

A Proposal to Analyze the Effects of Variations in Performance-Based Funding Policies on Student Access, Success, and Labor Market Outcomes

Approximately 35 states use performance-based funding (PBF) policies to allocate state appropriations to public colleges and universities. We are currently developing the first comprehensive longitudinal dataset of PBF systems that includes the percentage of state funding and types of outcomes tied to institutional performance. We are seeking support in two main areas. First, we will analyze the extent to which the dosage of PBF policies and the types of outcomes funded affect students' access, success, and labor market outcomes, with an additional focus on equity in the allocation of institutional funds. This phase of our proposed project will focus specifically on whether PBF policies can be used to reduce long-standing student achievement and outcome gaps by race/ethnicity and family income. Second, we seek support to be able to disseminate and update our findings (and dataset) through a website that allows for data visualization and communication intended for a general audience.