MA Campus Resources for Basic Needs Security Response

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What did this survey snapshot reveal?

- 58%: We have a variety of services offered through different campus centers or departments.
- 26%: We have a one-stop center addressing multiple student needs in one location.
- 16%: Other
Comparison: Number of staff focused on basic need security (2-yr. and 4-yr. institutions)

2-year Public Institutions
- total FTE
- two (2) or more FTEs
- one (1) 1.0 FTE
- one (1) 0.5 FTE
- no FTE

4-year Public Institutions
- total FTE
- two (2) or more FTEs
- one (1) 1.0 FTE
- one (1) 0.5 FTE
- no FTE
On-campus childcare available to students (2-yr. and 4-yr. institutions)

Of the public institutions responding to this survey, 11% offer on-campus childcare for their students - none require a minimum credit enrollment for this service.
Comparison: Available aid to meet student basic need security (2-yr. and 4-yr. institutions)

- Institution's Financial Aid scholarships
- Institution's Foundation grants or scholarships
- Emergency Fund
Survey Takeaways

- Basic needs insecurity is experienced by students across all MA public institutions.

- Three-fourths of basic need security service delivery, based on survey respondents, is decentralized.

- COVID-19 impacts basic needs security and holds future implications. (e.g. childcare)
Seven Key Questions for Committee Consideration

1) Which issues (housing, hunger, childcare, transportation, technology access) should be primary areas of focus, which secondary?

2) How – or should - mental health care be factored into the basic needs security agenda?

3) Using an equity lens, and with the knowledge that African American, Latinx and LGBTQ students are more likely to experience basic needs insecurity, what guiding principles might we use to develop programs and policies with these populations foremost in mind?

4) Is our focus solely on emergency response? Or is there a role for higher education in prevention of economic insecurity?

5) What are the most useful tools in our arsenal (financial aid dollars, community resources, legislative mandates, other) to address these issues?

6) What if any statutory requirements would help us achieve basic needs security for Massachusetts students?

7) How do we measure and evaluate our progress in confronting these issues?