



Supporting Student Parent Success in Community Colleges

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The Student Parent Success Initiative (SPSI)

SPSI focuses on supporting students with dependent children who are pursuing college.

- Raises awareness of the need for student parent supports.
- Shares knowledge about programs/policy strategies that help low-income parents succeed in college.
- Provides technical assistance to enhance two-generation supports for student parents.



A College Degree Improves Socioeconomic Prospects for Entire Family



Women with an AA earn \$427,000 more in their lifetime than women with just a high school diploma.

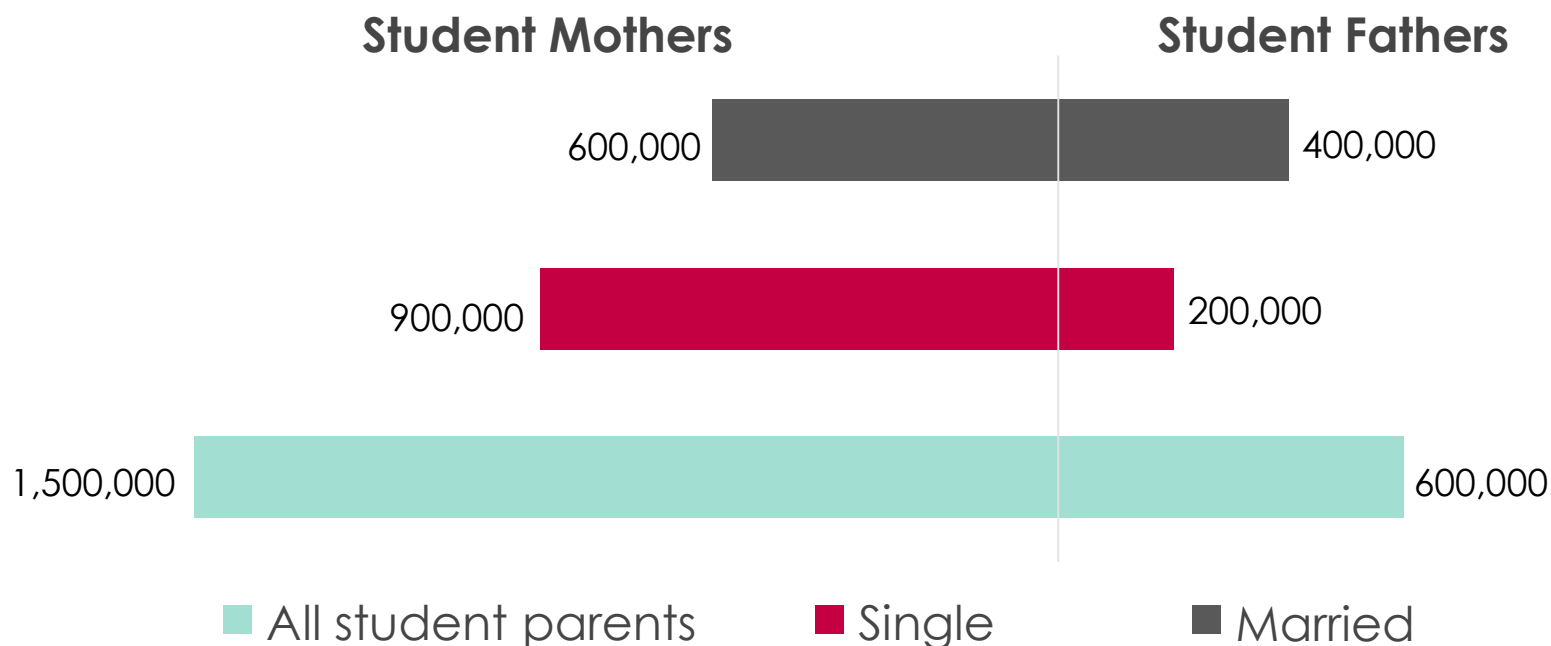
A mother's education can improve children's economic, educational, & social outcomes.



Children of college-educated mothers do better in high school & are more likely to attend college.

4.8 Million Undergrads—26% of All College Students—are also Parents

Number of Student Parents at Public 2-Year Institutions by Sex and Marital Status, 2011-12

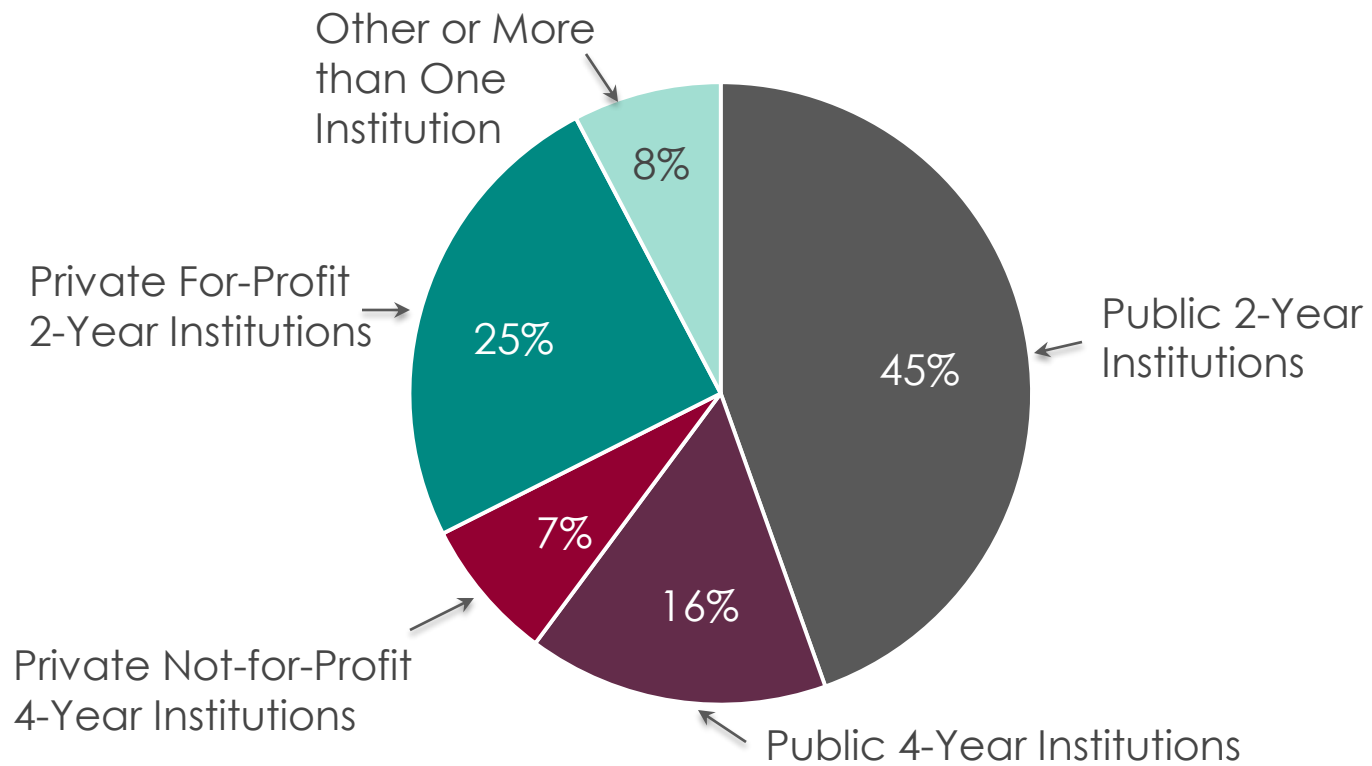


Source: IWPR analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. 2011-12 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study and the Integrated Postsecondary Aid Survey (IPEDS).



Largest Share of Student Parents Attend Community Colleges

Distribution of Student Parents by Institution, 2011-12

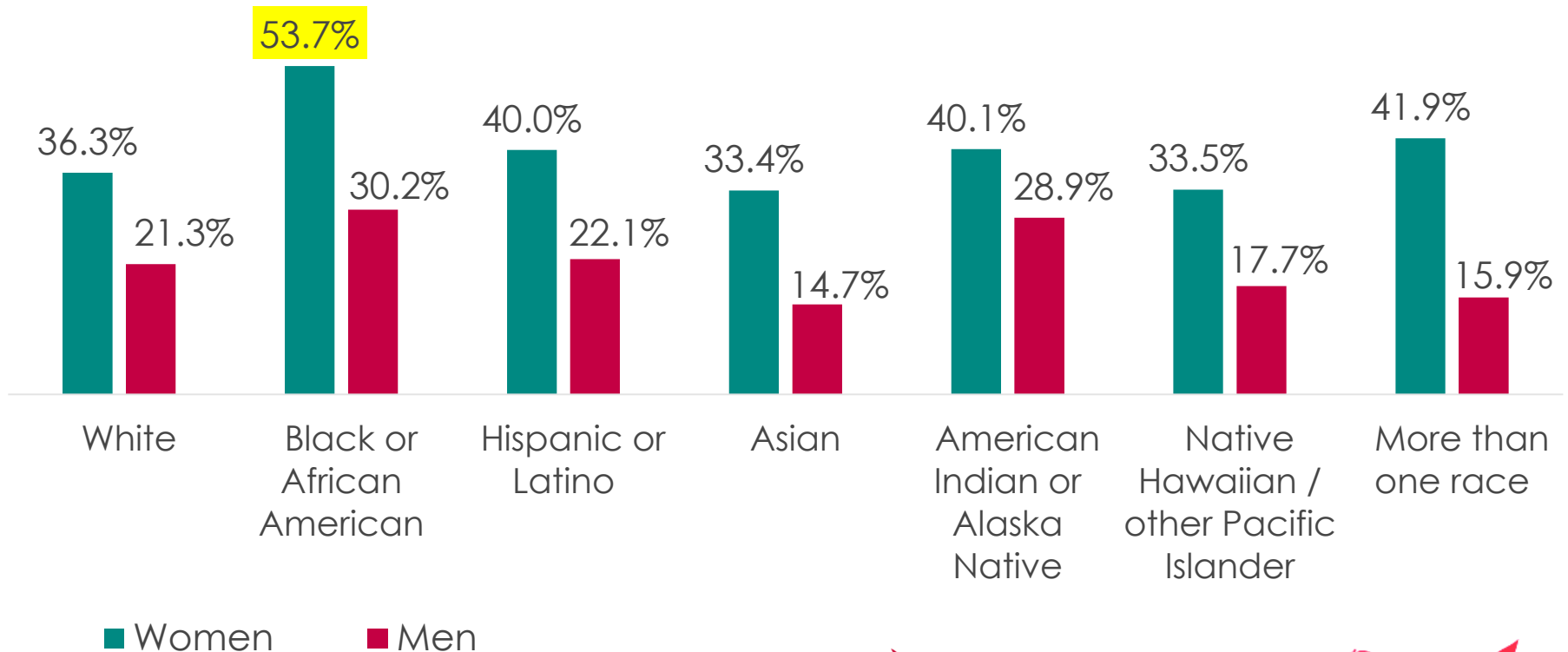


Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2011-12 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:12).



Over Half of Black Women at Community Colleges are Parents

Share of Community College Students with Dependent Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2011-12



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2011-12 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:12).



Many Student Parents are Low-Income, Work Full-Time, & Graduate with High Debt

Nearly 70% of 2-year student parents live $\leq 200\%$ of poverty, compared with half of 2-year students overall.

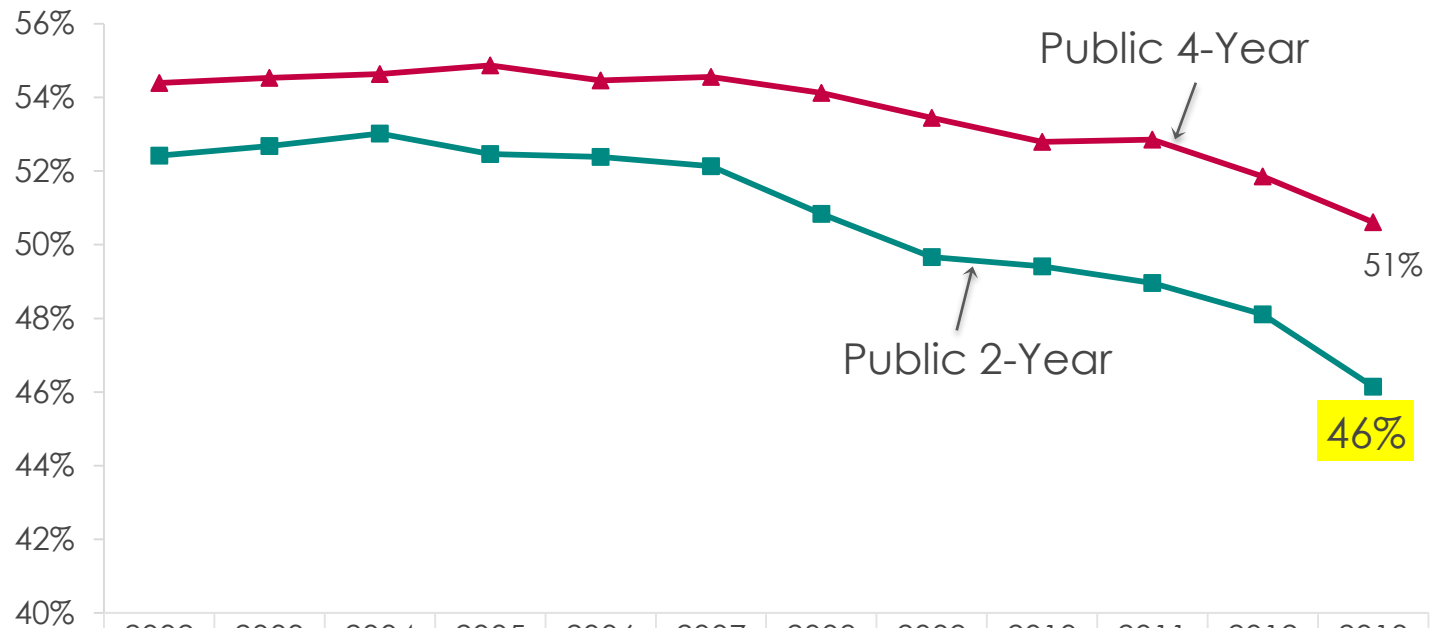
89% of single student parents at community colleges live $\leq 200\%$ of poverty.

Two-thirds of student parents at community colleges also work, & 39% work full-time.

Student mothers graduate with the highest student debt (\$29,136 compared with \$25,227 for all students).

Campus Child Care Declining, Especially at Community Colleges

Percent of Colleges with Campus Child Care, 2002-2013



■ Public 2-Year Institutions
▲ Public 4-Year Institutions

Source: IWPR analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).



Child Care Costs are Too High for Many Student Parents

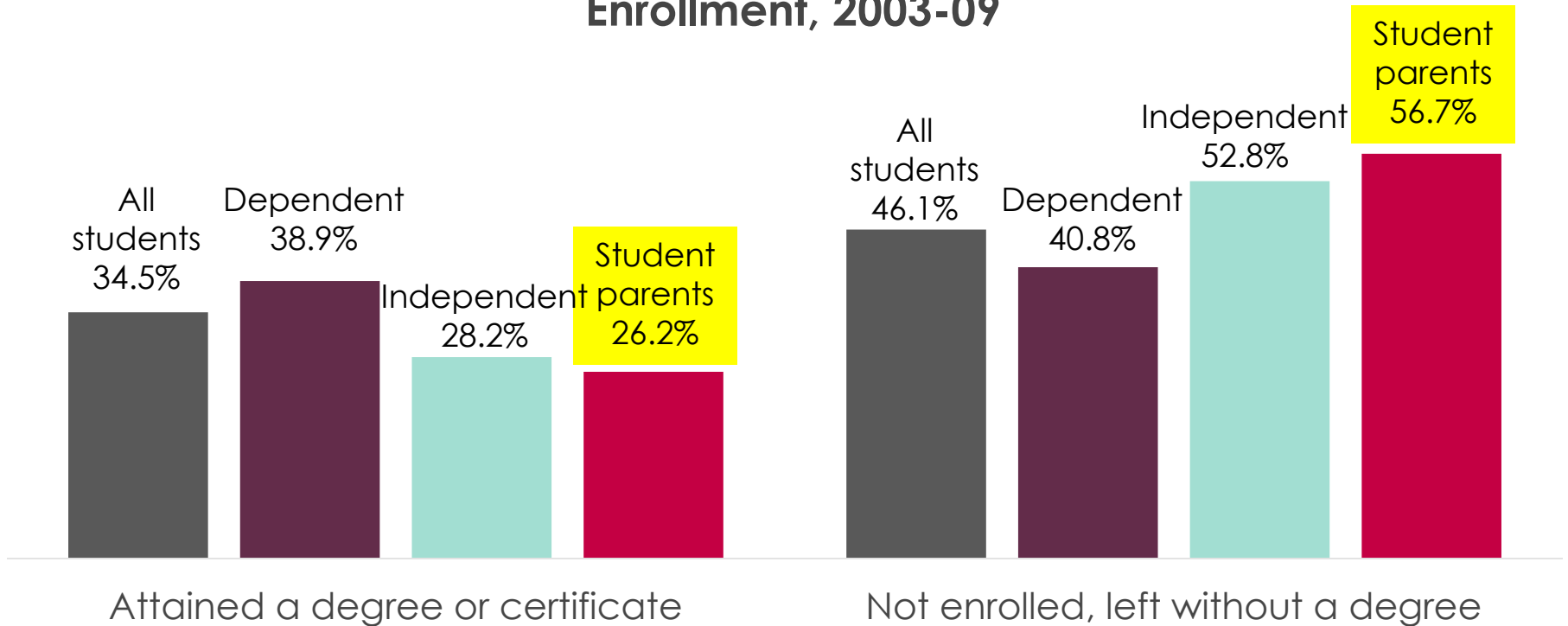
- Community college student parents who pay for child care spend an average of **\$415 per month**.

- Low-income student parents more likely to use **unpaid child care** compared with higher-income parents.

- Financial considerations, family care needs, & lack of child care are **main reasons for stop outs** among parents in college.

Only 26% of 2-Year Student Parents Attain a Degree or Certificate in 6 years

Degree Attainment for Public 2-Year Students by Parent & Dependency Status within 6 Years of Enrollment, 2003-09



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003-04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, Second Follow-up (BPS:04/09).



Growing Visibility of Student Parents' Needs

The Washington Post

Wonkblog

This simple addition to college campuses could cut costs for a quarter of undergrads

By Danielle Paquette August 11



The vision most of us have of typical college students—18-year-olds on campus full-time—is wrong.

Today's Reality

MANY COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE OLDER THAN 25, AND MOST ARE BALANCING SCHOOL WITH WORK AND FAMILIES.



Today's students are struggling to navigate an outdated higher ed system.

LEARN WHAT CAN BE DONE TO CHANGE THIS

TAKE OUR INTERACTIVE QUIZ

DOWNLOAD THE INFOGRAPHIC

September 23, 2015, 06:00 am

America's college students have changed. Will federal policy keep pace?

By Jamie Merisotis



POLITICS HILLARY CLINTON

Hillary Clinton Outlines College Plan for Students With Children

Zeke J Miller @ZekeJMiller Aug 14, 2015

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton outlined plans Friday to make it easier for students with children to complete a college degree.

In a town hall in Dubuque, Iowa, the Democratic presidential candidate continued her week-long focus on college affordability, what she terms a "new college compact," announcing she would seek to dramatically increase in federal funding for college child-care centers while creating a new grant program for such students.



Hillary Clinton held a town meeting event at Exeter High School in Exeter, N.H. on Aug. 10, 2015.



Formeka Chen, who in 2009 was a single mom and college student, at Mission College in Santa Clara, California.

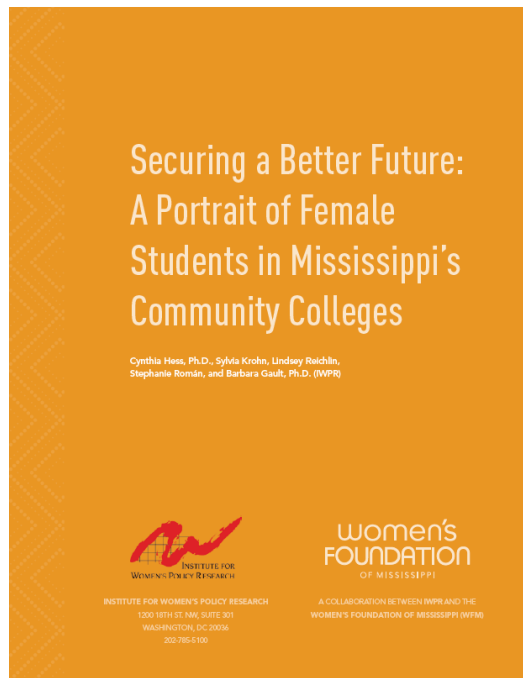
EDUCATION

Single Moms and Welfare Woes: A Higher-Education Dilemma

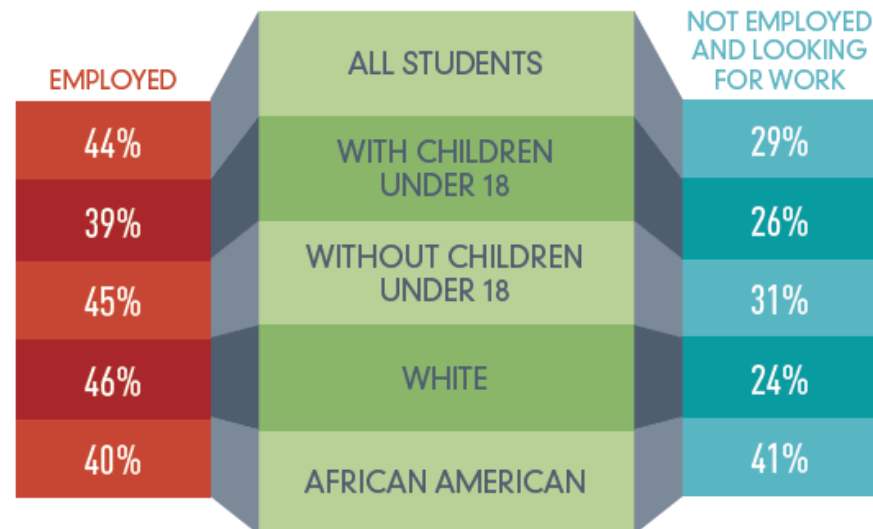
Assessing the Needs & Experiences of Women in Community College

“Being a student and a parent is difficult. You have children competing for attention while you try to concentrate on school. I have managed to squeeze 4 classes into 2 hours per week while working online.

Time is a luxury most parents do not have.”



MORE THAN FOUR IN TEN STUDENTS WORK WHILE IN SCHOOL
Figure 3.2 Employment Status of Respondents by Parent Status and Race

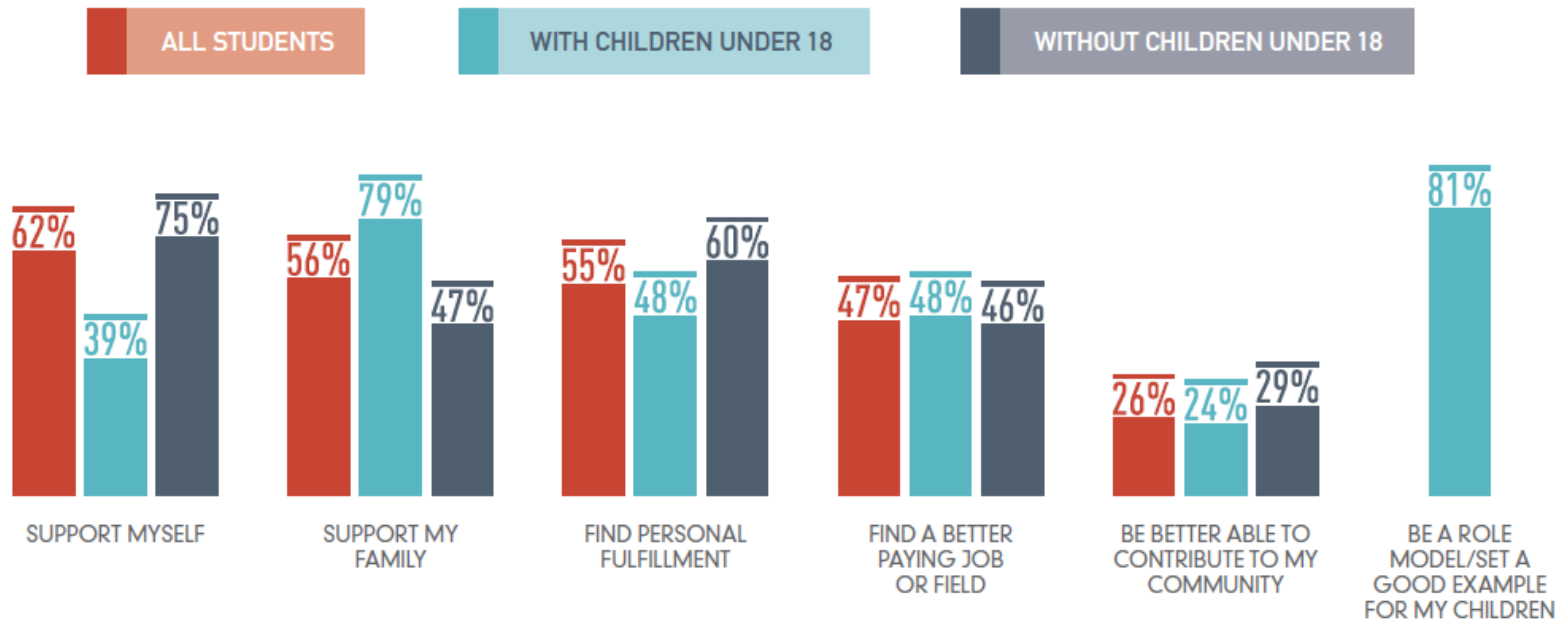


What Motivates MS Women to Enroll in Community College

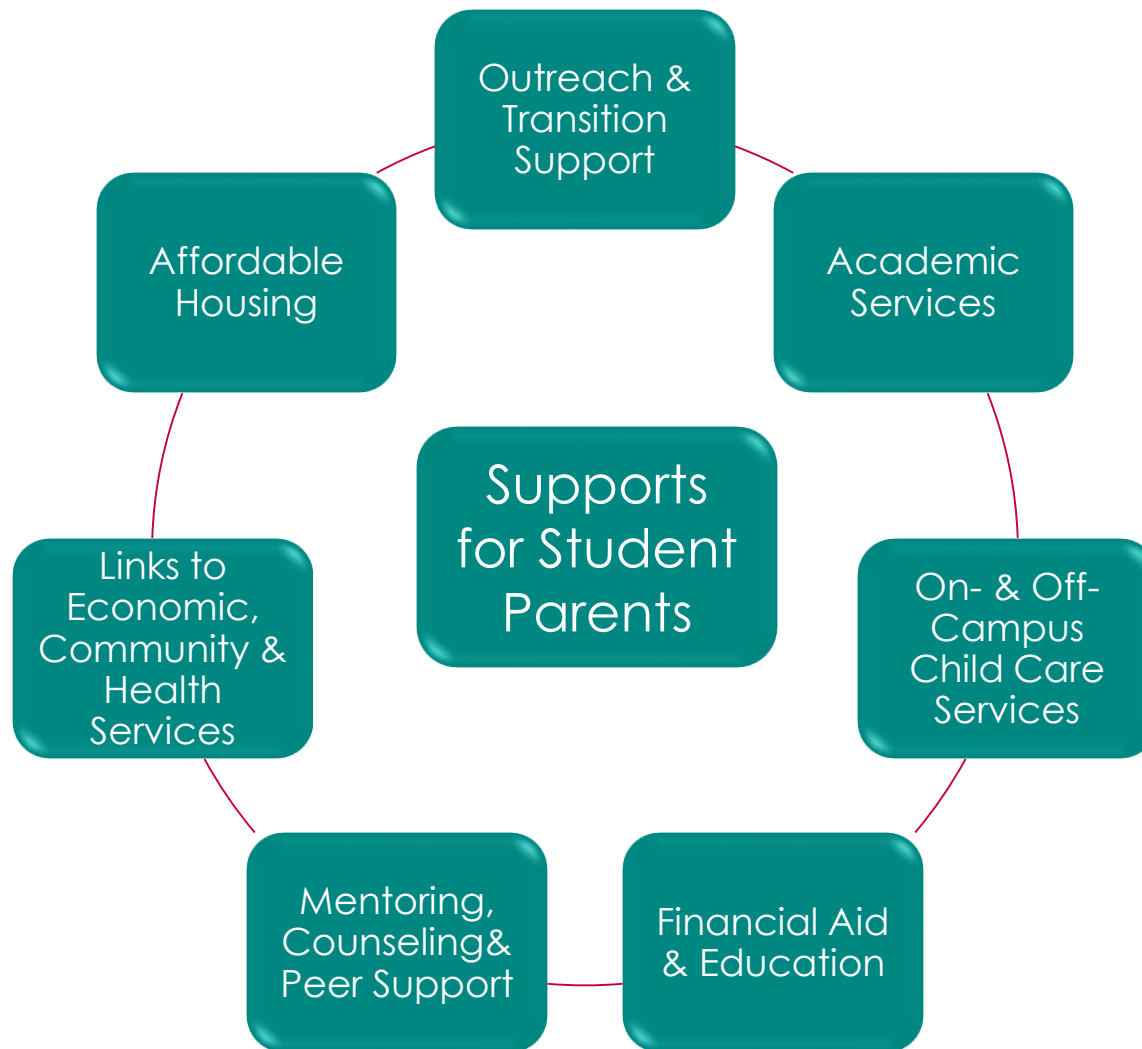
“I am thankful that I am able to attend college. After becoming a parent at a young age, I didn’t think I would ever attend college, **so it means everything to me.** After I complete, I can support my family & hopefully be a role model to my daughter.”

REASONS TO PURSUE COLLEGE: ECONOMIC SECURITY, FAMILY SUPPORT, AND PERSONAL FULFILLMENT

Figure 2.1. Top Six Reasons Students Give for Pursuing Higher Education by Parent Status⁵



Supporting the Success of Student Parents in Community College



For questions or more information,
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