

The Recession, Retrenchment, and Recovery Project

Project on Higher Education Funding and Student Aid

NASSGAP/Illinois State University/SHEEO

The Recession, Retrenchment, and Recovery Project examined the effects of recessions on student financial access to college during the 25-year period 1979-2003, identified states that have been relatively successful in maintaining financial access, and collected policy strategies used by these states. A particular concern was the impact of recessions on financial access—the balance of state financial aid and tuition and fees—for students attending public institutions. The project included an economic and fiscal analysis, a survey of state higher education organizations and interviews of leaders in seven states that ranked well on student access. NASSGAP CEO's participated in the survey and Past President Maureen Laffey served as a member of the project team. Dr. Cheryl Maplethorpe, Dr. Don Heller and Dr. Sandy Baum served on the project's national advisory committee.