



MYTH VS. FACT

Higher Education in the One Big Beautiful Bill

Myth: The Senate Republican legislation decreases access to Pell Grants, preventing low-income students from going to college.

Fact: Senate Republicans support the Pell Grant program. Before the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill, the program faced a mounting budget shortfall that threatens the programs' future.

The Senate legislation actually strengthens Pell Grants, improving Pell program integrity and fixing the budget shortfall while ensuring students' needs are met. We also establish Workforce Pell, so students choosing to attend a career or technical-based post-secondary education can access these funds.

Myth: The Senate Republican legislation takes away resources from students and restricts their access to higher education.

Fact: Federal loans are not grants. Loaning students money that they have no chance of repaying is false compassion. Our legislation empowers students to pursue degrees and promotes institutions that provide a return on investment.

As student borrowing availability has increased, universities have dramatically raised their tuition prices on students. This is forcing students to take out loans to afford a college education in the first place and continues this cycle of debt. This legislation puts downward pressure on rising tuition to make higher education more affordable for all Americans.

Myth: The Senate Republican legislation will further burden loan borrowers who are unable to pay back their student loans.

Fact: Previous student loan policies hurt students by making them believe they were not responsible for the debt they willingly took on.

The Senate Republican legislation provides students clarity on their responsibilities to pay back their loans. It streamlines nine confusing repayment options to two clear options. This allows students and their families to pick the repayment plan that best fits their needs.

It also works to fix our broken education system that costs taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars and is driving students into insurmountable debt to pay for out-of-control tuition in the first place.

Myth: The Senate Republican legislation decreases access to graduate school for low-income students.

Fact: Unlimited borrowing for graduate school has been a failed experiment. Colleges used the Grad PLUS program to heap debt on students and increased their tuition prices by [64 cents of every dollar](#) of new loans. As a result, students are only able to pay back 75 cents out of every dollar loaned, costing the federal government billions of dollars.

Research shows that Grad PLUS did not expand access to graduate education, both overall and for low-income students in particular. The beneficiaries of Grad PLUS have been colleges' bottom lines, not students or taxpayers.