

Ellucian Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Federal Funding for Higher Education

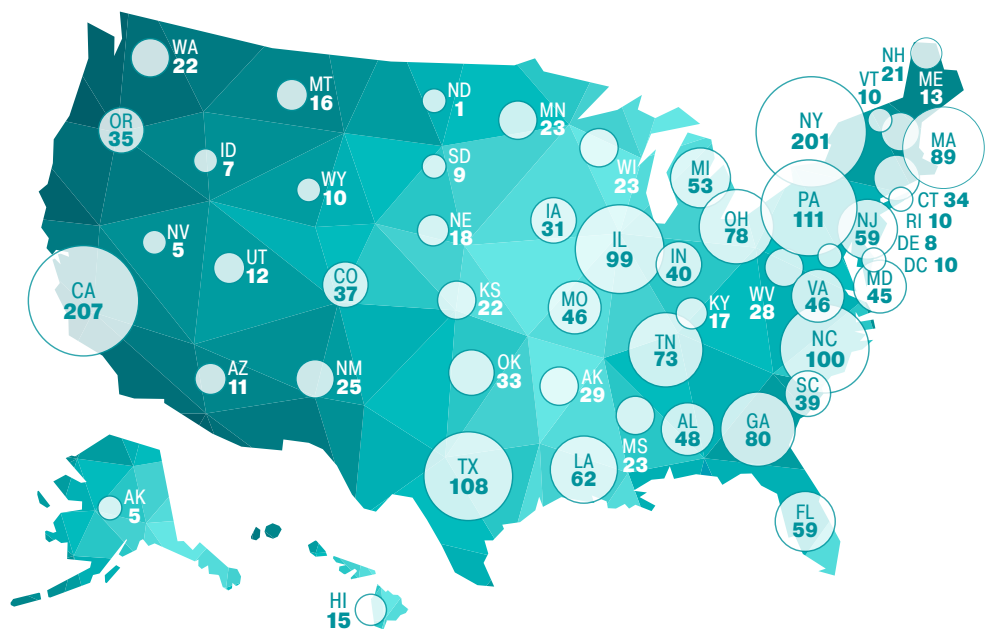
Ellucian stands firm in our commitment to the mission of higher education

Working with more than 2,200 U.S. college and universities across 50 states, Ellucian is the market leader charting the digital future of higher education with cloud-ready technology solutions and services.

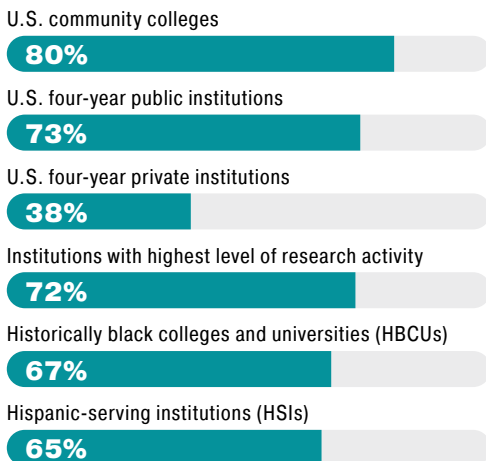
From student online learning platforms to mobile applications, from enterprise resource planning to workforce analytics, from financial aid management to financial forecasting, Ellucian's comprehensive and data-rich solutions provide institutions with the tools and information they need to lead with confidence in a changing environment.

As institutions, educators, students, and staff face great disruption during the coronavirus outbreak, Ellucian is committed to ensuring the delivery of vital services and ongoing education to students.

State-by-state view of Ellucian customer community



Ellucian serves 2,200 U.S. institutions



The COVID-19 pandemic will have an unprecedented negative impact on higher education and the U.S. economy unless there is further federal action

Signature of the CARES Act into law provided essential funding for the higher education sector. We applaud Republicans and Democrats in both chambers and the Administration for investing in our students, families, colleges and universities, and local communities. Higher education is crucial to the economic health of national, state, and local economies.

The next six months will be a critical test of the capacity of U.S. higher education institutions to act swiftly and effectively to avoid further loss of educational opportunities for students. The opportunity now is to deploy new federal funds to build a more resilient, accessible, and market-focused U.S. higher education and workforce development system.

Ellucian advocates for federal policy action around five pivotal focus areas, specifically:

Policy Recommendation	Key Actions
<p>1 Protect solvency of critical schools: Mitigate against unpredictable short-term revenue and boost financial resiliency of distressed institutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide temporary relief for vulnerable institutions under set criteria through a temporary “Distressed Institution Fund” (e.g., leveraging CARES Act returned funding) ● Motivate public, private and philanthropic sector partnerships to develop new revenue opportunities (e.g., building hospital capacity, FEMA collaborations) ● Coordinate and expand funding for individuals to pursue education and training programs through existing, related federal programs (Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT))
<p>2 Bolster student persistence: Provide holistic supports (academic, financial, emotional and health) to ensure student success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expand funding using existing CARES Act distribution formulas that prioritize schools that serve students from low-income backgrounds ● Support institution funding for additional academic on-line supports such as advising, tutoring and Guided Pathway strategies including the training and enablement of remote faculty and staff ● Support institution funding for other online transactional services such as registrar and financial aid, including the enablement of remote staff ● Encourage bridge programs and academic support to students who missed instruction this calendar year and provide remedial support for seniors
<p>3 Promote innovative, online academic and support programs answering local market needs: Lower barriers for learners to quickly attain market-relevant skills and credentials for employability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Give institutions and workers the information they need to match education to an evolving job market ● Provide targeted funding toward development and administration of rapid-response online learning programs ● Develop financial incentives for institution and private sector partnerships to share resources for online learning and other academic programming ● Ensure accreditation and quality assurance criteria balances speed-to-market with quality ● Expand the eligibility for federal financial aid to students pursuing certificate and/or industry-recognized certificate programs ● Develop national standards for fully portable, “stackable” credentials for certificates and other non-2 and 4-year degree programs, such as apprenticeship programs
<p>4 Build resilient and efficient operations: Support the improvement of school operations through accelerated cloud technology modernization and new operating models</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expand CARES Act opportunities, such as the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), in support of innovation and cloud technology ● Provide funding under a set of criteria to accelerate technology modernization and cloud adoption ● Encourage public colleges to share processes and systems to reduce costs related to implementation and on-going operations
<p>5 Use secure data to steer strategy: Create the information resources and privacy protections necessary to measure outcomes, inform institution strategic direction and support responsiveness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage establishment of strong data governance plans addressing availability, usability, integrity, quality, and security of data ● Promote system security and data protection standards ● Manage and control the access that third-party vendors have to student data, and ensure all use of data complies with FERPA, GDPR, and applicable state laws

If you are interested in reading the complete Ellucian position paper that features the insights of school leaders, entitled “Ellucian Response to Federal CARES Act Support for Higher Education,” please visit: www.ellucian.com/cares-act