

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To provide for the basic needs of students at institutions of higher education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To provide for the basic needs of students at institutions
of higher education.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Basic Assistance for
5 Students In College Act of 2026” or the “BASIC Act of
6 2026”.

1 SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF STU-
2 DENTS.

Title VIII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
U.S.C. 1161a et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
the following:

6 **“PART BB—GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC**
7 **NEEDS OF STUDENTS**

8 "SEC. 899. GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF STU-
9 DENTS.

10 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) BASIC NEEDS.—The term ‘basic needs’,
with respect to a student, means the physiological
and safety necessities that are central conditions for
the student to learn, including—

15 “(A) nutritious and sufficient food;

16 “(B) safe, secure, and adequate housing
17 (including to sleep, to study, to cook, and to
18 shower);

19 “(C) health care to promote sustained
20 mental and physical well-being;

21 “(D) high-quality and affordable childcare;

22 “(E) affordable technology and internet ac-
23 cess;

24 “(F) accessible transportation;

25 “(G) personal hygiene and clothing; and

1 “(H) other costs described in paragraphs
2 (2) through (14) of section 472(a).

3 “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘community
5 college’ means—

6 “(i) a public institution of higher edu-
7 cation at which—

8 “(I) the highest degree awarded
9 is an associate degree; or

10 “(II) an associate degree is the
11 most frequently awarded degree, in-
12 cluding a 2-year Tribal College or
13 University (as defined in section 316);

14 “(ii) a public postsecondary vocational
15 institution (as defined in section 102(c));
16 or

17 “(iii) at the designation of the Sec-
18 retary, in the case of a State in which
19 there is no community college operated or
20 controlled by the State that meets a defini-
21 tion under clause (i) or (ii), a college or
22 similarly defined and structured academic
23 entity—

24 “(I) that was in existence before
25 the date of enactment of this part;

1 “(II) within a public 4-year insti-
2 tution of higher education; and

3 “(III) at which—

4 “(aa) the highest degree
5 awarded is an associate degree;
6 or

7 “(bb) an associate degree is
8 the most frequently awarded de-
9 gree.

10 “(3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-
11 ble institution’ means an institution of higher edu-
12 cation (as defined in section 101 or 102(a)(1)(B)).

13 “(b) PLANNING GRANTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
15 planning grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible
16 institutions to enable the eligible institutions to con-
17 duct research and planning in accordance with para-
18 graph (2)—

19 “(A) to reduce incidences of—

20 “(i) student food insecurity;

21 “(ii) student housing insecurity; and

22 “(iii) students experiencing homeless-
23 ness; and

24 “(B) to meet other basic needs of students.

1 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution receiv-
2 ing a grant under this subsection shall use grant
3 funds to carry out the following activities:

4 “(A) Establish a basic needs steering com-
5 mittee that will be—

6 “(i) responsible for developing and ap-
7 proving the basic needs strategy described
8 in subparagraph (C); and

9 “(ii) comprised of relevant stake-
10 holders, such as—

11 “(I) students who have experi-
12 enced challenges in meeting basic
13 needs;

14 “(II) student government rep-
15 resentatives;

16 “(III) staff of the eligible institu-
17 tion representing the areas of student
18 financial aid, housing, dining, student
19 affairs, academic advising, equity sup-
20 port services, accessibility services,
21 campus security, legal services, and
22 health and well-being services (includ-
23 ing counseling or psychological serv-
24 ices);

25 “(IV) faculty;

1 “(V) relevant administrators, in-
2 cluding local human services adminis-
3 trators;

4 “(VI) community-based and
5 other nonprofit organizations; and

6 “(VII) representatives from State
7 or local governmental agencies.

8 “(B) Conduct research regarding—

9 “(i) the level of unmet basic needs at
10 the eligible institution, disaggregated by
11 race and ethnicity, income quintile, status
12 as a first generation college student (as de-
13 fined in section 402A(h)), Federal Pell
14 Grant eligibility status, disability status,
15 status as a student parent, sex (including
16 sexual orientation and gender identity), or
17 other subgroup as determined by the eligi-
18 ble institution;

19 “(ii) the presence of institutional bar-
20 riers (such as award displacement) and
21 current institutional interventions to ad-
22 dress basic needs insecurity;

23 “(iii) the presence of administrative
24 barriers for students in applying, certifying
25 eligibility, and renewing applications for

1 federally funded benefit programs, and
2 interventions to address such barriers;

3 “(iv)(I) the resources and activities
4 available to address basic needs of stu-
5 dents, both on campus and off campus, as
6 of the date of the research; and

7 “(II) the impact of such resources and
8 activities; and

9 “(v) opportunities for coordination
10 and collaboration between the eligible insti-
11 tution and Federal, State, local, and Tribal
12 agencies or community-based organiza-
13 tions, such as—

14 “(I) the local office that admin-
15 isters benefits under the supplemental
16 nutrition assistance program estab-
17 lished under the Food and Nutrition
18 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.)
19 and carries out employment and train-
20 ing programs under that Act, or the
21 temporary assistance for needy fami-
22 lies program and subsidized programs
23 that meet the work requirements
24 under part A of title IV of the Social
25 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

1 “(II) organizations that partici-
2 pate in the Federal work-study pro-
3 gram under part C of title IV; or

4 “(III) low-income housing assist-
5 ance organizations, including such or-
6 ganizations assisting with tenant-
7 based assistance under section 8(o) of
8 the United States Housing Act of
9 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), and pub-
10 lic housing (as defined in section 3(b)
11 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b))).

12 “(C) Develop a basic needs strategy that
13 describes the means by which the eligible insti-
14 tution will—

15 “(i) seek to address or meet the basic
16 needs of students through on-campus and
17 off-campus providers; and

18 “(ii) incorporate the research con-
19 ducted under subparagraph (B), including
20 with respect to the subgroups identified
21 under clause (i) of that subparagraph, into
22 the basic needs strategy.

23 “(D) Implement the strategy described in
24 subparagraph (C), including by—

1 “(i) conducting outreach to encourage
2 students to participate in programs that
3 provide basic needs or reduce basic needs
4 insecurity;

5 “(ii) educating students about Fed-
6 eral, State, local, and Tribal assistance
7 programs, supporting student applications
8 for those programs, and providing case
9 management and training for students to
10 maximize the assistance that students and
11 their families receive to reduce basic needs
12 insecurity;

13 “(iii) coordinating and collaborating
14 with Federal, State, local, and Tribal agen-
15 cies or community-based organizations;

16 “(iv) hiring and training personnel to
17 build infrastructure and implement pro-
18 gramming to reduce basic needs insecurity
19 at the eligible institution; and

20 “(v) carrying out other matters deter-
21 mined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

22 “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS; DURATION.—

23 “(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant
24 under this subsection shall be not more than
25 \$200,000.

“(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-
section shall be for a period of not more than
2 years.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the end of the planning grant period under this subsection, each eligible institution that receives such a grant shall submit to the Secretary a report that describes the outcomes of the planning grant, regardless of whether the eligible institution intends to apply for an implementation grant.

11 “(c) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

12 “(1) AWARD.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award implementation grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible institutions to enable the eligible institutions to develop infrastructure to meet the basic needs of students by—

18 “(i) implementing—

19 “(I) a basic needs strategy devel-
20 oped under subsection (b)(2)(C); or

21 “(II) another existing basic needs
22 plan approved by the Secretary; and

23 “(ii) carrying out the activities de-
24 scribed in paragraph (2).

1 “(B) ONGOING EXTERNAL FUNDING.—To
2 be eligible to receive an implementation grant
3 under this paragraph, an eligible institution
4 shall identify, in the application for the grant,
5 an ongoing non-Federal funding mechanism to
6 support the activities carried out using grant
7 funds after the expiration of the grant period.

8 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution receiv-
9 ing a grant under this subsection shall use the grant
10 funds to carry out at least 2 of the following activi-
11 ties:

12 “(A) Providing to eligible students free or
13 subsidized food, secure sleeping arrangements,
14 temporary housing, priority access to existing
15 on-campus child care, and other basic needs.

16 “(B) Conducting outreach to students to
17 reduce stigma associated with, and educate and
18 encourage students to participate in, programs
19 and services (including programs and services
20 provided through grant funding) to meet basic
21 needs.

22 “(C)(i) Educating students about federally
23 funded benefit programs described in section
24 483(a)(2)(B)(ii)(XVII) and, to the extent deter-

1 mined appropriate by the institution, other
2 State and local benefit programs;

3 “(ii) supporting student applications for
4 those programs; and

5 “(iii) providing case management and
6 training for students to maximize the public as-
7 sistance that students and their families receive
8 to meet basic needs.

9 “(D) Coordination and collaboration be-
10 tween the eligible institution and Federal,
11 State, local, and Tribal agencies or community-
12 based organizations, such as the local, State, or
13 regional offices that administer benefits through
14 the supplemental nutrition assistance program
15 under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
16 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), or a low-income housing
17 assistance organization.

18 “(E) Purchasing materials, equipment,
19 transportation, or facilities to reduce incidences
20 of food and housing insecurity and address the
21 basic needs of students at the eligible institu-
22 tion.

23 “(F) Hiring and training personnel to
24 build and improve basic needs infrastructure
25 and implement programming to provide assist-

1 ance in applying for, and accessing, direct sup-
2 port services, financial assistance, or federally
3 funded benefit programs to meet the basic
4 needs of students.

5 “(G) Other activities or services deter-
6 mined to be appropriate by the Secretary for
7 meeting the basic needs of students.

8 “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS; DURATION.—

9 “(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant
10 under this subsection shall be not more than
11 \$5,000,000 for each 5-year period.

12 “(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-
13 section shall be for a period of 5 years.

14 “(4) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare
15 and submit to Congress a report that describes—

16 “(A) the impact on eligible students of
17 grants provided under this subsection;

18 “(B) the obstacles faced by recipients of
19 grants under this subsection;

20 “(C) successful outcomes of grants under
21 this subsection;

22 “(D) best practices for the provision of
23 basic services to eligible students; and

1 “(E) Federal and State policy barriers to
2 meeting the basic needs of students at institu-
3 tions of higher education.

4 “(5) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall
5 disseminate to eligible institutions information about
6 best practices, as described in paragraph (4)(D).

7 “(6) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—For the pur-
8 pose of evaluating the effectiveness of funds awarded
9 under this subsection, the Secretary shall conduct an
10 evaluation of each grant under this subsection to de-
11 termine the impact on students, including retention,
12 progression, transfer, attainment, and basic needs
13 security, as applicable. The information from the
14 evaluation shall be made public through a report
15 after the first year and every four years thereafter.
16 The report should highlight best practices for contin-
17 uous improvement in retention, credit accumulation
18 and progression, transfer, credential attainment, and
19 basic-needs security, and demonstrate cost-per-out-
20 come efficiency.

21 “(d) RESERVATION; PRIORITY; EQUITABLE DIS-
22 TRIBUTION.—

23 “(1) RESERVATION.—In awarding grants under
24 subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall reserve—

1 “(A) an amount equal to not less than 25
2 percent of the total amount available for grants
3 under those subsections for grant awards to
4 community colleges; and

5 “(B) an amount equal to not less than 25
6 percent of the total amount available for grants
7 under those subsections for grant awards to
8 historically Black colleges and universities,
9 Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other mi-
10 nority-serving institutions.

11 “(2) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under
12 subsection (b) and (c), the Secretary shall give pri-
13 ority to the following:

14 “(A) Eligible institutions with respect to
15 which not fewer than 25 percent of enrolled
16 students are students that are eligible to receive
17 a Federal Pell Grant under subpart 1 of part
18 A of title IV.

19 “(B) Eligible institutions described in sec-
20 tion 371(a).

21 “(3) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding
22 grants under subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary
23 shall ensure an equitable distribution of grant
24 awards to eligible institutions in States, based on
25 State population.

1 “(e) DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.—For each fiscal
2 year for which funds are appropriated under subsection
3 (g), the Secretary shall obligate the funds for grants under
4 this section and make such grants available for expendi-
5 ture by eligible entities not later than 60 days after such
6 funds are appropriated.

7 “(f) PROHIBITION.—An eligible institution receiving
8 a grant under this section may not reduce a student’s eli-
9 gibility for, or the amount of, an institutional grant pro-
10 vided to the student by such institution on the basis of
11 such student’s receipt of a benefit under a federally funded
12 benefit program listed in section 483(a)(2)(B)(ii)(XVII).

13 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
14 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
15 \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through
16 2033, of which—

17 “(1) \$40,000,000 is authorized to be appro-
18 priated to provide planning grants under subsection
19 (b); and

20 “(2) \$960,000,000 is authorized to be appro-
21 priated to provide implementation grants under sub-
22 section (c).”.

1 **SEC. 3. DATA SHARING TO INFORM STUDENTS OF BENEFIT**
2 **PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 483(c)(3) of the Higher
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090(c)(3)) is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 “(3) DATA-SHARING AGREEMENTS FOR BEN-
7 EFIT PROGRAMS.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
9 enter into and maintain data sharing agree-
10 ments that meet the requirements of subpara-
11 graph (B) with each appropriate Federal or
12 State agency that handles applications for fed-
13 erally funded benefit programs described in
14 subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii)(XVII) to—

15 “(i) identify applicants who are poten-
16 tially eligible for one or more of such feder-
17 ally funded benefit programs;

18 “(ii) in the case of applicants identi-
19 fied under clause (i) who have not received
20 benefits under a federally funded benefit
21 program during the most recent 2 years—

22 “(I) notify such applicants they
23 may enroll in such program; and

24 “(II) provide information on the
25 eligibility requirements for such pro-
26 gram;

1 “(iii) in the case of applicants identi-
2 fied under clause (i) who have received
3 benefits under a federally funded benefit
4 program during the most recent 2 years,
5 notify such applicants of the requirements
6 to renew, reenroll, or maintain enrollment
7 in such a program;

8 “(iv) coordinate efforts among institu-
9 tions of higher education, and each such
10 appropriate Federal or State agency to en-
11 roll or maintain enrollment of potentially
12 eligible applicants in such federally funded
13 benefit programs, including prescreening
14 or preliminary determinations of eligibility;
15 and

16 “(v) design and update written or
17 electronic communications to potentially el-
18 igible applicants and institutions of higher
19 education regarding the benefit programs
20 in accordance with this subparagraph.

21 “(B) CONFIDENTIALITY OF STUDENT IN-
22 FORMATION.—Any person who receives infor-
23 mation provided through a data sharing agree-
24 ment under subparagraph (A)—

1 “(i) shall use the information only for
2 the purposes of, and to the extent nec-
3 essary in, carrying out the requirements of
4 clauses (i) through (v) of subparagraph
5 (A); and

6 “(ii) may not disclose the information
7 for any other purpose (such as the conduct
8 of criminal or civil investigations, pro-
9 ceedings, or prosecutions).”.

10 (b) FEDERALLY FUNDED BENEFIT PROGRAMS.—
11 Section 483(a)(2)(B)(ii)(XVII) of the Higher Education
12 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090(a)(2)(B)(ii)(XVII)) is
13 amended—

14 (1) by striking “received any of the following
15 means-tested Federal benefits” and inserting “re-
16 ceived benefits under any of the following federally
17 funded benefit programs”; and

18 (2) by striking items (aa) through (jj) and in-
19 serting the following:

20 “(aa) The supplemental nu-
21 trition assistance program estab-
22 lished under the Food and Nutri-
23 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011
24 et seq.), a nutrition assistance
25 program carried out under sec-

1 tion 19 of such Act (7 U.S.C.
2 2028), or a nutrition assistance
3 program carried out by the Sec-
4 retary of Agriculture in the
5 Northern Mariana Islands.

6 “(bb) The supplemental se-
7 curity income program under
8 title XVI of the Social Security
9 Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.).

10 “(cc) The program of block
11 grants to States for temporary
12 assistance for needy families
13 under part A of title IV of the
14 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
15 601 et seq.).

16 “(dd) The special supple-
17 mental nutrition program for
18 women, infants, and children es-
19 tablished by section 17 of the
20 Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42
21 U.S.C. 1786).

22 “(ee) The Medicaid program
23 under title XIX of the Social Se-
24 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
25 seq.).

1 “(ff) Federal housing assist-
2 ance programs, including tenant-
3 based assistance under section
4 8(o) of the United States Hous-
5 ing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
6 1437f(o)), and public housing, as
7 defined in section 3(b)(1) of such
8 Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(1)).

9 “(gg) Federal child care as-
10 sistance programs, including as-
11 sistance under the Child Care
12 and Development Block Grant
13 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9857 et
14 seq.) and the Child Care Access
15 Means Parents in School Pro-
16 gram under section 419N.

17 “(hh) The free and reduced
18 price school lunch program estab-
19 lished under the Richard B. Rus-
20 sell National School Lunch Act
21 (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

22 “(ii) Refundable credit for
23 coverage under a qualified health
24 plan under section 36B of the In-
25 ternal Revenue Code of 1986.

1 “(jj) The Earned Income
2 Tax Credit under section 32 of
3 the Internal Revenue Code of
4 1986.

5 “(kk) The Child Tax Credit
6 under section 24 of the Internal
7 Revenue Code of 1986.

8 “(ll) Education tax benefits
9 described in paragraphs (1) and
10 (2) of section 25A(a) of the In-
11 ternal Revenue Code of 1986.

12 “(mm) Any other federally
13 funded benefit program that sup-
14 ports the basic needs of students
15 determined by the Secretary, in
16 consultation with each appro-
17 priate State or Federal agency
18 that handles applications for such
19 federally funded benefit pro-
20 gram.”.(c) INFORMATION TO BE
21 SUPPLIED BY THE SECRETARY
22 OF EDUCATION.—Section
23 483(a)(3)(A)(iv) of the Higher
24 Education Act of 1965 (20

1 U.S.C. 1090(a)(3)(A)(iv)) is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 “(iv) A notification of the federally
4 funded benefit programs described in para-
5 graph (2)(B)(ii)(XVII) for which the appli-
6 cant may be eligible, including relevant
7 links and information on how to apply for,
8 renew, or maintain eligibility for such pro-
9 grams, in accordance with the data sharing
10 agreements specified in subsection (c)(3).”.

11 (d) INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUNDED PRO-
12 GRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—Section 483 of the
13 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090) is
14 amended by adding at the end the following:

15 “(e) INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUNDED BEN-
16 EFIT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon receiving an applica-
18 tion under this section from an applicant whom the
19 Secretary determines (in accordance with paragraph
20 (2)) may be eligible for a federally funded benefit
21 program described in subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii)(XVII),
22 the Secretary shall send to such applicant, in written
23 and electronic form, information on, and the applica-
24 tion for, each such federally funded benefit program
25 for which the applicant may be so eligible (including

1 a brief description of the appropriate resources or
2 methods to apply for each such benefit program).

3 “(2) DETERMINATION REQUIREMENTS.—In de-
4 termining whether an applicant may be eligible for
5 a federally funded benefit program pursuant to
6 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make such deter-
7 mination solely on the basis of the information sub-
8 mitted on the application described by subsection
9 (a), and available through the data sharing agree-
10 ments under subsection (c)(3), and without regard
11 to enrollment intensity, income, work, or community
12 participation requirements that may be needed to
13 formally determine eligibility for such a program.”.

14 (e) FURTHER INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUND-
15 ED PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—Section
16 483(a)(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
17 1090(a)(2))) is amended—

18 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking clause (ii)
19 and inserting the following:

20 “(ii) AUTHORIZATION TO DISCLOSE
21 TO BENEFITS PROGRAMS.—An applicant
22 and, if necessary, the parents or spouse of
23 the applicant shall be provided, concu-
24 rently with the provision of the authoriza-
25 tion described in clause (i), the opportunity

1 to authorize the disclosure to each appro-
2 priate Federal or State agency that han-
3 dles applications for federally funded ben-
4 efit programs described in subparagraph
5 (B)(ii)(XVII) all information provided by
6 the applicant on the application described
7 by this subsection, as well as such appli-
8 cant's student aid index, scheduled Federal
9 Pell Grant award, or receipt of other Fed-
10 eral financial aid, to assist in identifica-
11 tion, outreach, and application efforts for
12 such federally funded benefits programs.”;
13 and

14 (2) in subparagraph (E), by striking clause (ii)
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(ii) an authorization under subpara-
17 graph (D), the Secretary shall, as soon as
18 practicable, disclose the information de-
19 scribed under such subparagraph—

20 “(I) in the case of an authoriza-
21 tion under subparagraph (D)(i), to
22 each entity specified by the applicant,
23 in order for the applicant's eligibility
24 for Federal, State, or institutional

1 student financial aid programs to be
2 estimated or determined; and

3 “(II) in the case of an authoriza-
4 tion under subparagraph (D)(ii), to
5 each appropriate State or Federal
6 agency that handles applications for
7 federally funded benefit programs de-
8 scribed in subparagraph (B)(ii)(XVII)
9 in order for the applicant’s eligibility
10 for such federally funded benefit pro-
11 grams to be estimated or deter-
12 mined.”.

13 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL REPORT ON STUDENT BASIC NEEDS IN-**
14 **SECURITY.**

15 (a) REPORT ON STUDENT FOOD AND HOUSING INSE-
16 CURITY.—Section 483(a) of the Higher Education Act of
17 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090(a)) is amended by adding at the
18 end the following:

19 “(10) REPORT ON STUDENT FOOD, HOUSING,
20 AND BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY.—The Secretary
21 shall produce—

22 “(A) not later than 2 years after the date
23 of enactment of the BASIC Act of 2026, and
24 at least once every four years thereafter, a pub-
25 lic report with nationally-representative statis-

tics based on a survey of students who have applied for Federal financial aid and who enroll at institutions of higher education and are experiencing basic needs insecurity, including food, housing, transportation, child care, or other needs determined by the Secretary, disaggregated, to the extent available in existing Federal databases, by—

“(i) race and ethnicity;

“(ii) income quintile;

“(iii) status as a first generation college student (as defined in section 402A(h));

“(iv) Federal Pell Grant eligibility status;

“(v) disability status;

“(vi) status as a student parent;

“(vii) sex;

“(viii) military or veteran benefit status; and

“(ix) to the maximum extent practicable, the State in which the student attended higher education; and

“(B) not later than one year after enactment of the BASIC Act of 2026, a report to the

1 authorizing committees and the Committees on
2 Appropriations of the House of Representatives
3 and the Senate, on the progress of the Sec-
4 retary in carrying out the directives of this sub-
5 section related to connecting students to feder-
6 ally funded benefit programs, including any
7 areas of concern and potential problem issues
8 uncovered that may hamper such implementa-
9 tion and solutions determined to address such
10 issues.”.