Dear NJASCU Colleagues/Friends:

Welcome to this week's edition of NJASCU’s "Noteworthy" compilation of a feature story, advocacy report, and news item(s), reflecting the interests and happenings among New Jersey's senior public colleges and universities. Some of our news articles are reprinted in full; most are summaries with the full article accessible by clicking on the headline.

We would love your feedback and suggestions. Please keep sending press releases, many of which will be included in our "Noteworthy" compilation.

Thank you,

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NJASCU Special News

Thomas Edison to Offer 3+1 Bachelor's Degrees to New Jersey Community College Students
NJASCU QuickTakes

Thomas Edison State University (TESU) has just established the NJ 3+1 Pathways program that allows New Jersey community college students to transfer up to 90 community college credits and then complete the remaining 30 credits required for graduation at TESU.

TESU has created three degree pathways leading to baccalaureate degrees for recent, current and future graduates of New Jersey community colleges. The move aligns with goals of the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education to create more 3+1 programs as well as more college-educated New Jersey residents.

"We are excited to partner with New Jersey’s community colleges in building affordable
and timely degree completion options for students throughout New Jersey," said Dr.
Merodie A. Hancock, Thomas Edison president.

Through this innovative program, students can remain at their community college for an
additional 30 credits beyond the associate degree and pay for those credits at the
community college rate. Thus, this new program promotes associate and baccalaureate
degree completion while driving the New Jersey State Office of Higher Education goal of
65 percent degree attainment by 2025, with the added benefit of keeping students in New
Jersey. We see this as a three-way win for our students, our institutions and the state.

"We estimate that the average New Jersey community college student can now earn a
baccalaureate degree for less than $24,000 through this program," explained Dr. Hancock.

The 90-credit transfer allowance through this 3+1 program represents a 10-credit
increase over TESU’s traditional policy of accepting up to 80 community college credits
from regionally accredited institutions.

Students will be able to choose among three TESU degree programs: the Bachelor of Arts
with an area of study in Liberal Studies; the Bachelor of Science in Business
Administration with an area of study in General Management; and the Bachelor of Science
with an area of study in Technical Studies.

While TESU prides itself on recognizing college-level learning however and wherever it
occurs in all of our programs, these three specific programs were chosen for the TESU/NJ
3+1 Pathways Program because they offer the most flexibility in transfer and breadth of
academic focus.

"Mercer County Community College (MCCC) is very pleased to receive this welcoming
news. We have been a longstanding partner with TESU. We already have a Three-plus-
One arrangement with TESU in nursing. We are delighted about the three additional areas
of study now qualify for Three-plus-One for those students who wish to complete a BA
degree after graduating from Mercer," said MCCC President Jianping Wang.

"We are proud to partner with Thomas Edison on this new initiative creating a pathway
for more students to earn their undergraduate degrees," said Brookdale President Dr.
David Stout. "Our mission at Brookdale is to provide access to high-quality and affordable
educational pathways." said President Stout. "These three degree options at Thomas
Edison fit that model and enable students to gain the necessary credentials to start or
change careers without incurring significant debt."

To learn more, go to  http://www.tesu.edu/3plus1

Former Governors Florio and Whitman to Receive Awards at Hughes Center
Honors

Former New Jersey Governors Jim Florio and Christie Whitman will receive Distinguished
Lifetime Achievement Awards for their contributions to New Jersey public life at the
Hughes Center Honors on November 14, 2019. Three other New Jersey leaders will also
be recognized.

The Hughes Center Honors are awarded for professional excellence and a commitment to
public service, civility and bipartisanship, which reflect the life and career of Ambassador
William J. Hughes, who served as U.S. ambassador to Panama and as a U.S. congressman for 20 years. The awards program is sponsored by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University.

The ticketed event, which is open to the public, will start at 5:30 p.m. at Seaview, a Dolce Hotel, in Galloway Township.

"These two outstanding New Jersey leaders embody the values of public service and civility in public affairs," said Edward H. Salmon, chairman of the Hughes Center Steering Committee. "Those values are the hallmarks of Ambassador Hughes' career, and they guide the work of the Hughes Center for Public Policy."

Past Lifetime Achievement Award recipients include the late former New Jersey Gov. Brendan Byrne, former Gov. Thomas Kean, and Ambassador Hughes, who was presented his award in 2017 by former Vice President Joe Biden.

Other honorees at the Nov. 14 event are Mark Giannantonio, President and CEO of Resorts Casino Hotel; Sharon Schulman, Founding Executive Director of the Hughes Center; and Ike Ejikeme, a recent Stockton University graduate.

New Jersey City University and DaVinci Initiative Announce New Certificate Program

The New Jersey City University Division of Professional Education and Lifelong Learning (PELL) is proud to announce a new partnership with the DaVinci Initiative to offer a non-credit certificate in art.

In making the announcement, Dr. Michael Edmondson, Dean of Professional Education and Lifelong Learning stated, "This new partnership allows two Jersey City organizations to better serve the local artists, art teachers, and anyone in the community interested in learning about the atelier approach to art."

The DaVinci Initiative is a 501(c)(3) non-profit education foundation that supports skill-based learning in K-12 art classrooms. The DaVinci Initiative believes that the most creative artists are those with the most tools at their disposal for making artwork and provides atelier training and resources to students in order to help them incorporate skill-based methods into their practices. The DaVinci Initiative works with teachers nationally and internationally through online classes, art education conferences, keynote speaker services, weekend retreats, district-wide workshops, and more.

The DaVinci Initiative Atelier offers training in an "apprenticeship" system with a subscription enrollment policy. Students pay a monthly fee of $720 and are welcome to attend the studio hours of their choosing, with critiques available from an atelier-trained artist on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The studio is open Mondays through Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. One weekend workshop (runs 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and again from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.) each month is included for all enrolled participants.

On the new partnership with NJCU, Mandy Theis, president and co-founder of the DaVinci Initiative, noted, "Our collaboration with NJCU is the first of its kind, and we are very excited to further our ability to connect with local artists, art teachers, and members of the community."
Thomas Edison State University Receives $100K Signature Grant from The Provident Bank Foundation
NJASCU QuickTakes

The Provident Bank Foundation (PBF) has announced Thomas Edison State University (TESU) in Trenton, NJ, as the recipient of the Foundation’s $100,000 Signature Grant for 2019 in the Education funding priority area.

TESU was selected to receive this Signature Grant for its distance-learning curriculum built on community engaged service learning and best practices. A first of its kind, the program promotes experiential learning as TESU’s non-traditional, and distance-learning adult students support New Jersey non-profit organizations in the form of 12-week Capstone Projects.

"It is very important to assist educational initiatives that empower adults to attain their career goals and build a strong and competitive local workforce," said Jane Kurek, Executive Director, The Provident Bank Foundation. "TESU has structured a program to prepare students to lead and create positive change in community-based organizations and develop effective public service partnerships with non-profits."

Beginning this fall, 100 participating TESU students will engage and work with 15 New Jersey non-profit organizations including The Arc/Morris Chapter, Hope Loves Company, LeaderKid Academy, The Midland School, and VolunteerConnect.

"TESU strives to support our adult learners while meeting the critical needs of many non-profit organizations," said Dr. Merodie A. Hancock, president, Thomas Edison State University. "We look forward to helping students apply what they have learned in meaningful, real-time ways. This Signature Grant allows for our students to do this while experiencing the power of active citizenship. This grant plants the seed for community impact that keeps growing."

The Foundation will present the check during a presentation on Tuesday, August 27, at 11 a.m. at TESU. Attending from The Provident Bank Foundation are Dr. Carlos Hernandez, Chair of Foundation Board & President Emeritus of New Jersey City University and Executive Director Jane Kurek. Accepting the grant on behalf of Thomas Edison State University are Dr. Merodie A. Hancock, President, and John Thurber, Vice President for Public Affairs, Thomas Edison State University.

Stockton Study Shows Naloxone, Quick Response, Saved Lives of Opioid Overdose Victims
NJASCU QuickTakes

A large majority of opioid overdose victims in Atlantic County who received naloxone from an emergency responder survived the overdose, according to a study by Stockton University.

The study also showed that a majority of overdose victims during the study timeframe were male (71%) and white (73%).
In early 2018, Stockton collaborated with the Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office to analyze information on 311 overdose victims to garner a better understanding of the county’s opioid overdose statistics.

The data was extracted from information collected during 2015-2017 using the N.J. Attorney General’s Heroin & Opiates Task Force Naloxone Administration Reporting Form for Atlantic County.

Of the 311 victims, 266 were administered naloxone. The data showed that 265 of the victims survived, while 17 did not, a 94% survival rate. Missing data was noted on 29 reports. In most cases, the victims who received naloxone were revived in five minutes or less.

"The data showed that quick response to opioid overdoses and prompt administration of the drug naloxone can save lives," the authors said in the report.

The data also showed:

- More than half (52%) of victims were under 35 years old, though overdoses were spread across all age groups.
- While the victims’ residential addresses were widespread, the majority of overdose incidents were reported from Atlantic City (169 or 54%) followed by Somers Point (9%), Pleasantville (8%), Galloway (6%), Ventnor (6%), and Hammonton (5%).
- About 40% of the overdoses happened between October and December.

The study also suggested a need for statewide resources to conduct more rigorous research in this area as "it will be critical to examine this problem with the intersection of race, age, and gender so appropriate policies can be drawn that suit specific population groups."

The report was produced in collaboration with Captain Bruce DeShields, an investigator in the Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office, and authored by Executive Director of the Stockton Center for Community Engagement Merydawilda Colon, Professor of Public Health Tara Crowell, Distinguished Professor of Physical Therapy Mary Lou Galantino, Associate Provost Carra Lea Hood, and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Manish Madan.

Ms. Galantino said the study is just one of Stockton’s initiatives to compile data and research strategies that address opioid abuse, addiction and recovery in South Jersey. Faculty are also completing a study on integrating yoga for women in recovery.

A recent report by the Center for Disease Control suggested that an increase in naloxone prescriptions could be one reason overdose deaths have stopped rising for the first time in nearly three decades.
Faced with continued declining enrollment, Kutztown University is eyeing New Jersey as a fertile ground for recruiting students. Kutztown has assigned a second recruiter to comb the Garden State for prospective students. "New Jersey is the largest exporter of college students in the nation," said Dr. Warren Hilton, vice president for enrollment management.

What the Free College Movement Can Learn from Kalamazoo


The 700 students who graduated from Kalamazoo Public Schools in 2019 are unique. They are the first graduating class in this high-poverty city, located halfway between Chicago and Detroit, to have spent their entire K through 12 years knowing that their college tuition and fees will be largely or entirely free.

For this, they can thank the Kalamazoo Promise, the first of the wave of place-based scholarship, or "promise" programs. Launched in November 2005 by a group of anonymous philanthropists, the Kalamazoo Promise has provided scholarships to almost all of the city’s public school graduates since 2006. For students who attend Kalamazoo Public Schools starting in kindergarten, any in-state public college or university, along with a select group of private colleges, is tuition-free. For those who attend for just high school, 65 percent of tuition is covered.

In the 14 years since it was announced, the Kalamazoo Promise has reached more than 6,000 students. The Kalamazoo school district has grown by 25 percent, academic achievement is up, and the high-school graduation rate is rising. Almost 90 percent of the district’s graduates head to college or another form of postsecondary training - an exceptionally high rate for a low-income urban school district. Of the district’s graduates, 50 percent complete a postsecondary degree or credential within ten years of graduating, up from 40 percent before the program.

Most high school graduates are not so lucky. After marching across commencement stages, many end their education. Those who go on must pay for increasingly expensive college degrees. College costs have been rising for decades, and the growing burden on students and families has moved center stage as student loan debt has reached crisis-level proportions. As a result, "free college" has become an increasingly popular idea, making an appearance in the platform of almost every Democratic presidential candidate, including Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren.

Free college is a powerful concept, and it can boost college enrollment and completion. But the experiences of Kalamazoo and other cities with promise programs offer valuable lessons on how free college should work. Few promise programs are as simple and generous as the Kalamazoo Promise. Many provide students with less money and fewer choices, and make what they do offer contingent on student performance. As a result, they do not reach as many students and families.

Policymakers should instead make promise scholarships generous. They should make them available to all students, not just those with the highest grades. And as scholarship programs in places as diverse as Kalamazoo, El Dorado, Arkansas, and the state of Tennessee show, promise programs are especially effective when they provide recipients with community support, not just money. Since Kalamazoo set course, nearly 150 local communities and almost two-dozen states have created their own free-college programs. But the impact in many places has been less dramatic than in Kalamazoo. That’s because
New college rankings from Forbes Magazine name 650 schools, including 13 in New Jersey, that it says are the best in the country for 2019.

Names like Harvard, Stanford and Yale predictably topped Forbes' list. The magazine says that whether a school ranks among the top 10 or is closer to the bottom, the institutions "count as the best in the country." Forbes' annual rankings looks at colleges that "deliver the top academics, career success and lowest debt."

Here's how New Jersey colleges were ranked on Forbes' list:

Princeton University #5
Rutgers University #123
College of New Jersey #149
Stevens Institute of Technology #152
Seton Hall University #249
New Jersey City University #268
Ramp College of New Jersey #341
Drew University #356
Rowan University #361
Montclair State University #422
Stockton University #443
Rider University #478
Fairleigh Dickinson University #546

The top 10 colleges on the Forbes' list are:

1. Harvard University
2. Stanford University
3. Yale University
4. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
5. Princeton University
6. University of Pennsylvania
7. Brown University
8. California Institute of Technology
9. Duke University
10. Dartmouth college

The methodology behind the rankings looks at five categories: alumni salary, student satisfaction, debt, on-time graduation rate and academic success. (Read more about Forbes' methodology.)
A New Jersey college’s threat to sue an accrediting group that criticized one of its master’s degree programs amounts to an ill-conceived waste of time and money, its faculty union says.

A week after Kean University said it’s "standing up for what is right," union leaders lashed out at the university for its reaction to losing an accreditation for its master’s of public affairs program.

"Instead of wasting money on legal challenges, Kean University management should address glaring deficiencies," said James Castiglione, president of the Kean Federation of Teachers.

Castiglione called on Kean to hire more full-time faculty and staff to teach and counsel public administration students. He and other union leaders rejected Kean’s attack of the accrediting organization, the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA).

"New Jersey should be able to rely on Kean University to cultivate another generation of well-educated public servants in the public administration program," said Donna Chiera, president of the New Jersey chapter of the American Federation of Teachers. "Instead, we are being shortchanged."

Kean doesn't take potential litigation lightly, but it thinks the accreditation process was highly flawed, university spokeswoman Karen Smith said.

"Letting this process go unchallenged only fosters the kind of unprofessional accreditation reviews that the (union) fears," Smith said.

The latest rift at Kean, where union and administration officials have long lived in acrimony, further escalates tensions over what’s typically a mundane higher education process.

**Governor Murphy Launches Year Two of Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) Program**

Governor Phil Murphy on August 15, 2019 visited Middlesex County College, alongside Speaker Craig Coughlin, Executive Director David Socolow of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), and Deputy Secretary Diana Gonzalez of the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE), to encourage students to complete their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application for New Jersey DREAMers by September 15, 2019 in order to be eligible for a Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG).

To receive free tuition through CCOG starting in the fall 2019 semester, all students planning to attend a New Jersey county college must meet the September 15, 2019 deadline to complete either FAFSA or the Alternative Application for New Jersey DREAMers and respond to all financial aid questions from HESAA or the college they are attending. Students with adjusted gross incomes between $0 and $65,000 may qualify to attend any of New Jersey’s 18 county colleges tuition-free during the upcoming academic year. Qualifying county college students who enroll in at least six credits per semester...
During the fall of 2019 and/or the spring of 2020 will be eligible for Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) awards funded by the Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Act signed by Governor Murphy.

For eligible students, "last-dollar" CCOG scholarships will fill in remaining gaps to cover tuition and approved educational fees after accounting for all other grant and scholarship aid for which the students are eligible. Students who have already completed a financial aid application for academic year 2019-2020 will be considered automatically for CCOG eligibility.

NJBIA Wins ASAE 'Power of A' Award for Postsecondary Education Initiative
www.InsiderNJ.com

The work of NJBIA's Postsecondary Education Task Force, which made 13 focused recommendations aimed at building a brand for New Jersey higher education institutions and better preparing the state's workforce, recently earned a 2019 ASAE "Power of A" Silver Award ... The release of the report, which was originally authored and updated in 2019 by NJBIA Director of Economic Policy Research Nicole Sandelier has led or contributed to:

- A higher education branding campaign being led by the New Jersey Presidents' Council, which represents the state's public and private universities and community colleges;
- Voter approval of a bond issue providing $350 million to expand career and technical education shops at county vocational schools and $50 million for CTE projects at county colleges;
- Enactment of the 3-Plus-1 College Affordability Law (P.L.2018, c.144), which allows students to complete three years of studies at a county college (paying less expensive county college tuition rates), followed by one year at a partnering four-year college to obtain a bachelor's degree from that institution;
- Senate passage of legislation to make apprenticeships more accessible to New Jersey residents in high-growth industries.

"We applaud NJBIA for creating and implementing such a collaborative initiative that strengthens society," said Sharon J. Swan, chief executive officer of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics and chair of ASAE’s "Power of A" judging committee.

"Their initiative exemplifies how no other sector helps improve lives as comprehensively as the association community," Swan said.

State Colleges/Universities in the News

Kean Computer Science Program Awarded 168 Million Federal Grant
www.Kean.edu

The National Science Foundation has awarded Kean University nearly $1.7 million in research funding to develop a model for computer science and information technology education designed to increase the number of students studying computer science and IT.

Building on the success of Kean's computer science program, the grant will fund a five-
year research project that will launch in October, called Building Capacity: Pathway to Success for Students and Faculty in Computing.

"We're delighted," said Patricia Morreale, PhD, professor and executive director of Kean's School of Computer Science, who said the grant will permit the University to "continue to scale up the number of students in our programs while expanding and learning from our successful approach."

When completed, the research is expected to improve computer science teaching, encourage innovative faculty development methods, and identify early intervention techniques for improving student academic success, leading to a larger, more diverse community of graduates.

NJCU Convocation on September 16, 2019 will Feature NY Times Best-Selling Author Jeffrey Selingo
www.NJCU.edu

Convocation marks the traditional beginning of the academic year and offers a unique opportunity to rededicate ourselves to NJCU’s mission of teaching, research, and service. The ceremony serves as a proud reminder of the tremendous depth of knowledge of our faculty and their commitment to the NJCU community.

The 38th Annual Academic Convocation ceremony will take place on Monday, September 16, at 2 p.m. in the Margaret Williams Theatre, located on the second floor of Hepburn Hall. Faculty, staff, and students are invited and encouraged to attend the ceremony.

The keynote address will be delivered by Jeffrey J. Selingo, a New York Times bestselling author on higher education.

Mr. Selingo has written about higher education for two decades. He is the author of three books, the newest of which, There is Life After College (HarperCollins, 2016), is a New York Times bestseller.

Named one of LinkedIn's "must-know influencers" of 2016, Jeff is a regular contributor to the Washington Post and a special advisor at Arizona State University, where he is the founding director of the ASU-Georgetown University Academy for Innovative Higher Education Leadership. He is also a visiting scholar at Georgia Tech’s Center for 21st Century Universities.

William Paterson Students Aspire to their Future Careers Through an Innovative Career Readiness Program Called "Aspire"
www.WPUNJ.edu

William Paterson University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences on August 14 and 15, held its second annual career readiness program, "Aspire," tailored to students with majors in the College.

"The idea for the Aspire program developed out of a desire to provide our College’s students with real-life preparation for the workforce," says Wartyna Davis, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. "Our students will have an opportunity to engage with employers and alumni on how to use their majors to cultivate success. Students will be given opportunities to talk about the skills acquired as humanities and
Noteworthy: National Issues

Survey: Canceling Student Debt Would Hurt Economy
www.InsideHigherEd.com

A survey of 226 economists who are members of the National Association for Business Economics this week drew attention for results showing that most respondents predict a recession will hit the U.S. economy before the end of 2021.

The association also surveyed members about proposals by candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination to forgive student debt for all or most borrowers. Roughly two-thirds of respondents (64 percent) said this would be a net negative for the economy. About one-fifth said they believe forgiving most or all student debt would be positive for the economy.

Persistent Partisan Breakdown on Higher Ed
www.InsideHigherEd.com

President Trump has questioned the value of community colleges and suggested universities "restrict free thought."

Survey results in 2017 suggested typical conservatives have begun to share his dim view of higher ed. In a Pew survey, only 36 percent of Republican and GOP-leading respondents said higher education had a positive effect on the direction of the country - a steep drop-off from responses only two years before.

Results from another recent Pew survey indicate that those views have persisted. In July, only 33 percent of Republican survey respondents said higher ed had a positive effect. And 59 percent believed higher ed had a negative effect on the country’s direction, the highest number in the survey's findings so far.

Rather than a temporary blip, the Pew findings suggest a continuing challenge for college leaders hoping to maintain or repair a bipartisan consensus in support of postsecondary education.

That Pew survey found 67 percent of Democrats and Democratic-leaning respondents had positive views of higher ed, a slight drop-off from two years prior. Overall, 50 percent of U.S. adults said they had positive views of postsecondary education.

"It is certainly something we're aware of, and we do find it troubling," said Dan Madzelan, associate vice president for government relations at the American Council on Education. "Higher education historically has not been caught up in any kind of partisan divide."

The factors behind the lower approval rates (higher ed had positives of 63 percent for all Americans in 2015) likely go beyond partisan attacks or controversies driven by cable news. Americans of all political persuasions have cited the rising cost of college in previous survey responses. And the elite college admissions scandal that unfolded earlier this year damaged the higher ed brand even though it involved only a handful of highly
selective institutions.

The overall picture of the public's view of higher ed is probably more complicated as well. Surveys released by D.C.-based think tanks in 2018 and this year found broad support for the value proposition of higher ed even among conservatives.

And Pew findings suggest colleges aren't unique in their lower standing with the general public.

**Views of U.S. Institutions Are Down Across the Board**

The latest numbers on the partisan divide over higher ed came from a July survey of opinions on major U.S. institutions. No more than 50 percent of respondents had positive views of the impact made by entities like large financial institutions, tech firms, churches, labor unions, large corporations and the national news media.

**The 'Public Charge' Rule and Higher Ed**

The Trump administration published a final rule on August 12, 2019 making it harder for immigrants who have received certain public benefits such as food stamps, most forms of Medicaid and housing assistance to obtain permanent resident status. The rules outline criteria the Department of Homeland Security will use in denying applications for admission to the United States or adjustments of immigration status for individuals who are already living here and are deemed "likely to become a public charge" in the future.

Opponents of the rule say it constitutes an attempt to circumvent Congress to reduce legal immigration levels by providing expansive new grounds on which DHS and consular officials at the Department of State can deny applications for immigration petitions and visas, respectively. Higher ed experts and college administrators say the rule could have a chilling effect on immigrant students accessing benefits for which they're eligible and could deter foreign students from coming to study here.

The Trump administration argues that the new rule will enforce a law that's long been on the books, specifically, a provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act deeming immigrants inadmissible if they are likely to become a "public charge."

In the past, officials have defined "public charge" narrowly to apply to individuals who are "primarily dependent on the government for subsistence, as demonstrated by either the receipt of public cash assistance for income maintenance or institutionalization for long-term care at government expense."

The new rule expands the types of government benefits that are taken into consideration to include certain noncash benefits. It also identifies a series of factors - including age, health, household size, income, assets, debts and education and skill levels - officials will use in making forward-looking judgments about whether would-be immigrants are likely to need public assistance in the future.

"Through the public charge rule, President Trump's administration is reinforcing the ideals of self-sufficiency and personal responsibility, ensuring that immigrants are able to support themselves and become successful here in America," Kenneth T. Cuccinelli II, the acting director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, said at a news conference Monday. "Our rule generally prevents aliens who are likely to be a public charge from..."
coming to the United States or remaining here and getting a green card." (By "green card" he was referring to the official identification card that denotes an immigrant as a legal permanent resident. Older versions of the card used to be green in color.)

The effects of the rule - which is scheduled to go into effect October 15 - will stretch far beyond higher education, but advocates for immigrant students say they will be among those affected.

"By the targeting of the public benefits, especially SNAP [the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program] and housing assistance, it’s going directly at benefits that help support student success," said Miriam Feldblum, the executive director of the Presidents’ Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration.

The rule does not include Pell Grants and other forms of educational assistance among the types of benefits that immigrants will be penalized for receiving. But higher education groups previously expressed concern that confusion over the question of what benefits would and would not count against them would discourage some immigrant students from applying for Pell or other federal financial aid.

Higher education groups have also expressed concerns about the implications for international students and scholars on nonimmigrant visas. International students already have to demonstrate that they have funds to pay for tuition and living costs as part of their visa applications.

"At the time of the application for a nonimmigrant visa, the alien must demonstrate to [the Department of State] that he or she is not likely at any time in the future to become a public charge," DHS said in its answer to a public comment on the topic of international students. "Similarly, at the time a nonimmigrant applies for admission, he or she must demonstrate to [Customs and Border Protection] that he or she is not likely at any time in the future to become a public charge."

The agency’s response further says that nonimmigrant applicants will not need to demonstrate that they are not likely to become a public charge "when seeking an extension of stay or change of status as a nonimmigrant student or nonimmigrant exchange visitor ... However, the alien will need to demonstrate that he or she has sufficient funds to pay tuition and related costs as part of the application for extension of stay or change of status to a nonimmigrant. Further, the alien must demonstrate that he or she has not received, since obtaining the nonimmigrant status he or she seeks to extend or change and through the time of filing and adjudication, one or more public benefits as defined in the rule, for more than 2 months in the aggregate within any 36-month period."

"It’s setting up a whole new set of hurdles," said Doug Rand, who worked on immigration policy as the assistant director of entrepreneurship in the Obama White House and is now the co-founder of Boundless Immigration, a company that helps immigrants apply for green cards or U.S. citizenship. "Will students be disproportionately affected relative to other groups? Maybe not: it’s probably going to be easier for young students to clear these hurdles than elderly non-English-speaking parents of U.S. citizens, for example, but I wouldn’t get smug about that if I were higher ed. The clear content of this policy is to make it harder for people to come here, and this administration backs that up with policies and rhetoric that have already depressed international student enrollment."

"Imagine what’s going to happen if this rule goes into effect and we are truly setting the welcome mat on fire to legal immigrants, and saying we’re unleashing the State Department to deny you a student visa based on some arbitrary prediction of whether
you'll ever need public benefits," Rand said. (Although the new rule was promulgated by DHS and does not directly change State Department policies, a footnote states that "DHS is working with DOS to ensure that the Foreign Affairs Manual" - a compendium of State Department policies and procedures - "appropriately reflects the standards in this rule.")

Janet Napolitano, president of the University of California System and a former DHS secretary under President Obama, also said that the rule change would have a negative impact on the perceptions of potential foreign students considering studying here.

"Today's decision by the Trump administration to expand the definition of 'public charge' sends a detrimental message internationally - that the United States does not want other countries to send their best and brightest here to study and add to the intellectual exchange at our universities, to conduct important research and to contribute substantially to our economy, among other things," she said in a statement.

"This rule also means that a number of UC students and other California residents, out of an abundance of caution, may be reluctant to seek available assistance such as preventative health care, housing opportunities and nutrition education and benefits," Napolitano continued.

"The bottom line: the decision today penalizes and chills much-needed access to vital benefits for which lawful immigrants or mixed-status families are eligible, and not only leads to harmful, unintended consequences but also raises questions about the true intent behind the federal government's unnecessary and misguided action."

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https://www.facebook.com/NJASCUorg

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