

SENATE RESOLUTION
SR-F18-002

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TITLE	<i>Combating Food Insecurity Through Affordable/Accessible Meal Plans</i>

BACKGROUND

We, the Associated Students at the University of California at Riverside have seen staggering data in regards to food insecurity on campus. We would like leaders in the UC Riverside Administration as well as Dining Services to recognize these issues and set forth a solid plan to help alleviate the 62.5% rate of students at UCR who are food insecure [2].

WHEREAS, the University of California at Riverside currently has five meal plan options on their website, while none of these current meal plan options are yet available to off-campus students;

WHEREAS, currently all meal plans, besides the Highlander Unlimited, are restricted to one meal swipe per meal period, which severely hinders their abilities to eat, around their academic schedule;

WHEREAS, currently students are unable to donate their unused meal swipes to campus resources that directly combat on-campus food insecurity;

WHEREAS, meal plans are too costly for the students attending UCR. For example, the cheapest plan for first year students costing an average \$15,700 yearly (Highlander 120, Aberdeen Inverness, Triple Room) and with the most expensive costing an average \$18,270 yearly (Highlander Unlimited, Pentland Hills, Double Room) [1];

WHEREAS, the University of California at Riverside has neglected to acknowledge and regularly combat the high student food insecurity rate of 62.5% and has provided no clear plans to combat the rising figure [2]:

Now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, that the Associated Students of UC Riverside -

- (1) Urge Administration and Dining Services to regularly and transparently work towards bringing about a greater variety of meal plan options to students living off-campus. To see this through, ASUCR will schedule monthly meetings with the Senior Director of Dining and Assistant Vice Chancellor of Auxiliary Services to ensure that action is taken consistently;
- (2) Support allowing students on a meal plan to donate unused meal swipes to the R'Pantry or any other on-campus resources that combats student food insecurity.

Let It Be Further Resolved, that ASUCR believes that dining plans are not affordable to the campus at large and demands that University of California at Riverside Administration lower prices by at least 5%; having a meal is a student right and should not be treated as a privilege.

Let It Be Finally Resolved, the University of California at Riverside Administration recognize the high student food insecurity rate on campus and formally commit to be consistent in their efforts to combat the rising figure.

Sources

[1] UCR Housing: housing.ucr.edu/get-housing/rates-billing.html

[2] UCR Today: <https://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/52976>

Cc: UCR Chancellor
UCR Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs
Highlander Newspaper



Andrea Cuevas

Executive Vice President

SUBMITTED ON - October 24th, 2018

COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - October 24th, 2018

VOTE COUNT - 6-0-1

SENATE APPROVED ON - October 31st, 2018

VOTE COUNT - 14-0-0