



## Basic needs services at Napa Valley College

Napa Valley College has a basic needs center that provides students with a variety of services, including food assistance (a student food basket/pantry and assistance with accessing CalFresh); basic needs essentials (e.g., hygiene products); and support with accessing other campus offices that provide financial aid services, health services (physical and mental health), financial aid support and referral, and immigration advocacy services. The primary focus of the basic needs center is food equity.

<b>Napa, California</b>
<b>Locale:</b> Small city
<b>Fall 2020 enrollment:</b> 4,931
<b>Students of color:</b> 76%
<b>Full-time students receiving Pell:</b> 37%
<i>Napa Valley is an Hispanic-Serving Institution</i>

- **Basic needs center website** <https://www.napavalley.edu/student-services-and-resources/office-of-student-life/basic-needs-center.html>
- **CalFresh** <https://www.napavalley.edu/student-services-and-resources/office-of-student-life/calfresh.html>
- **Food basket** <https://nvcsharepoint.napavalley.edu/studentaffairs/ASB/Pages/Emergency-Food-Services-for-Students.aspx>
- **Basic needs center Instagram page** <https://www.instagram.com/nvcbasicneeds/>

The college uses a centralized website for the basic needs center with links to various other resources, such as the student CalFresh benefits assistance and the Student Food Basket monthly grocery pickup and express snacks. The Student Food Basket and CalFresh links go to pages where students can communicate directly with the basic needs center staff through video, send an offline message, or schedule a meeting if they are not available.

***“[We] really have a strong social media [presence] that’s not only based on web services [we’re] providing. [We] follow student clubs, student sports teams, and different aspects of what students do in life. Because students are not only defined by food equity, they’re defined by other, different passions.”***

**– Staff person at Napa Valley College**

The basic needs center staff has worked hard to make the center an inviting and professional space for students. Staff members have engaged in significant outreach to get donations, discounts, and additional resources for students. Many students spoke to the accessibility of the center location and how easy it is to sign up and receive services.