forgiveness programs.

4. Create federal–state cost-sharing partnerships.

5. Increase transparency for university spending.

****Candidate Talking Points (Example)****

- “Make community college tuition-free.”

- “Reform federal loans to reduce interest rates.”

- “Expand work-study and grant programs.”

****What This Means for You****

Policies influence tuition, student loan debt, and access to financial aid—directly affecting affordability and long-term financial health.