

Where the Candidates Stand on Higher Education

	Biden	Bloomberg	Buttigieg
Tuition	Guarantees two free years of public community college or other training.	<p>Make two-year public college tuition-free for all and college-related expenses for the lowest-income students.</p> <p>Make four-year public college tuition-free and cover college-related expenses for the lowest-income students by doubling Pell grants.</p>	Public tuition free for all families earning up to \$100,000 and public tuition subsidies for students from families earning up to \$150,000.
Loans	<p>\$10,000 of undergraduate or graduate student debt relief for every year of public service, up to five years.</p> <p>Adjunct professors are eligible for this loan forgiveness, depending on the amount of time devoted to teaching.</p> <p>Those earning less than \$25,000 owe nothing on their undergraduate federal student loans, while everyone else's payments are capped at 5% of their discretionary income above \$25,000 -- halving the current 10% cap. After 20 years, the remainder of the loans for people who have responsibly made payments through the program will be 100% forgiven.</p>	<p>For borrowers in income-driven repayment plans, forgive undergrad loans up to \$57,000 tax-free after 20 years, if borrowers are making reasonable progress on their loans. By contrast, there's currently no limit on loan forgiveness under income-based repayment plans, though the amount of forgiveness is taxed as income. Income-based repayment plan would also be restricted to federal student loans that financed undergraduate studies, not graduate education</p> <p>wiping out the loans of borrowers who attended "failed or predatory for-profit colleges."</p> <p>Pilot program for Public Service Loan and Forgiveness program to include students going into professions that fill targeted labor-market needs.</p>	Those working in public service will receive cancellation of 5 percent of their debt in each of their first three years of service; 10 percent in each of the next four years; and 15 percent during the next three, providing full cancellation of their debt in exchange for 10 years of service.
Other	<p>— Double the maximum value of Pell Grant, undocumented students and formerly incarcerated students would be eligible.</p> <p>— \$50 billion would be spent on workforce training, including community college business partnerships and apprenticeships.</p> <p>— \$8 billion would be spent to improve community college facilities.</p>	<p>Double the maximum Pell grant to \$12,690. Undocumented students and formerly incarcerated students would be eligible.</p> <p>Bloomberg's plan will triple direct federal Title III funding to HBCUs, as well as Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) and other minority serving institutions. Use of funds will include need-based financial-aid and evidence-based strategies to raise graduation rates. The tripling of funds will be a little more than \$7.5 billion over 10 years</p> <p>End legacy preferences and restore fairness to the college-admissions process.</p> <p>Couples higher education with industries' workforce needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase Pell grant by \$1000 • Expanding access to federally-funded child care. • Raise minimum wage to \$15 per hour for federal work-study program. • \$2 billion pilot to expand food vouchers to students in community college. • Provide access to higher education for incarcerated individuals. • Create a \$1 billion community college fund to address common barriers for college students, such as exposure to in-demand career fields, career and academic coaching, child care, and transportation. • Invest over \$100 million per year in new grants to state and local agencies, local youth and residents will have greater access to entry-level public sector jobs. Pilot Public Service Academies at Job Corps Centers across the country to connect under-resourced youth with career opportunities in in-demand sectors like cybersecurity, energy, and health care. • Double annual investments in career and technical education programs in high schools and colleges and support a tax deduction for employers that offer paid work experience through internships and youth apprenticeships.
Cost	\$750 billion over 10 years.	\$700 billion over 10 years.	\$500 billion over 10 years.

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Funding	<p>Capping itemized deductions taken by the wealthiest Americans at 28 percent and eliminating what's known as the stepped-up basis loophole, which affects mostly the wealthy.</p> <p>This plan will be a federal-state partnership, with the federal government covering 75% of the cost and states contributing the remaining obligation. The federal government will cover up to 95% of the cost for Indian Tribes operating community colleges serving low-income students.</p>	<p>Bloomberg would pay for the plan by his tax plan on the wealthy: 5 percent surtax on those making more than \$5 million a year.</p> <p>Raise taxes on capital gains, hike the corporate tax rate, stiffen the estate tax and repeal a new break for "pass-through" businesses, whose owners pay individual rather than corporate taxes on their earnings.</p> <p>Increase the top income tax rate back up to 39.6 percent, from 37 percent, while toughening the estate tax.</p> <p>Increase the corporate rate up to 28 percent, from the current 21 percent. He would tighten the tax law's new minimum tax on multinational corporations' foreign earnings, and end a new 20 percent deduction for pass-through businesses.</p> <p>This 2:1 federal-state program will reverse a decade of state disinvestments in higher education. In order to qualify to be eligible for full federal and state support, states and institutions would commit to limit tuition hikes, reverse disinvestments and meet maintenance of effort requirements and keep the full cost of attendance from rising faster than inflation.</p>	<p>Reinstatement of the pre-Trump top corporate tax and personal income tax rates, enactment of a 0.1% financial transactions tax and closure of the carried interest loophole.</p>
Provisions pertaining to faculty / staff	<p>Biden will ensure adjunct professors are eligible for a loan forgiveness, providing relief up to \$10,000 of undergraduate or graduate loans, depending on the amount of time devoted to teaching.</p>		

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	Klobuchar	Sanders	Warren
Tuition	Guarantees two free years of public community college or other training.	The College for All Act would make two- and four-year public and tribal colleges and universities tuition-free and cover college-related expenses and erase the \$1.6 trillion in student loan debt owed in the US.	Eliminate undergraduate tuition at public colleges and universities.
Loans	Students would be able to lower their interest rates. Private student loan borrowers would also be eligible to access the federal refinancing program. Klobuchar’s plan would expand the public service loan forgiveness program to include borrowers who work in “in-demand” occupations.	Sanders’s plan would erase \$1.6 trillion student debt as of the day enacted. Future private college loans would have an interest rate capped at 1.8%.	Warren’s plan cancels \$50,000 in student loan debt for every person with household income under \$100,000, and offers “substantial debt cancellation” to every person with household income between \$100,000 and \$250,000. On January 14, 2020, Warren said that she would eliminate federal student debt “on Day 1” without congressional approval.
Other	Provide a new tax credit to companies that provide training opportunities that lead to a credential, certificate or degree—for workers who are at risk of being laid off. The plan also sets a goal of doubling the number of apprenticeships available in the country to more than 1 million by the end of the first term of presidency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the federal Pell Grant program • Tripling funding for the work-study program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To invest an additional \$100 billion in Pell grants over the next 10 years, making them available to more students and increasing the size of the award. • Calls for directing the Education Department’s Office for Civil Rights to conduct a “wide-scale investigation” into the role colleges, state higher-education systems, and the student-loan industry play in furthering racial disparities in student borrowing and debt. • It creates financial incentives for states to improve enrollment and completion rates for lower-income and students of color. • It cuts off for-profit colleges from federal money so they can no longer use taxpayer dollars to enrich themselves while preying on lower-income students, service members, and students of color. • It requires public colleges to submit an annual equity audit and removes artificial barriers to college by barring colleges from considering an applicant’s citizenship status or criminal history.
Cost	\$500 billion over 10 years.	\$2.2 trillion over 10 years.	\$1.25 trillion over 10 years.

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Funding	<p>The proposal would be paid for by making changes to the tax code, including raising taxes on capital gains and dividends for people in the two highest income tax brackets. The plan would also require people earning more than \$1 million to pay at least a 30 percent minimum tax rate.</p> <p>Federal matching program that gives states a financial incentive to eliminate tuition at community colleges. The federal government would pay \$3 for every \$1 that a state invests in two-year degrees.</p>	<p>The revenue would come from placing a 0.5 percent tax on stock trades – 50 cents on every \$100 of stock – a 0.1 percent fee on bond trades, and a 0.005 percent fee on derivative trades.</p> <p>The federal government would give states and tribes at least \$48 billion per year, through a two-to-one federal dollar match program, if states commit to eliminating tuitions and fees at public universities and colleges.</p>	<p>The revenue would come from Warren's wealth tax proposal -- a 2% tax on wealth above \$50 million and a 3% tax on wealth above \$1 billion. No assets would be exempt.</p>
Provisions pertaining to faculty / staff		<p>On January 22, Bernie Sanders introduced legislation intended to ensure that graduate students have the right to organize. The legislation would rewrite the National Labor Relations Act to say that "graduate student workers at colleges and universities are employees and should be granted every right and responsibility conferred to them" to organize unions. Sanders's bill represents the continuation of H.R.5104 — the Respect Graduate Student Workers Act, which was initially proposed by United States Representative Mark W. Pocan (D-Wisc.) in Nov. 2019. The proposed rule is open for a public comment period until Feb. 28, after which the NLRB will review comments and ultimately decide whether or not to adopt the proposed rule as a final rule.</p>	