UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA

Michael V. Drake, MD
President

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CAMPUSES

Berkeley
Davis
Irvine
UCLA
Merced
Riverside
San Diego
San Francisco
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz

MEDICAL CENTERS

Davis
Irvine
UCLA
San Diego
San Francisco

NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Lawrence Berkeley
Lawrence Livermore
Los Alamos

July 9, 2021

Director Keely Bosler
Department of Finance
915 L Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Director Bosler and Senator Skinner:

Pursuant to Item 6440-001-0001 Provision 7(e) of the Budget Act of 2020 (SB74, Chapter 6, Statutes of 2020) enclosed is the University of California's annual report to the Legislature on Rapid Rehousing.

If you have any questions regarding this report, Associate Vice President David Alcocer would be pleased to speak with you. David can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9113, or by e-mail at David.Alcocer@ucop.edu.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Drake, M.D.
President

Enclosure

cc: Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
         The Honorable John Laird, Chair
          Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
             (Attn: Ms. Anita Lee)
             (Attn: Ms. Jean-Marie McKinney)
         The Honorable Kevin McCarty, Chair
         Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2
             (Attn: Mr. Mark Martin)
             (Attn: Ms. Carolyn Nealon)
         Mr. Hans Hemann, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
         Ms. Erika Contreras, Secretary of the Senate

Ms. Amy Leach, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Ms. Sue Parker, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Mr. Chris Ferguson, Department of Finance
Ms. Rebecca Kirk, Department of Finance
Mr. Brian Rutledge, Department of Finance
Mr. Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst Office
Ms. Jennifer Pacella, Legislative Analyst Office
Mr. Jason Constantouros, Legislative Analyst Office
Provost and Executive Vice President Michael Brown
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Nathan Brostrom
Vice President and Vice Provost Yvette Gullatt
Associate Vice Provost Elizabeth Halimah
Senior Vice President Claire Holmes
Associate Vice President David Alcocer
Associate Vice President and Director Kieran Flaherty

Introduction

The Budget Act of 2019 (Assembly Bill 74) included $15 million to address food and housing insecurity at the University of California (UC), with an additional $3.5 million to support rapid rehousing efforts for homeless and housing-insecure students at UC. This report highlights how UC campuses used the $3.5 million for rapid rehousing from July 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021. The attached appendices provide data from each UC campus for the required reporting criteria in the Budget Act of 2019. The attached appendices provide data from each UC campus that address the required reporting areas identified in the Budget Act, including the following subsections of provision 6.4 of the University's appropriation:

- (b) Campuses shall establish ongoing partnerships with community organizations that have a tradition of helping populations experiencing homelessness to provide wrap-around services and rental subsidies for students. Funds appropriated in the item may be used for, but authorized uses are not limited to, the following activities:
  - o Connecting students with community case managers who have knowledge and expertise in accessing safety net resources.
  - o Establishing ongoing emergency housing procedures, including on-campus and off-campus resources.
  - o Providing emergency grants that are necessary to secure housing or to prevent the imminent loss of housing.
- (c) Funding shall be allocated to campuses based on demonstrated need.
- (e) The University of California shall submit a report to the Director of Finance and, in conformity with Section 9795 of the Government Code, to the Legislature by July 15, 2020, and annually thereafter, regarding the use of these funds, including the number of coordinators hired, number of students served by campus, distribution of funds by campus, a description of the types of programs funded, and other relevant outcomes, such as the number of students that were able to secure permanent housing, and whether students receiving support remained enrolled at the institution or graduated.

Appendix I includes the full legislative language to which this report responds.

Impact of COVID-19

Starting in early 2020, campuses adjusted service delivery models to support students, including those most affected by food and housing insecurity during the COVID-19 pandemic. As institutions implemented remote instruction, all UC campuses developed creative approaches to support students, particularly those who needed short-term housing assistance. Many campuses offered a variety of options, such as housing grants, hotel vouchers, and emergency housing both on- and off-campus.

Distribution of Funds by Campus

Of the $3.5 million that the State of California allocated to UC for rapid rehousing efforts the UC Office of the President (UCOP) distributed $1.5 million equally across the ten campuses ($150,000 per campus to provide a common baseline level of support) and $2 million in proportion to the estimated number of students who are food and/or housing insecure at each campus. Two UC systemwide surveys informed these estimates, including the UC Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES) and the UC Graduate Student Well-Being Survey.

UCOP then made adjustments to reflect the latest available enrollment numbers. This funding formula was implemented in 2019 for a three-year funding period spanning the 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 academic years. During the three-year funding period, the funding amounts per location remains the same. The funding formula and allocation amounts will be revisited at the conclusion of the three-year period to determine if adjustments are needed.

At the outset of the funding period, campuses prepared three-year spending plans. Each campus has a Basic Needs Committee, which is comprised of faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students, and community partners. In 2019, these committees identified rapid rehousing priorities and drafted each of their respective campus three-year spending plans. They also gathered feedback through town halls and one-on-one consultations with various stakeholders, including student government representatives, student organizations, Vice Chancellors for Student Affairs, individual faculty and staff members, and relevant campus departments. As described throughout the report, campuses have revised and adjusted how they have served housing-insecure students during the pandemic and therefore have adjusted their spending plans accordingly.

Housing-Insecure Students Served

During 2020–21, campuses served at least 2,754 housing-insecure students across the UC system. Generally, campuses defined the number of students served as those who received emergency housing, temporary housing and hotel vouchers, rent and deposit assistance, placements in short- and long-term housing, and case management that connected them to wraparound services. Many of these students may have already had permanent housing, but due to unexpected circumstances, such as loss of job or unexpected medical bills, they found themselves with insufficient funds to pay for rent.

Approximately 890 students obtained permanent housing, while many others received support (e.g., rent subsidies) to remain in their current housing. As shown in Figure 1, approximately 2,520 (92 percent) of the housing-insecure students who received housing support remained enrolled, and 178 graduated.*

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* As the report covers data through April 30th, 2021, this number is not inclusive of students who will graduate in spring 2021.

Figure 1: Housing-insecure Students Served				
Campus	Unique Housing-Insecure Students Served	Housing-Insecure Students Who Obtained Permanent Housing	Housing-Insecure Students Who Remained Enrolled	Housing-Insecure Students Who Received Support and Graduated
Berkeley	582	49	567	11
Davis	209	N/A	180	26
Irvine	105	88	92	6
Los Angeles	717	N/A	650	43
Merced	132	132	122	7
Riverside	32	32	30	4
San Diego	378	19	365	13
San Francisco	57	42	57	all still enrolled
Santa Barbara	129	127	124	7
Santa Cruz	413	401	335	61
TOTAL	**2,754**	**890**	**2,522**	**178**

*N/A indicates campus was unable to provide data for this reporting period

Campus Spotlight: UC Merced

Rapid rehousing funding provided partial support for the Financial Wellness Coordinator (FWC) at UC Merced. This position assesses students' needs, manages the emergency grant process, and helps students create budgets. The FWC is located in Financial Aid but works closely with the Dean of Students and Basic Needs Center to provide students with timely and holistic support. The position is a potential promising practice that could be a model for other UC campuses.

Student Outreach and Contacts

Campuses employed a variety of strategies to reach housing-insecure students and raise awareness about campus basic needs resources. These strategies included social media outreach, faculty and staff education, virtual events and workshops to raise awareness about basic needs, education sessions during first-year orientations, and peer-to-peer outreach. Other strategies included circulation of campus newsletters, distribution of health promotion items (e.g., shower kits), and administration of surveys to assess basic needs security among students. Additionally, several campuses conducted student outreach through innovative partnerships with various campus departments, such as the Deans of Students, Campus Multicultural Center, Counseling and Psychological Centers, Financial Aid Offices, and Health Promotion Offices. Appendix III includes a full table of marketing and outreach efforts by campus.

Connecting students to housing resources requires multidisciplinary teams comprised of campus basic needs staff, case managers, housing staff, and financial aid staff. These teams develop workflows and strategies to provide wraparound support for housing-insecure students. In addition, the majority of campuses have on-campus case managers who assist students with finding temporary or permanent housing. However, in some unique cases, campuses worked closely with community-based case managers to support students. Figure 2 shows that an estimated 2,008 students were served by campus case managers and two students were served by community case managers.

Campus Spotlight: UC Santa Cruz

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, campuses were restricted from hosting traditional tabling events. Despite this setback, UC Santa Cruz continued serving its students by increasing its use of social media to promote its housing programs. Housing ambassadors launched a peer-to-peer virtual outreach program, where they offered Zoom office and drop-in hours for students who had questions about housing support services. Additionally, staff participated in virtual orientations and workshops to promote services to undergraduate and graduate students**.**

Figure 2: Unduplicated Students Served by Campus and Community Case Managers		
Campus	**Estimated # of Unduplicated Students Engaged by Community Case Managers (if applicable)**	**Estimated # of Unduplicated Students Engaged by Campus Case Managers**
Berkeley	N/A	54
Davis	N/A	209
Irvine	N/A	98
Los Angeles	N/A	533
Merced	N/A	19
Riverside*	N/A	N/A
San Diego	2	633
San Francisco	N/A	N/A
Santa Barbara	N/A	49
Santa Cruz	N/A	413
TOTAL	**2**	**2,008**

* UC Riverside did not establish a campus case manager during the reporting period, but have since added one and will be able to report this data in the 2021-22 Rapid Rehousing Legislative Report.

Summary of Funded Programs

To address the unique student housing needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, UC campuses used rapid rehousing funds in a variety of ways, including housing services and support, direct student housing awards, emergency relief and crisis resolution, first-year student experiences, and staffing for both student and career positions. Appendix IV includes a list of rapid rehousing services provided.

Although housing services and programs varied by campus, campuses maintained the following activities during the pandemic:
- Provided students assistance with rental deposits and first-month rent costs
- Hired staff and students to conduct outreach, provided case management, and offered support resources
- Delivered housing-focused presentations to incoming freshmen and transfer students
- Established bridge housing programs that provided temporary shelter to students who lack the resources to secure or maintain adequate housing during University breaks and holidays
- Coordinated workshops on lease signing, roommate selection, conflict resolution, financial literacy, and budgeting
- Created sustainable, year-round, and on-campus housing for former foster youth, who are particularly vulnerable to housing insecurity

- Covered the full or partial salaries of existing or new career and student staff to focus on providing administrative and logistical support for housing placements, aid disbursement, and liaising with community housing organizations

Campuses established various new activities during the pandemic as well. For example, the campuses:
- Offered housing to students over the intersession period, to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, as state travel restrictions prevented many students from leaving the University environment
- Established a new *Basic Needs Sponsored Housing Program* that provides temporary residence on campus for students who lack the necessary resources to secure or maintain adequate housing
- Provided COVID-19 relocation assistance for on- and off-campus housing to students who needed safe housing to quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19
- Developed a rental deposit loan program to subsidize on-campus housing for students who had fallen behind in housing payments due to COVID-19

Additionally, campuses continued to conduct strategic outreach to housing-insecure students and connect them with housing and transportation services through case management, and hire staff and students to assist with housing efforts on campus.

Housing Grants

Housing grants are among the most common strategies campuses use when developing programs with rapid rehousing funding. Grants can be provided to students in the form of vouchers (Airbnb and/or hotel) or direct aid (cash grants) for rental assistance or to cover expenses for on-campus accommodations. Appendix V includes a list of housing grants provided.

Campus Spotlight: UC Irvine

UC Irvine created a Housing Relocation Grant with rapid rehousing funds to help students relocate to isolation and quarantine housing. The grants enabled students who faced unsafe or overcrowded living conditions to move to on-campus housing; prevent the spread of COVID-19; and support their health, safety, and well-being. The campus provided wraparound support by ensuring students had access to three meals per day, medical services, case management support, and transportation by an ambulance (a service paid for by the University). UC Irvine's Housing Relocation Grant has remained an essential strategy for student success during the pandemic.

Partnerships with Community Organizations

Many campus partnerships with community organizations were paused due to the public health safety challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. As campuses prepare for reopening in fall 2021, they continue to develop strategies for students who need short-term, temporary housing assistance, as well as maintain partnerships with community organizations to ensure a wide range of services are available to students in need.

Campus Spotlight: UC San Diego

Throughout the pandemic, UC San Diego's ongoing partnership with San Diego Youth Services enabled students to access transitional and/or rapid rehousing community-based wraparound case management. Support included, but was not limited to, off-campus housing, rent subsidies, emergency grants, and general basic needs assistance. In addition, a confidential phone service and online database called 2-1-1 San Diego has

been identified as the local Coordinated Entry System (CES) for intake support, with additional regional organizations providing transitional and/or rapid rehousing support off-campus for youth older than 24.5 years.

Staffing Support

The University used rapid rehousing funds to support 9.75 full-time equivalent staff, such as case managers and coordinators. Campuses also hired student staff to serve in roles such as peer coordinators, marketing and website interns, and graduate research assistants. Campuses primarily used rapid rehousing dollars to bolster student housing needs. In addition, many campuses supplemented funding from institutional and other sources to support complementary positions, such as existing and temporary student staff, to connect housing recipients with CalFresh benefits and to provide services for long-distance commuters.

Campus Spotlight: UC Riverside

UC Riverside used rapid rehousing funds to hire a new Basic Needs Housing Specialist who serves as an emergency housing case manager for the campus. The specialist's work includes reviewing emergency housing applications, facilitating student intakes, and holding weekly check-ins with students during and after their participation in the emergency housing program. Additionally, the specialist assists with the development of the rapid rehousing program at UC Riverside, in collaboration with community partners like TruEvolution and Jovenes, Inc.

Conclusion

The funding from California's Budget Act of 2019 has resulted in wide-reaching support for students at the University of California. It established a critical infrastructure to aid students both on- and off-campus, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, a time of tremendous need. The ongoing support has had a positive, life-changing impact on students' well-being, retention, and graduation. The $3.5 million in rapid rehousing funds has enabled UC to connect at least 2,754 housing-insecure students with housing stability, case management, and wraparound support services. As campuses continue to navigate remote instruction, the University's Basic Needs centers have adapted their operations and continue to provide critical services to our most vulnerable students.

$3.5 million for rapid rehousing efforts:

(a) Of the funds appropriated in this item, $3,500,000 shall be available to support rapid rehousing efforts assisting homeless and housing insecure students.
(b) Campuses shall establish ongoing partnerships with community organizations that have a tradition of helping populations experiencing homelessness to provide wrap-around services and rental subsidies for students. Funds appropriated in the item may be used for, but authorized uses are not limited to, the following activities:
    (1) Connecting students with community case managers who have knowledge and expertise in accessing safety net resources.
    (2) Establishing ongoing emergency housing procedures, including on-campus and off-campus resources.
    (3) Providing emergency grants that are necessary to secure housing or to prevent the imminent loss of housing.
(c) Funding shall be allocated to campuses based on demonstrated need.
(d) The terms "homeless" and "housing insecure" shall be defined as students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes students who are:
    (1) Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
    (2) Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations.
    (3) Living in emergency or transitional shelters.
    (4) Abandoned in hospitals.
    (5) Living in a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
    (6) Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
(e) The University of California shall submit a report to the Director of Finance and, in conformity with Section 9795 of the Government Code, to the Legislature by July 15, 2020, and annually thereafter, regarding the use of these funds, including the number of coordinators hired, number of students served by campus, distribution of funds by campus, a description of the types of programs funded, and other relevant outcomes, such as the number of students that were able to secure permanent housing, and whether students receiving support remained enrolled at the institution or graduated.

Appendix II

Distribution of Rapid Rehousing Allocations by Campus			
UC Campus	**Base Allocation**	**Allocation Based on Food-/ Housing-Insecure Student Estimates**	**Total Allocation**
Berkeley	$150,000	$322,000	$472,000
Davis	$150,000	$204,000	$354,000
Irvine	$150,000	$247,000	$397,000
Los Angeles	$150,000	$257,000	$407,000
Merced	$150,000	$53,000	$203,000
Riverside	$150,000	$157,000	$307,000
San Diego	$150,000	$256,000	$406,000
San Francisco	$150,000	$18,000	$168,000
Santa Barbara	$150,000	$265,000	$415,000
Santa Cruz	$150,000	$221,000	$371,000
TOTAL	**$1,500,000**	**$2,000,000**	**$3,500,000**

Appendix III

Campus Marketing and Outreach Efforts Employed						
UC Campus	**Events and Workshops**	**Faculty and Staff Education**	**Newsletters**	**Campus Orientation**	**Peer-to-Peer Outreach**	**Social Media**
Berkeley	✓				✓	
Davis		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Irvine	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Los Angeles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Merced		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Riverside	✓			✓		✓
San Diego	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
San Francisco		✓			✓	
Santa Barbara	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Santa Cruz	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
TOTAL	**7**	**8**	**6**	**8**	**8**	**8**

Appendix IV

Campus Rapid Rehousing Services Offered			
UC Campus	**Housing Grants**	**Hotel Vouchers**	**On-Campus University Owned Housing***
Berkeley	✓	✓	✓
Davis	✓		✓
Irvine	✓		✓
Los Angeles	✓		✓
Merced	✓		✓
Riverside	✓	✓	✓
San Diego	✓		✓
San Francisco	✓		✓
Santa Barbara	✓	✓	✓
Santa Cruz	✓	✓	✓
TOTAL	**10**	**4**	**10**

Appendix V

	Types of Emergency Grants Provided			
UC Campus	**Direct Aid (Cash Grant)**	**Hotel Vouchers**	**On-campus Housing**	**Other Housing Vouchers/Grants**
Berkeley	✓		✓	✓
Davis	✓			
Irvine	✓			
Los Angeles	✓			
Merced	✓			
Riverside	✓	✓	✓	
San Diego	✓		✓	
San Francisco	✓			
Santa Barbara	✓	✓	✓	✓
Santa Cruz	✓	✓		✓
TOTAL	**10**	**4**	**4**	**3**