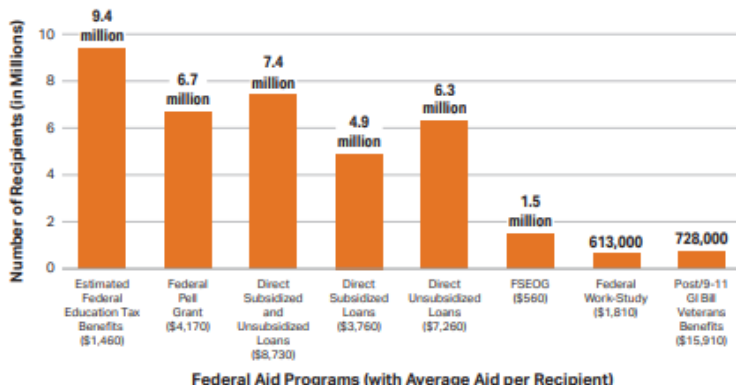




Federal Student Aid

Robust support for federal student aid is key to strengthening the nation’s skilled workforce, innovative capacity, and economic competitiveness. The federal government has long played a pivotal role in ensuring individuals from all backgrounds are able to pursue their postsecondary education goals. That commitment has helped previous generations afford college and attain their educational and career goals. Strengthening this commitment is now even more critical since nearly all new jobs created in our economy require some postsecondary education.

FIGURE SA-7 Number of Recipients by Federal Aid Program (with Average Aid Received), 2019-20



Source: College Board Trends in Student Aid 2020

Federal student aid is an essential element in the nation’s economic growth and prosperity, enabling low- and middle-income students to attend college and current workers to retrain for new careers. **For FY22, AAU urges Congress to double the maximum Pell Grant award to \$13,000** — an important step in reclaiming the original purchasing power of the Pell Grant.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates over 7 million students will use Pell Grants in the coming academic year to help finance their education.

AAU urges Congress to double the maximum Pell Grant award to \$13,000

AAU urges Congress to provide increases for other federal student aid programs that provide much-needed grants and work-study to low- and middle-income students, improving their chances of graduating.

For FY22, AAU recommends the following:

- **At least \$1.061 billion** for Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants;
- **At least \$1.480 billion** for Federal Work-Study;
- **At least \$1.316 billion** for Federal TRIO Programs; and
- **At least \$35 million** for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program.

Federal student aid is an essential element in the nation’s economic growth and prosperity, enabling low-and middle-income students to attend college and current workers to retrain for new careers.