About four out of five community colleges responding to a national survey say they have seen an increase in the number of students receiving Pell grants this summer compared to last summer. Nearly half of those colleges report seeing a 15 percent increase in summer Pell recipients this year from last summer, according to an American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) survey of 186 member institutions. The summer Pell program, also called year-round Pell, was reinstated by Congress last year after strong advocacy by AACC, its members and other supporters. This summer marked the first full year of the program. The survey also showed an increase in summer enrollments among more than 60 percent of the colleges, although AACC noted it couldn’t say the jumps were a result of summer Pell grants.

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, AACC research associate, at (202) 416-4508 or rtekle@aacc.nche.edu.

Source: American Association of Community Colleges survey of member colleges regarding year-round Pell grants, August 2018.