

# College Access Challenge Grant

## The Federal Policy Climate Explained

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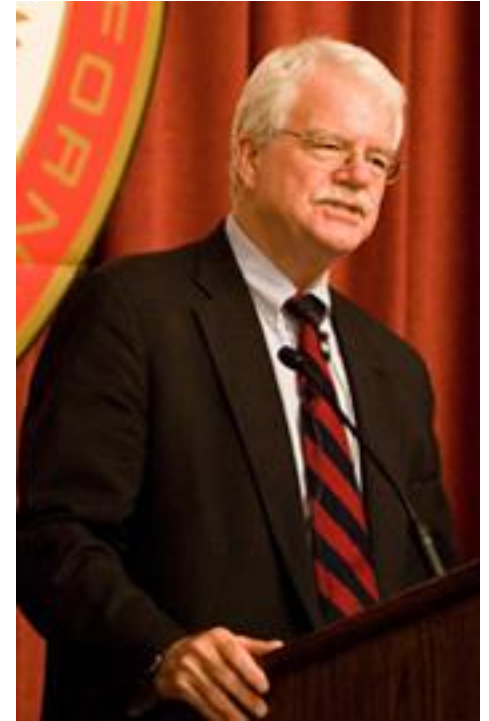
HCM Strategists

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# History of the College Access Challenge Grant (CACG)

- Authorized in the 2007 College Cost Reduction And Access Act
- 2 years of formula, mandatory funding of \$66 million for FY 2008 and FY 2009
- Created to incentivize foundations to provide additional aid for low-income students



Chairman George Miller

# Federal Budget Process

President's Budget



Congressional Budget Resolution



## Reconciliation

Authorizing Committees  
Change Current Law

## Appropriations

Appropriations Committees  
Fund Current Law

# The President's FY 2010 Budget

“The [CACG] program would be **replaced** by the much larger and better structured **College Access and Completion Fund**, for which the Administration is requesting **\$2.5 billion** over **5 years** to focus on the twin goals of college access and completion.”



Barack Obama

# The Access and **Completion** Fund

**\$2.5 billion** over **5 years** to build partnerships to improve **college success and completion**

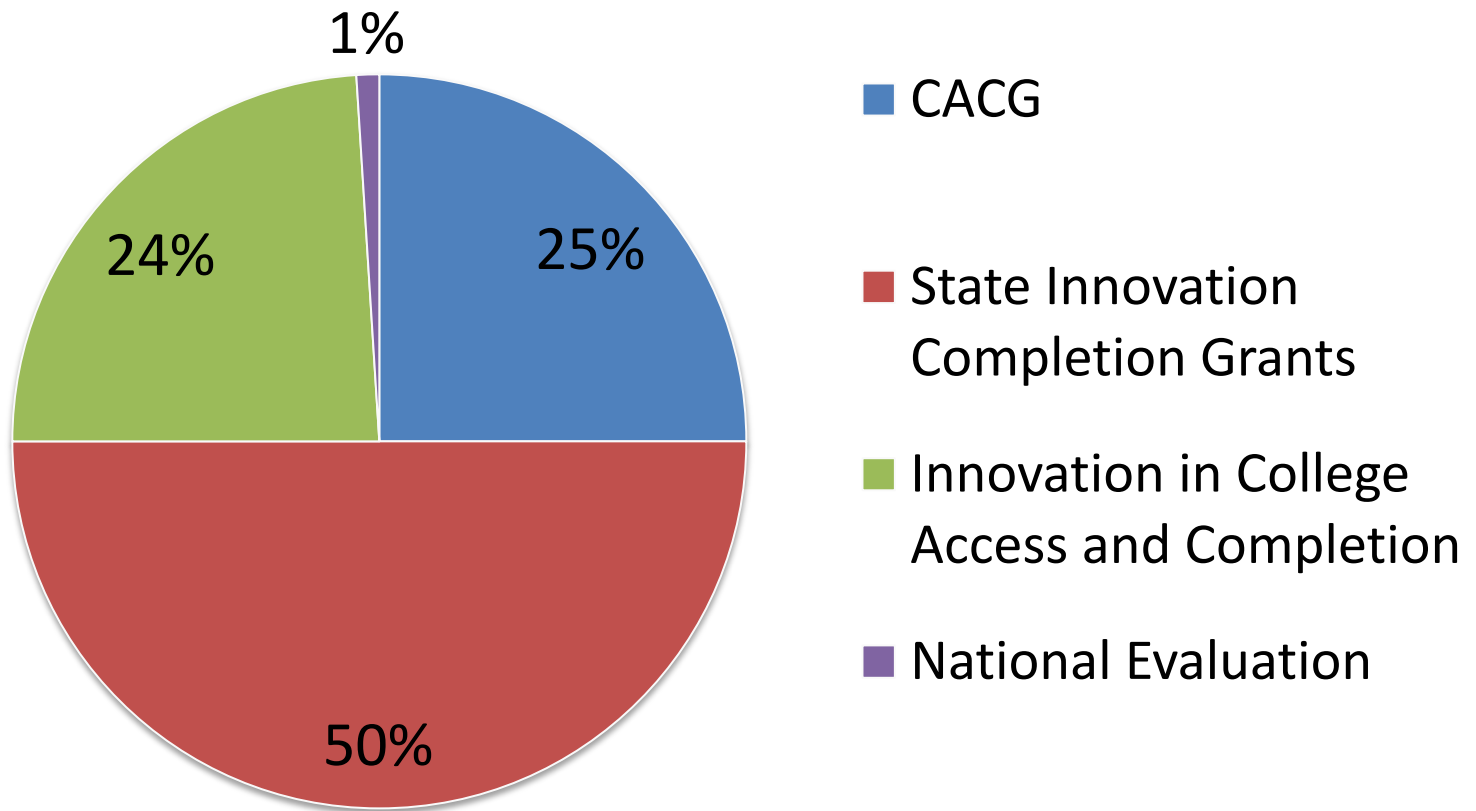
- This **mandatory** program would make flexible grants for **innovative programs** to produce **data** for evaluation.
- Could use funds to continue college outreach and information activities now supported through **FFEL program subsidies**.

# Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009

Creates a **College Access and Completion Innovation Fund** by amending the College Access Challenge Grant

- Intended to bolster college access and completion support programs for students.
- Invests **\$600 million a year** of mandatory money
- Authorized for **4 years** and split between **4 programs**

# College Access and Completion Innovation Fund

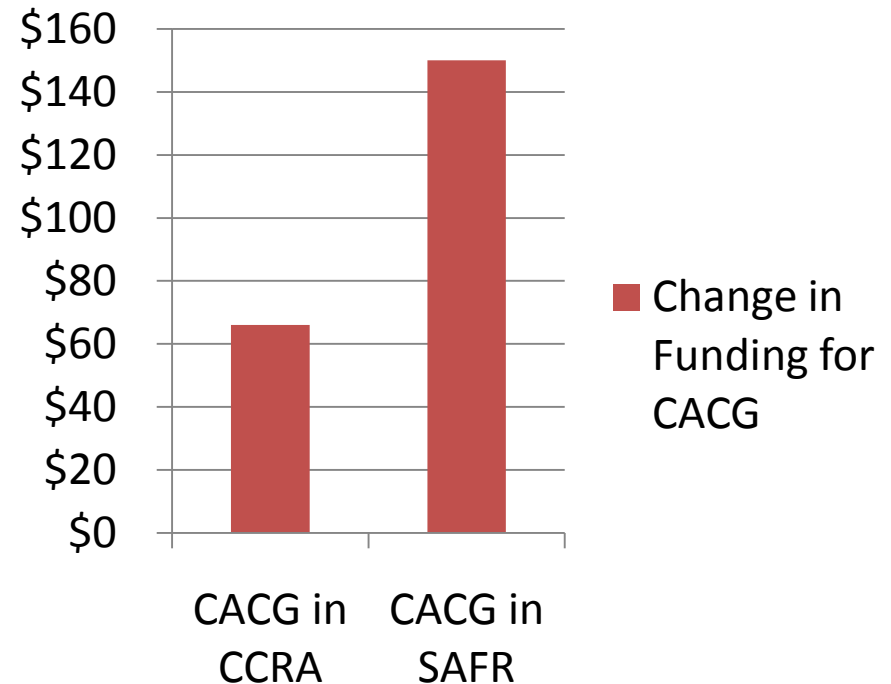


# College Access and Completion Innovation Fund

## College Access Challenge Grant

- The current structure would remain the same
- It would **increase funding** for CACG from \$66 million to **\$150 million** annually
- Adds 3 new programs

Change in Funding for CACG



# College Access and Completion Innovation Fund

## State Innovation Completion Grants

- Funded at \$300 million annually
- Promote college enrollment, persistence, and completion
- Will be competitive
- Require a 1/3 match in state/or private money
- Priority to states in partnerships with guarantee agencies or philanthropic organizations

# Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009 New Programs

## Innovation in College Access and Completion National Activities

- Funded at \$144 million annually
- To advance knowledge about what increases the number of postsecondary degrees
- Will be competitive grants

## National Evaluation

- Funded at \$6 million annually
- Will be conducted by Institutes of Education Sciences

# Reconciliation

What will the  
Senate do?



# Other Resources: GAP

## Grants for Access and Persistence

- As part of LEAP, GAP requires less matching funds for states who provide the services below

## College Access Challenge Grant

- Professional development for councilors
- Student loan reduction
- Promote financial literacy

- Need based Grant Aid
- Outreach and Mentoring
- Assistance with Financial Aid Applications

# Other Resources: Talent Search

## Talent Search

- Tutoring and mentoring
- Career exploration or aptitude assessment
- Info. on student financial aid
- Help preparing for college entrance exams

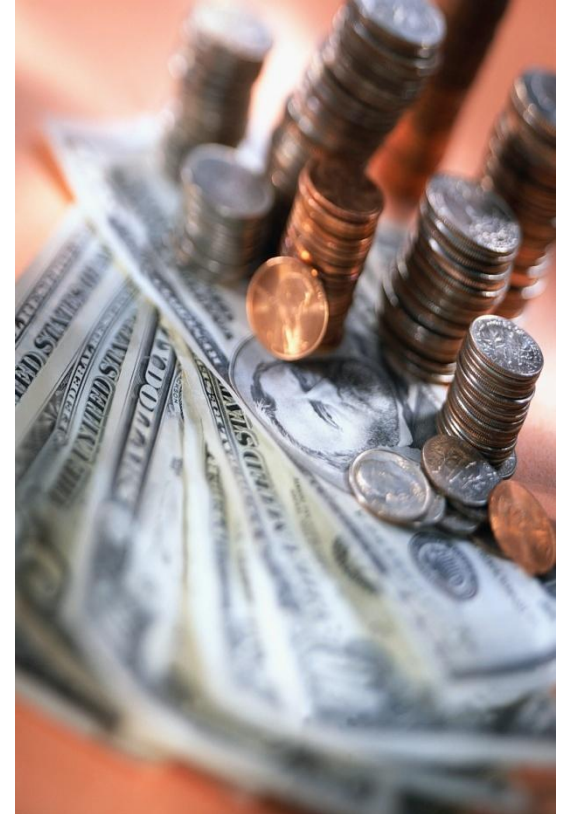
## CACG

- Need-based grant aid
- Promote financial literacy
- Professional development for councilors
- Student loan reduction

- Help completing the FAFSA
- Outreach on college and career preparation
  - Counseling and Outreach

# Access to Additional Resources

- Who are you competing with?
- How does your work stack up in the current political and policy environment?
  - Is it focused on completion?
  - Is it innovative?
  - Does it have an evaluation component that collects good data?
  - Is it transferable to other states?



# Current CACG Programs Look Like This

- Professional development (>50%)
- FAFSA/financial aid assistance (>50%)
- Information—career, academic (>30%)
- Hotline/Web portal (>30%)
- Student scholarships/grants/ loan cancellations/ repayments (>30%)
- Mass media campaigns (>20%)

# Successful Projects Identified by ED

- **KS** - Increased counselors' awareness of college opportunities for disadvantaged students in the state through training workshops.
- **NE** - Increased the number of high school students taking college courses by 351, almost doubling the number of recipients.
- **PA** - Delivered coordinated, intensive services to 16,629 students in seven low-income high schools.

# Conclusion

## To access additional resources

- Senate Reconciliation bill
- Focus on innovative ideas
- Evaluating those ideas
- Add pieces on completion
- How to scale up successful projects
- Investigate other Federal resources

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