

Financial Aid and Access: What Counselors, Students, and Families Say About Paying for College

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The Study

- Focuses on the challenges low-income students and families face in acquiring college and financial aid information.
- Seeks to determine what financial aid-related services are available to low-income students and families.

Methodology

- Mixed-method
 - Interviews with 9 college counselors
 - Interviews with 270 high school seniors
 - 5,200 high school juniors and seniors surveyed
 - Focus groups with multiple constituencies
 - College counselors
 - Financial aid experts
 - College preparation practitioners

Next Steps

- Spring 2005
 - Re-interview 270 high school seniors
 - Interview peer counselors
 - Interview parents of high school seniors
- Fall 2005
 - Survey senior classes at all 9 high schools