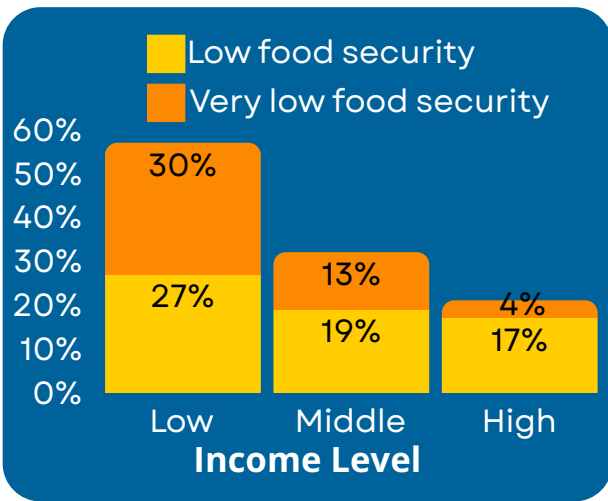


UC San Diego Student Food Security Survey

In **October 2024**, we asked **1,680** undergrads in Cognitive Science, Public Health, Urban Studies & Planning, and Engineering about their knowledge and use of CalFresh and other campus food assistance resources.

What Did We Learn?

39% of surveyed students experienced food insecurity in the past 30 days.



Income

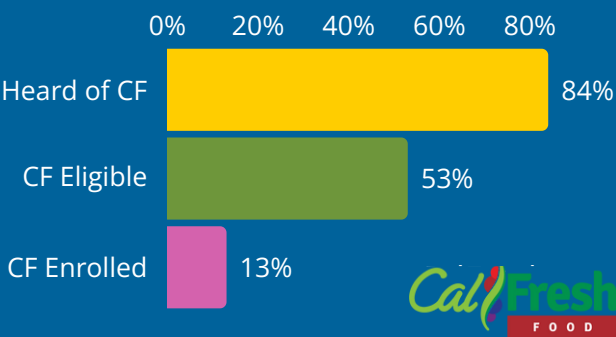
Students from **low-income** backgrounds are nearly **7X more likely** to experience **very low food security** than students from high-income backgrounds.

First Generation

52% of first generation students experience food insecurity & are **2X more likely** to experience very low food security.

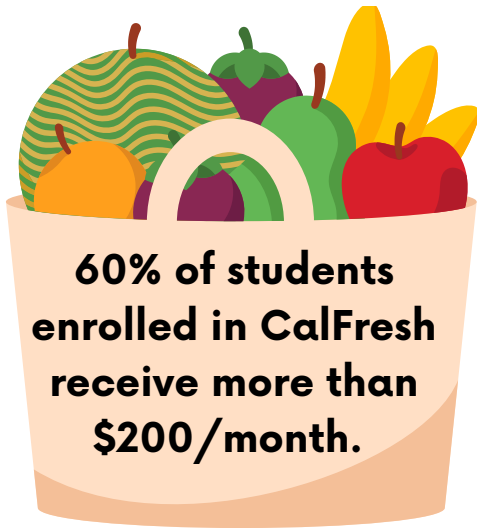
Continuing students are **more likely** to experience **very low food security** compared to entering students.

CalFresh Enrollment and Awareness



CalFresh Barriers

- **37%** didn't think they were eligible
- **31%** said the application was too difficult



60% of students enrolled in CalFresh receive more than **\$200/month**.

66% of students receiving CalFresh said it **covers at least 75%** of their monthly grocery needs.

	Knowledge (%)	Use (%)
Triton Food Pantry	80	13
Food Recovery Network	13	2
iTable	2	0.8
Yes Food	2	0.2

Knowledge and Use of Food Assistance Resources

Most students are aware of the Triton Food Pantry, but fewer are aware of other resources. Extremely low use of all campus food assistance resources.

Respondent Characteristics

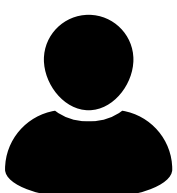
43% Response rate overall across Public Health (86%), Cognitive Science (30%), Urban Studies & Planning (48%), and Engineering (51%).



First Generation
39%



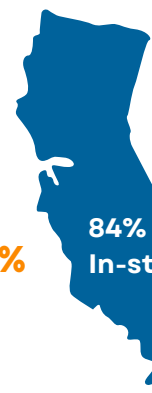
Continuing **57%**
Entering **43%**



Female **61%**
Male **35%**
Non-binary **2%**
Other **2%**



Low Income **33%**
Middle Income **58%**
High Income **10%**



International **9%**
Out-of-state **7%**
84% **In-state**

Take Action!

Students

If you're skipping or stretching meals, or having difficulties accessing food, visit the Basic Needs Center. They can connect you to food resources – including CalFresh.



CalFresh can provide **up to \$292 a month** for groceries. CalFresh application and recertification help is available to students!

Scan the QR Code to apply for CalFresh and visit basicneeds.ucsd.edu.







Follow their Instagram [@ucsdbasicneeds](https://www.instagram.com/ucsdbasicneeds) to discover other food and support resources.



CalFresh approval was 82% when students received help from The Hub, friends/family, or the county.

On-Campus Food Assistance Resources

Click resource logos to access more info

Resource	Serves	Services	Where	Tips
	UCSD students	Free food, including fresh produce. Weekly points system.	Student Center A & OMS Grad Housing	BYO-bag & arrive early
	UCSD students	Free food distributions weekly. Reduce food waste!	Student Center A & OMS Grad Housing	BYO-bag
	UCSD students with AB540 Status & Filed CA Dream Act Application	\$50-200 e-gift cards per month, application process	Undocumented Student Services	Meet with staff for support
	UCSD Students with F-1 or J-1 visa status	Short-term emergency food funds, application process	International Services & Engagement Office	Application opens at start of term, priority to first-time applicants

Faculty & Staff

Here are ways you can help your students:

- Add info to your course Canvas page
- Add info to your course syllabus
- Add info to your first-day-of-class slides

Download templates

[HERE](#)

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