

Proposal to Amend the Higher Education Equal Opportunity Act (ACT 101)

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Background

1971 PA Higher Education Equal Opportunity Act (Act 101) is passed

Designed to deliver support services to, “the most disadvantaged students... who are least likely to achieve academic success” without the supports and services provided by Act 101

Students are deemed economically and educationally disadvantaged

Today

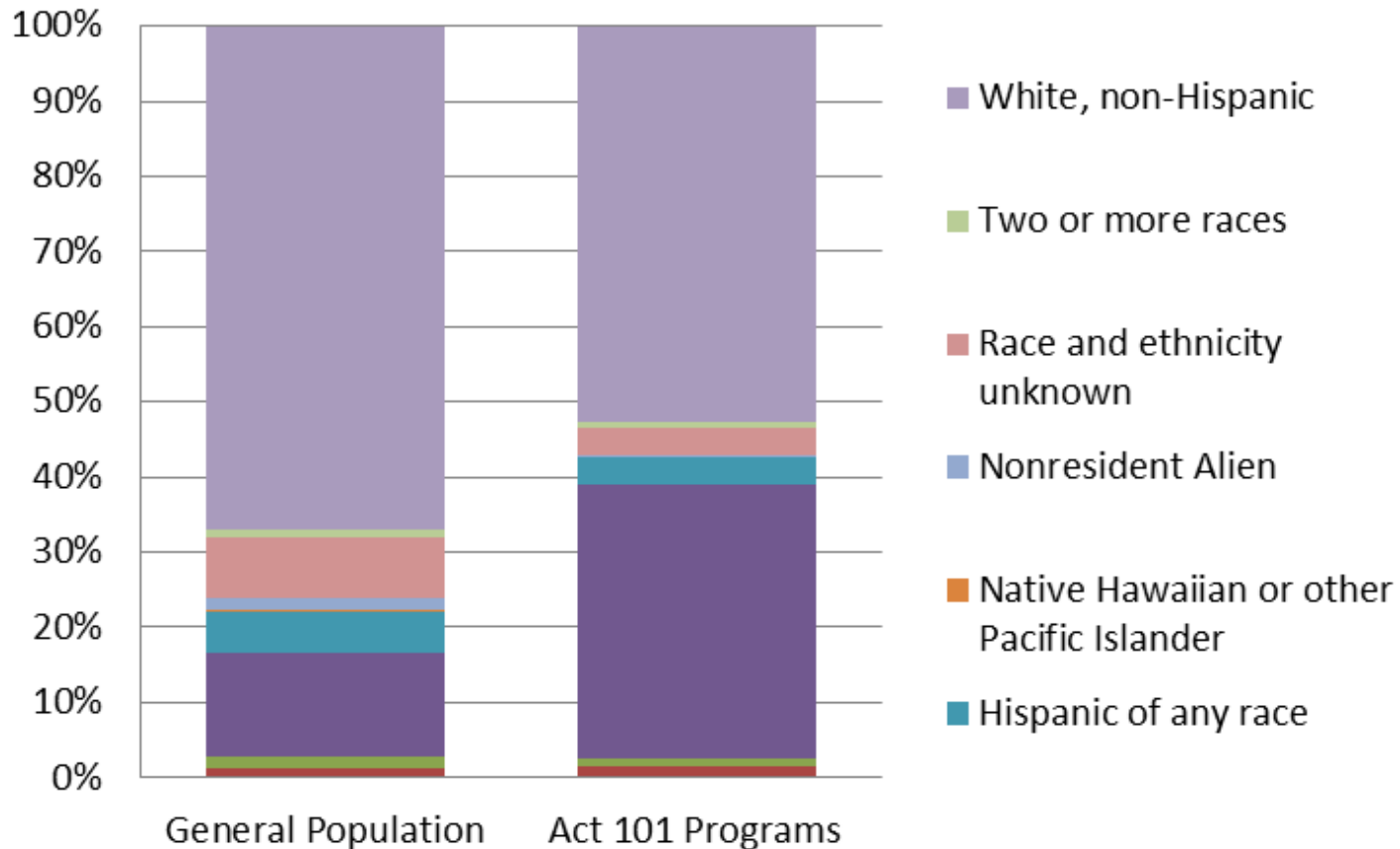
Act 101 has served students of 76 PA institutions of higher education

Currently, there are 37 PA institutions of higher education participating in Act 101

Allocation is now \$2.3 million compared to \$9.3 million in 07-08

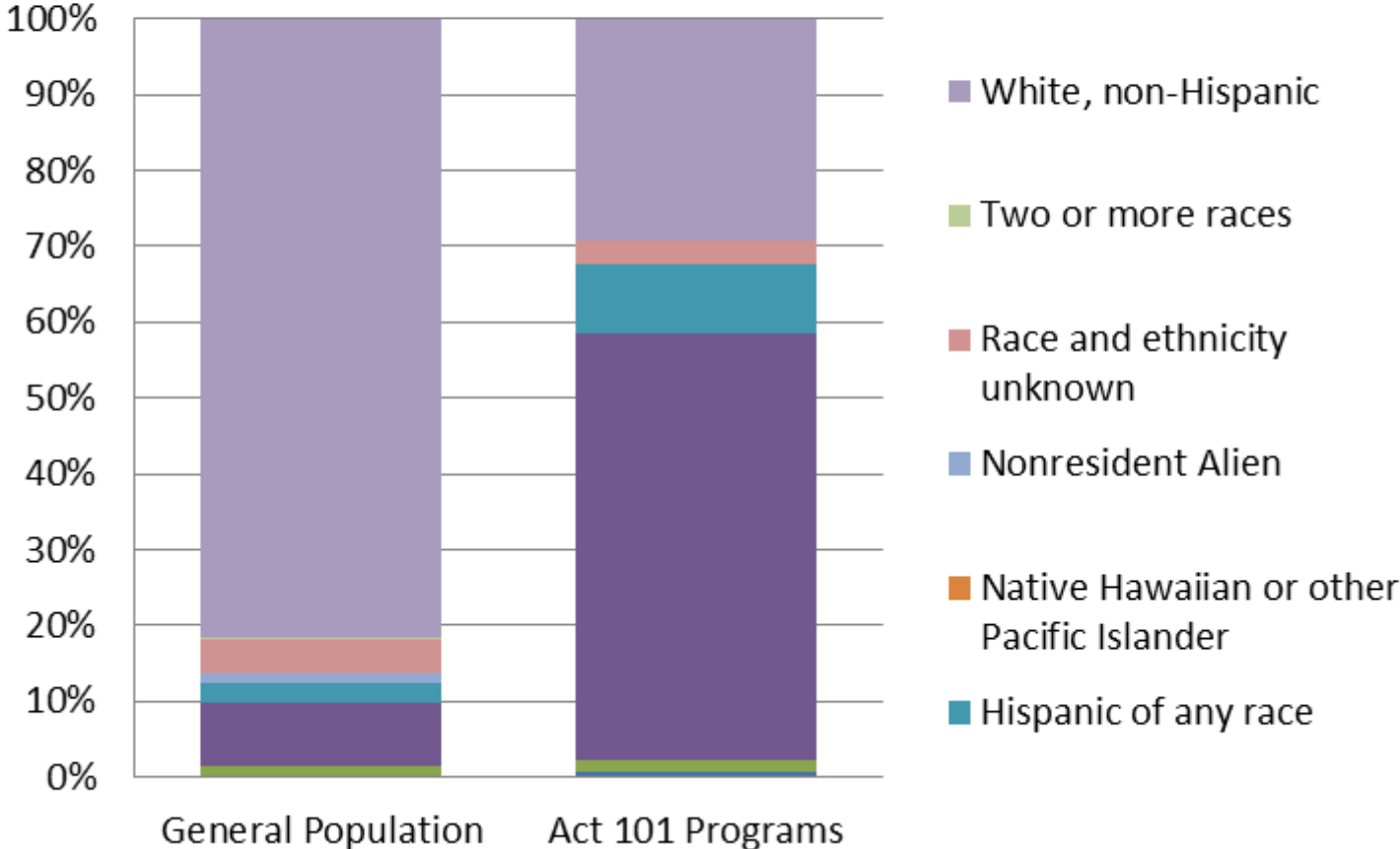
Community Colleges: Who Receives Act 101 Funding?

Comparison of Racial Breakdown of Act 101 Programs and General Student Population at Community Colleges



PASSHE: Who Receives Act 101 Funding?

Comparison of Racial Breakdown of Act 101 Programs and General Student Population at PASSHE Universities



Issue

Act 101 funds cannot be used to pay for tuition, room and board, or other fees

PHEAA grant guidelines dictate the number of remedial courses and programs of study for which a student can receive funding

Students may only use PHEAA grants to pay for remedial courses during two semesters

Many students are thus ineligible for financial aid while completing remedial requirements

Student Impact: Fall 2010

972

- Students attempting remedial credits

443

- Students attempting more than 6 remedial credits

286

- Students attempting more remedial credits than non-remedial credits

Proposed Solution

Amend statute by adding section 2510-306:

§2510-306 Remedial and Developmental courses taken by Full-Time Students and Part-Time Students shall be considered credit-bearing for the purposes of state grant calculation purposes.