

FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID: A Critical Resource for Asian American Students

70%

**of Asian American
full-time undergraduate
students rely on grants
to pay for college**

**Asian American students are among the
biggest beneficiaries of federal financial aid.**

Contrary to the model minority myth, Asian American students are heavily reliant on—and benefit from—public funding of higher education.² Robust financial aid programs allow millions of Asian American students to afford their undergraduate degrees.

**Asian American students
have the HIGHEST averages
in the following categories among
all ethnic and racial groups:¹**

These numbers reflect the critical importance of **federal aid that allows millions of Asian American students to afford their undergraduate degrees.** Research shows that financial aid increases college enrollment and degree completion, leading to higher earnings.²

Cuts to federal aid programs, including the Pell Grant, would have a deeply negative impact on Asian American students' access to higher education and ability to complete their degrees.



Pell Grant

\$5,016

Federal Grants

(excluding Veteran and DOD grants)

\$5,323

(including Veteran and DOD grants)

\$25,879

All Grants

(including Federal, private, and institutional grants)

\$16,287

College Loan Debt

(including Federal, private, personal, and institutional loans)

\$11,600

1. Data include only full-time undergraduate students. Average grant amounts exclude zeros.
2. DeBaun, B. 2019. "Critical New Research Shows Positive Pell Impacts." National College Attainment Network.

Data Sources:
2020 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, National Center for Education Statistics.
Kim, JH, et al. 2024. "Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education: 2024 Status Report," American Council on Education.

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