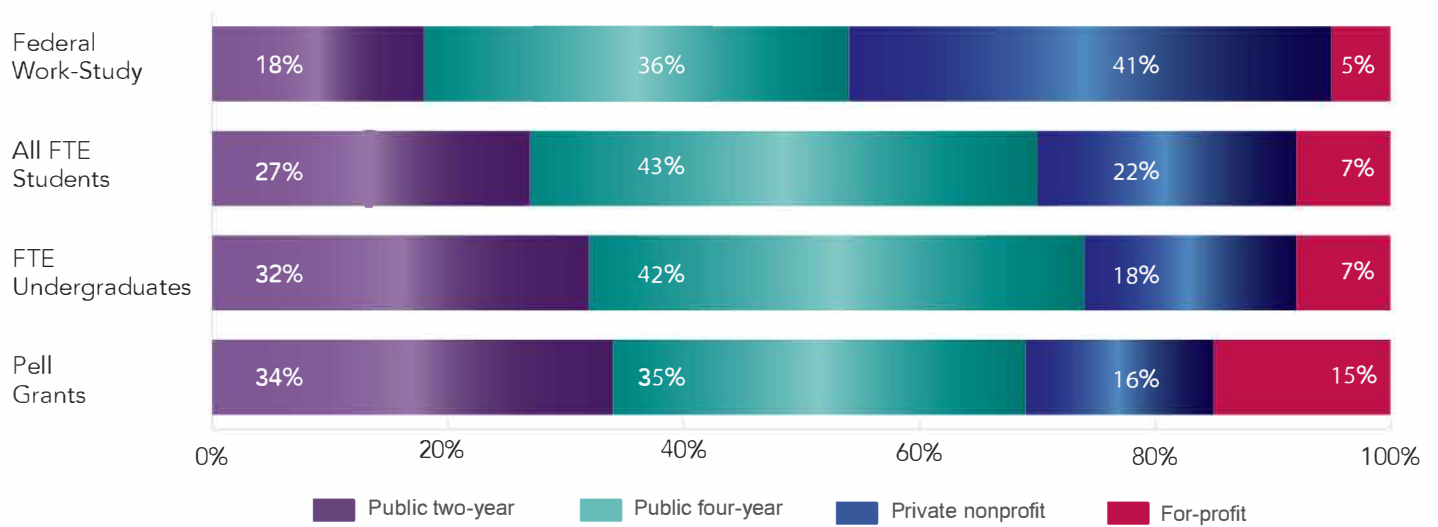


Under-represented in Work-Study

Community colleges receive only 18 percent of Federal Work-Study funds from the \$1 billion appropriated to the program.

Distribution of Pell grants and Federal Work-Study funds by sector, 2016-17



Source: Urban Institute, "Rethinking Federal Work-Study: Incremental Reform Is Not Enough," March 2019.



Federal Work-Study (FWS) funding provides opportunities for campus-based employment to students as a way to pay for their college expenses. In academic year 2016-17, 18 percent of the \$1 billion appropriated to FWS went to public two-year colleges, 36 percent to public four-year institutions, 41 percent to private nonprofit institutions and 5 percent to for-profits. By comparison, community colleges receive about 34 percent of Pell Grant funds. Community college students are also disproportionately under-represented in Work-Study participation. About 2 percent of community college students participated in FWS compared to 5.2 percent for all other sectors. An increase in FWS for community college students would provide more opportunities for community college students to work on campus to help pay for their education.

For more information, contact Kent Phillippe, associate vice president for research and student success at the American Association of Community Colleges, at 202-416-4505 or kphillippe@aacc.nche.edu, or Rahel Tekle, AACCC's research associate, at 202-416-4508 or rtekle@aacc.nche.edu