

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT DOUBLING THE MAXIMUM AWARD OF THE
FEDERAL PELL GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Pell Grant is the main source of federal funding to help low-income students pay for higher education;

WHEREAS, approximately 7 million students receive Pell Grants nationally each year;¹

WHEREAS, at UC, more than 78,000 - 35 percent of all undergraduates — receive Pell Grants;²

WHEREAS, more than one in three UC alumni who come from families in the bottom 20 percent of income earners rise to the top 20 percent of income earners as adults;³

WHEREAS, in 1980, the federal Pell Grant covered more than 75 percent of a student's 4-year public college costs. Over time, disinvestment in higher education and inflation have eroded the value of the grant to around 28 percent of public 4-year college costs;⁴

WHEREAS, doubling the Pell Grant maximum award will ease student loan burden and boost the economy. Decreasing student debt will allow recent graduates to buy homes, start businesses, earn advanced degrees, start families, or launch other endeavors;

WHEREAS, higher levels of direct federal aid offered through Pell Grants will help students meet basic needs like food, housing, health care, and child care;

WHEREAS, doubling the Pell will allow UC — and other colleges and universities - to stretch their institutional aid further, specifically to assist students whose household income makes them ineligible for federal assistance, but who still struggle to pay for college;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the UCLA USAC supports calling on Congress to double the maximum Pell Grant so it reaches a maximum award of \$13,000.

¹ <https://www.ncan.org/page/Pell>

² https://www.ucop.edu/federal-governmental-relations/_files/fact-sheets/uc_pell_grants_fact_sheet.pdf

³ https://www.ucop.edu/federal-governmental-relations/_files/fact-sheets/uc_pell_grants_fact_sheet.pdf

⁴ https://www.ucop.edu/federal-governmental-relations/_files/fact-sheets/uc_pell_grants_fact_sheet.pdf