

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 16, 2024

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2024

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2024

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2023–24 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2033

Introduced by Assembly Member Reyes

February 1, 2024

An act to amend Section 66023.5 of, and to add Sections 66023.4 and 66027.2 to, the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 2033, as amended, Reyes. Public postsecondary education: electronic benefits transfer cards: basic needs services and resources.

(1) Existing law provides for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), administered in California as CalFresh, under which each county distributes nutrition assistance benefits provided by the federal government to eligible households for the purchase of certain eligible foods at approved retail food stores. Existing law provides for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, under which each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families. Existing law, administered by the State Department of Social Services, provides for the establishment of a statewide electronic benefits transfer (EBT) system for the purpose of providing financial and food assistance benefits, and authorizes a county to deliver CalFresh and CalWORKs benefits through the use of the EBT system.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California as the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in the state. Existing law requires each campus of the California Community Colleges and the Trustees of the California State University, and requests the Regents of the University of California, to provide, as a part of campus orientation, educational information to all incoming students about certain public benefit programs, including, among others, CalFresh and the student eligibility requirements for CalFresh.

This bill would require, on or before September 1, 2025, each campus of the California Community Colleges and each campus of the California State University, and request each University of California campus, *if it has a general store or a store that sells food on campus*, to identify and apply for at least one general store or a store that sells food on campus to become an authorized retail food store under SNAP and, if approved, ensure the store or stores accept the use of EBT cards, as specified. To the extent that the bill would impose new duties on community college districts, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law requires each community college campus to establish the position of the Basic Needs Coordinator to assist students with on- and off-campus housing, food, mental health, and other basic needs services and resources, among other responsibilities, and to establish a Basic Needs Center where basic needs services, resources, and staff are made available to students, as provided. Existing law requires each community college campus to develop a document for students that clearly lists all on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources that includes specified information. Existing law requires each community college campus to report specified information related to basic needs services and resources to the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, and requires the chancellor's office to develop and submit to the Governor and the Legislature an annual report based on, among other things, the data and information reported by campuses.

This bill would require each community college campus, on or before September 1, 2025, to update the basic needs services and resources document to include the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service's "SNAP Retail Locator" internet website link, as specified. To the extent that the bill would impose new duties

on community college districts, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would require each California State University campus, and request each University of California campus, to also establish the position of Basic Needs Coordinator and establish a Basic Needs Center, as described above. The bill would also require each California State University campus, and request each University of California campus, to develop, on or before February 1, 2025, among other things, a document for students that clearly lists ~~all~~ on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources that includes specified information, including the “SNAP Retail Locator” internet website link, as specified. The bill would require each California State University campus to report to the office of the Chancellor of the California State University, and would request each University of California campus to report to the office of the President of the University of California, specified information related to basic needs services and resources. The bill would require the office of the Chancellor of the California State University, and would request the office of the President of the University of California, to develop and submit to the Governor and the Legislature ~~on or before May 1 of every year beginning on or before May 1, 2026, from 2026 to 2030, inclusive~~, a report based on, among other things, the data and information reported by the campuses.

(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 66023.4 is added to the Education Code,
- 2 to read:
- 3 66023.4. (a) As used in this section:
- 4 (1) “Basic needs services and resources” includes, but is not
- 5 limited to, housing, food, clothing, feminine hygiene, diapers,
- 6 technology, childcare, and mental health services and resources.

(2) “Coordinator” means a basic needs coordinator established pursuant to this section.

(b) Each campus of the California State University shall, and each campus of the University of California is requested to, do all of the following:

(1) On or before July 1, 2025, establish the position of the Basic Needs Coordinator, and designate a staff person as the Basic Needs Coordinator to serve as the single point of contact for students experiencing basic needs insecurity related to basic needs services and resources. The coordinator shall act as a broker in identifying, supporting, and linking students to on- and off-campus housing, food, mental health, and other basic needs services and resources. To ensure the effectiveness and impact of this position, the coordinator shall be a dedicated position solely focused on addressing the basic needs of students and meet qualifications such as experience providing services to high-need and diverse populations. The coordinator shall oversee and coordinate with other staff tasked with addressing students’ basic needs, shall inform students of all on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources and how to access them, and shall develop on- and off-campus partnerships to provide basic needs services and resources to their students.

(2) (A) On or before July 1, 2025, establish a Basic Needs Center, which means a central location on campus where basic needs services, resources, and staff are made available to students. The Basic Needs Center is intended to be a one-stop, single location and point of contact for students to more easily access and gain awareness of basic needs services and resources. The campus shall make a reasonable effort to locate all on-campus basic needs services and resources at the Basic Needs Center. If the campus cannot reasonably locate all basic needs services or resources at the Basic Needs Center, the campus shall provide students with the location and contact information, including name, telephone number, and email address, for all basic needs services and resources not located in the Basic Needs Center. The coordinator shall be housed in the Basic Needs Center.

(B) Each Basic Needs Center shall ~~help~~ *do all of the following:*

(i) *Help* ensure that students have the information they need to enroll in CalFresh, the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC), the Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC), the California

1 Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and
2 Children (WIC), and other relevant government benefits programs.
3 ~~Each Basic Needs Center shall coordinate~~ *This clause shall not be*
4 *construed to imply campus Basic Needs Centers are required to*
5 *provide tax advising or preparation services.*

6 (ii) *Coordinate* with their campus financial aid department or
7 financial aid office. ~~This section clause~~ shall not be construed to
8 require or encourage the Basic Needs Center to be combined or
9 colocated with the financial aid department or financial aid office.

10 ~~Each Basic Needs Center shall connect~~

11 (iii) *Connect* students to the financial aid department or financial
12 aid office as appropriate to ensure that students are receiving all
13 available financial aid. ~~Each Basic Needs Center shall coordinate~~

14 (iv) *Coordinate* with their local homelessness response system
15 to refer students to community resources available to address
16 homelessness in addition to services and resources provided by
17 the campus. ~~Basic~~

18 (C) Basic Needs Centers may provide support to students who
19 can be reasonably expected to enroll in the upcoming term and to
20 provide support to students during summer and winter breaks who
21 were previously enrolled or are enrolled for the upcoming fall or
22 spring term.

23 ~~(C)~~

24 (D) Campuses shall endeavor, to the extent feasible, to use a
25 portion of any funds made available for basic needs support for
26 providing funds directly to students to address urgent needs. To
27 the extent that a Basic Needs Center is already in place, that center
28 may be used to satisfy the requirements of this section. If the
29 existing Basic Needs Center fulfills only part of the requirements
30 of this section, basic needs services and resources shall be expanded
31 as needed to satisfy all the requirements of this section.

32 (3) (A) On or before February 1, 2025, develop a document
33 that shall be provided to students at the Basic Needs Center, once
34 established pursuant to paragraph (2), in either electronic format
35 or paper form, and that shall be made available to students online,
36 that clearly lists all on- and off-campus basic needs services and
37 resources that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

38 (i) The description of the service or resource.

39 (ii) The location of where the service or resource is provided.

1 (iii) The point of contact for the service or resource, including
2 a name, telephone number, and email address.

3 (iv) Any eligibility restrictions on accessing the service or
4 resource.

5 (v) The United States Department of Agriculture's Food and
6 Nutrition Service's "SNAP Retail Locator" internet website link,
7 which contains a map with locations that are authorized retail food
8 stores under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
9 and accept the use of electronic benefits transfer cards issued
10 pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 10065) of Part
11 1 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

12 (B) Provide the document to students as a part of campus
13 orientations in either electronic format or paper form.

14 (C) Provide to faculty the online link to the electronic format
15 of the document, the location of the Basic Needs Center, once
16 established pursuant to paragraph (2), and the contact information
17 for the coordinator, once designated pursuant to paragraph (1),
18 and encourage faculty to include the online link to the electronic
19 format of the document, the location of the Basic Needs Center,
20 and the contact information for the coordinator in their syllabi.

21 (D) To ensure that the document remains useful to students, the
22 document shall be reviewed, updated, and made available online
23 on both the internet website of the campus via the student basic
24 needs tab and the internet website-based student account associated
25 with a student's attendance at the institution, as specified in
26 paragraph (6), no later than the first day of every fall and spring
27 semester or ~~no later than the first day of every fall and spring~~
28 quarter.

29 (4) On or before February 1, 2025, streamline the application
30 and intake process for on-campus basic needs services and
31 resources to minimize duplication and eliminate barriers to access.
32 If an application is required, develop and use a single application
33 for students to receive on-campus basic needs services and
34 resources.

35 (5) On or before February 1, 2025, develop and implement a
36 plan to identify and provide outreach to students, including
37 nontraditional students, who have basic needs insecurity related
38 to housing, food, and mental health. Once the coordinator is
39 designated pursuant to paragraph (1) and the Basic Needs Center

1 is established pursuant to paragraph (2), the outreach shall include
2 information about the coordinator and the Basic Needs Center.

3 (6) On or before February 1, 2025, provide a student basic needs
4 tab that is clearly visible and easily accessible from a drop-down
5 menu on the home page of the campus' internet website and include
6 the information described in paragraph (3) conspicuously on both
7 the internet website of the campus via the student basic needs tab
8 and the internet website-based student account associated with a
9 student's attendance at the institution. Once the coordinator is
10 designated pursuant to paragraph (1) and the Basic Needs Center
11 is established pursuant to paragraph (2), information about the
12 coordinator and Basic Needs Center shall also be included on both
13 the internet website of the campus via the student basic needs tab
14 and the internet website-based student account associated with a
15 student's attendance at the institution.

16 (c) (1) Each campus of the California State University shall
17 report to the office of the Chancellor of the California State
18 University, and each campus of the University of California is
19 requested to report to the office of the President of the University
20 of California, information that shall include, but not be limited to,
21 all of the following:

22 (A) The description and number of basic needs services and
23 resources, broken down by category.

24 (B) The number of students served by the basic needs services
25 and resources.

26 (C) The socioeconomic and demographic backgrounds of these
27 students.

28 (D) Challenges and best practices in the implementation of the
29 basic needs services and resources.

30 (E) Whether students who used the basic needs services and
31 resources remained enrolled or graduated from a campus
32 maintained by the university.

33 (F) The number of students who first started receiving CalFresh
34 benefits in the previous year and the total number of students in
35 the previous year who received CalFresh benefits.

36 (G) Whether the campus has a data sharing agreement with the
37 relevant county operating the CalFresh program for the purpose
38 of identifying new, continuing, and returning students who are
39 potentially eligible for CalFresh benefits, or efforts underway to
40 enact such an agreement.

(2) The data and information reported under this subdivision shall be disaggregated by each basic needs service and resource, where applicable.

(d) The office of the Chancellor of the California State University shall, and the office of the President of the University of California is requested to, develop and submit to the Governor and the Legislature ~~every year beginning~~ *Legislature*, on or before May 1, 2026, *1 of each year from 2026 to 2030, inclusive*, a report based on the data and information reported by campuses pursuant to subdivision (c) and information on the use of funds made available to implement this section.

(e) Nothing in this section precludes the California State University and the University of California from having additional basic needs staff who assist the Basic Needs Coordinator in completing the requirements of subdivision (b).

SEC. 2. Section 66023.5 of the Education Code is amended to read:

66023.5. (a) As used in this section:

(1) “Basic needs services and resources” includes, but is not limited to, housing, food, clothing, feminine hygiene, diapers, technology, childcare, and mental health services and resources.

(2) “Coordinator” means a basic needs coordinator established pursuant to this section.

(b) Each campus of the California Community Colleges shall do all of the following:

(1) No later than July 1, 2022, establish the position of the Basic Needs Coordinator, and designate a staff person as the Basic Needs Coordinator to serve as the single point of contact for students experiencing basic needs insecurity related to basic needs services and resources. The coordinator shall act as a broker in identifying, supporting, and linking students to on- and off-campus housing, food, mental health, and other basic needs services and resources. To ensure the effectiveness and impact of this position, the coordinator shall be a dedicated position solely focused on addressing the basic needs of students and meet qualifications such as experience providing services to high-need and diverse populations. The coordinator shall oversee and coordinate with other staff tasked with addressing students’ basic needs, shall inform students of all on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources and how to access them, and shall develop on- and

1 off-campus partnerships to provide basic needs services and
2 resources to their students.

3 (2) (A) No later than July 1, 2022, establish a Basic Needs
4 Center, which means a central location on campus where basic
5 needs services, resources, and staff are made available to students.
6 The Basic Needs Center is intended to be a one-stop, single location
7 and point of contact for students to more easily access and gain
8 awareness of basic needs services and resources. The campus shall
9 make a reasonable effort to locate all on-campus basic needs
10 services and resources at the Basic Needs Center. If the campus
11 cannot reasonably locate all basic needs services or resources at
12 the Basic Needs Center, the campus shall provide students with
13 the location and contact information, including name, telephone
14 number, and email address, for all basic needs services and
15 resources not located in the Basic Needs Center. The coordinator
16 shall be housed in the Basic Needs Center.

17 (B) Each Basic Needs Center shall help ensure that students
18 have the information they need to enroll in CalFresh, the California
19 Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC), the Young Child Tax Credit
20 (YCTC), the California Special Supplemental Food Program for
21 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and other relevant
22 government benefits programs. Each Basic Needs Center shall
23 coordinate with their campus financial aid department or financial
24 aid office. This section shall not be construed to require or
25 encourage the Basic Needs Center to be combined or colocated
26 with the financial aid department or financial aid office. The
27 funding made available by the Budget Act of 2021 to implement
28 this section, or any subsequent Budget Act or statute to implement
29 this section, shall not be used to combine or colocate the Basic
30 Needs Center with the financial aid department or financial aid
31 office and shall not be used for the administration of student
32 financial aid programs, including staffing. Each Basic Needs Center
33 shall connect students to the financial aid department or financial
34 aid office as appropriate to ensure that students are receiving all
35 available financial aid. Each Basic Needs Center shall coordinate
36 with their local homelessness response system to refer students to
37 community resources available to address homelessness in addition
38 to services and resources provided by the campus. Basic Needs
39 Centers may provide support to students who can be reasonably
40 expected to enroll in the upcoming term and to provide support to

1 students during summer and winter breaks who were previously
2 enrolled or are enrolled for the upcoming fall or spring term.

3 (C) Campuses shall endeavor, to the extent feasible, to use a
4 portion of any funds made available for basic needs support for
5 providing funds directly to students to address urgent needs. To
6 the extent that a Basic Needs Center is already in place, that center
7 may be used to satisfy the requirements of this section. If the
8 existing Basic Needs Center fulfills only part of the requirements
9 of this section, basic needs services and resources shall be expanded
10 as needed to satisfy all the requirements of this section.

11 (3) (A) No later than February 1, 2022, develop a document
12 that shall be provided to students at the Basic Needs Center, once
13 established pursuant to paragraph (2), in either electronic format
14 or paper form, and that shall be made available to students online,
15 that clearly lists all on- and off-campus basic needs services and
16 resources that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- 17 (i) The description of the service or resource.
18 (ii) The location of where the service or resource is provided.
19 (iii) The point of contact for the service or resource, including
20 a name, telephone number, and email address.
21 (iv) Any eligibility restrictions on accessing the service or
22 resource.

23 (B) On or before September 1, 2025, update the document
24 developed pursuant to subparagraph (A) to include in the list of
25 all on- and off-campus basic needs services and resources the
26 United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition
27 Service's "SNAP Retail Locator" internet website link, which
28 contains a map with locations that are authorized retail food stores
29 under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and
30 accept the use of electronic benefits transfer cards issued pursuant
31 to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 10065) of Part 1 of
32 Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

33 (C) Provide the document to students as a part of campus
34 orientations in either electronic format or paper form.

35 (D) Provide to faculty the online link to the electronic format
36 of the document, the location of the Basic Needs Center, once
37 established pursuant to paragraph (2), and the contact information
38 for the coordinator, once designated pursuant to paragraph (1),
39 and encourage faculty to include the online link to the electronic

1 format of the document, the location of the Basic Needs Center,
2 and the contact information for the coordinator in their syllabi.

3 (E) To ensure that the document remains useful to students, the
4 document shall be reviewed, updated, and made available online
5 on both the internet website of the campus via the student basic
6 needs tab and the internet website-based student account associated
7 with a student's attendance at the institution, as specified in
8 paragraph (6), no later than the first day of every fall and spring
9 semester or no later than the first day of every fall and spring
10 quarter.

11 (4) No later than February 1, 2022, streamline the application
12 and intake process for on-campus basic needs services and
13 resources to minimize duplication and eliminate barriers to access.
14 If an application is required, develop and use a single application
15 for students to receive on-campus basic needs services and
16 resources.

17 (5) No later than February 1, 2022, develop and implement a
18 plan to identify and provide outreach to students, including
19 nontraditional students, who have basic needs insecurity related
20 to housing, food, and mental health. Once the coordinator is
21 designated pursuant to paragraph (1) and the Basic Needs Center
22 is established pursuant to paragraph (2), the outreach shall include
23 information about the coordinator and the Basic Needs Center.

24 (6) No later than February 1, 2022, provide a student basic needs
25 tab that is clearly visible and easily accessible from a drop-down
26 menu on the home page of the campus' internet website and include
27 the information described in paragraph (3) conspicuously on both
28 the internet website of the campus via the student basic needs tab
29 and the internet website-based student account associated with a
30 student's attendance at the institution. Once the coordinator is
31 designated pursuant to paragraph (1) and the Basic Needs Center
32 is established pursuant to paragraph (2), information about the
33 coordinator and Basic Needs Center shall also be included on both
34 the internet website of the campus via the student basic needs tab
35 and the internet website-based student account associated with a
36 student's attendance at the institution.

37 (c) (1) Each campus of the California Community Colleges
38 shall report to the office of the Chancellor of the California
39 Community Colleges information that shall include, but not be
40 limited to, all of the following:

1 (A) The description and number of basic needs services and
2 resources, broken down by category.

3 (B) The number of students served by the basic needs services
4 and resources.

5 (C) The socioeconomic and demographic backgrounds of these
6 students.

7 (D) Challenges and best practices in the implementation of the
8 basic needs services and resources.

9 (E) Whether students who used the basic needs services and
10 resources remained enrolled or graduated from a campus
11 maintained by the district.

12 (F) The number of students who first started receiving CalFresh
13 benefits in the previous year and the total number of students in
14 the previous year who received CalFresh benefits.

15 (G) Whether the campus has a data sharing agreement with the
16 relevant county operating the CalFresh program for the purpose
17 of identifying new, continuing, and returning students who are
18 potentially eligible for CalFresh benefits, or efforts underway to
19 enact such an agreement.

20 (2) The data and information reported under this subdivision
21 shall be disaggregated by each basic needs service and resource,
22 where applicable.

23 (d) The office of the Chancellor of the California Community
24 Colleges shall develop and submit to the Governor and the
25 Legislature every year beginning on or before May 1, 2023, a
26 report based on the data and information reported by campuses
27 pursuant to subdivision (c) and information on the use of funds
28 made available to implement this section.

29 SEC. 3. Section 66027.2 is added to the Education Code, to
30 read:

31 66027.2. ~~On~~ *(a) Subject to subdivision (b), on or before*
32 *September 1, 2025, each campus of the California Community*
33 *Colleges and each campus of the California State University shall,*
34 *and each campus of the University of California is requested to,*
35 *identify and apply for at least one general store or a store that sells*
36 *food on campus to become an authorized retail food store under*
37 *the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and, if*
38 *approved, ensure the store or*~~stores~~ *stores, within a reasonable*
39 *time, accept the use of electronic benefits transfer cards issued*

1 pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 10065) of Part
2 1 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

3 *(b) If a campus does not have a general store or a store that*
4 *sells food on campus, subdivision (a) does not apply.*

5 SEC. 4. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
6 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
7 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
8 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
9 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.