

Fact Sheet: Student food security

OVERVIEW

The University of California is tackling one of the toughest issues facing college campuses across the country: student hunger. As part of its Global Food Initiative, the university is looking inward – ensuring that its own students have food security, as it takes on the bigger issue of hunger around the world. UC campuses this spring are surveying students to assess the scope of food security issues, implementing short-term relief where needed and exploring long-term solutions that nurture student nutrition.

WHAT IS UC DOING?

As part of the UC Global Food Initiative, the university is taking a number of steps to address student hunger, including to:

- Allocate \$75,000 per campus to support food security and access for students
- Survey UC undergraduates and graduate students this spring to assess student hunger
- Discuss an item May 21, 2015 at the [UC Board of Regents meeting](#) about ways to sustain food security across the university
- Hold the [California Higher Education Food Summit](#) Jan. 16-18, 2016 at UC Santa Barbara, where students and staff discussed strategies for improving food security
- Extend the [UC President's Global Food Initiative Student Fellowship Program](#), which addresses topics including food security
- Sponsor the UC Global Food Initiative Food Equity Lecture Series in which food security has been a common theme

FOOD PANTRIES

All nine UC undergraduate campuses have food pantries or have plans to open pantries: [UC Berkeley](#), [UC Davis](#), [UC Irvine](#) (under development), [UCLA](#), [UC Merced](#), [UC Riverside](#) (under development), [UC San Diego](#) (opened February 2015), [UC Santa Barbara](#), [UC Santa Cruz](#)

SWIPES

The [Swipes](#) program, started by UCLA students in 2009, allows university students to donate unused residential meals to help feed the hungry – either fellow students or the broader community. There are now a dozen chapters, including ones on four UC campuses: [UCLA](#), [UC Riverside](#), [UC San Diego](#), [UC Santa Barbara](#)

ABOUT THE UC GLOBAL FOOD INITIATIVE

UC President Janet Napolitano, together with UC's 10 chancellors, launched the [UC Global Food Initiative](#) in July 2014. Building on existing efforts and creating new collaborations among UC's 10 campuses, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and UC's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the initiative aims to develop, demonstrate and export solutions – throughout California, the U.S. and the world – for food security, health and sustainability.