



STUDY GUIDE

WHO NOT TO VOTE FOR

KEY TERMS: vote commercial big government
work fight

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN: Complete this section <u>during</u> the video. Include definitions and key terms.	CUE COLUMN: Complete this section <u>after</u> the video.
<p>Who shouldn't you vote for?</p> <p>What is not the government's job?</p> <p>What is big government like?</p>	<p>Why are the candidates who say, "I'll fight for you," "I'll level the playing field for you," and "I'm going to get rid of all your problems, take care of you, and tuck in your kids at night" the wrong people to vote for?</p> <p>What should the government do, according to Mr. Carolla?</p>

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- At the beginning of the video, Mr. Carolla states, “Don’t vote for anyone who says, ‘I’ll fight for you.’” Why? What point is Mr. Carolla making here? What does ‘I’ll fight for you’ mean in the context of a campaign promise? Why is this type of promise nonsense?
- Mr. Carolla later clarifies his position by explaining, “I want a politician who fights, but I want a politician who fights to shrink government and cut back on red tape and then make it easier for me to fight for myself, fight for my family, fight for my business, fight for my community, fight for my country.” What does Mr. Carolla mean by fighting for his family, etc...? How exactly does cutting government regulation and cutting government involvement in people’s lives help them? How does it help businesses?
- Later in the video, Mr. Carolla expands his advice further by stating, “...don’t vote for the politician who says, “I know it’s not a level playing field. I’m going to level it for you.” Why would it be bad to vote for a candidate who makes this sort of promise? Why could a candidate never really be able to deliver on a promise like this?
- Mr. Carolla later adds, “Don’t vote for the guy who says he’s going to get rid of all your problems, take care of you, and tuck your kids in at night,” because, “Fixing your screwed up life is not the government’s job... The government giving you a bunch of handouts and living your life for you is basically the equivalent of doing pushups in outer space.” Why is Mr. Carolla opposed to this type of candidate? Why are these types of campaign promises meaningless? What ideology and value set does Mr. Carolla advocate in place of the Big Government one reflected in these types of campaign pledges?
- Continuing on that point, Mr. Carolla also states, “I want the government to do stuff that I can’t do. Stop a war, end a plague, keep the airliners from not running into each other when they’re taxiing. That kind of stuff. Stuff involving me? Stuff involving my family? Stuff involving my community? I can handle that.” Why do you think that some people prefer to give up freedom in order to have the government do a poor job of taking care of them? Do you prefer to have the government take care of community level ‘stuff’ in addition to the ‘big-picture stuff?’ Why or why not?
- Mr. Carolla ends the video with the warning that, “Big government is like the void of space. It’s massive, constantly expanding and if we immerse ourselves in it, we’ll simply wither away.” What is Mr. Carolla really saying here? What do all of the types of candidates Mr. Carolla encourages us not to vote for have in common?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Bernie Sanders

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the articles “It’s Time to Make College Tuition Free and Debt Free,” and “Can Bernie Sanders deliver free college for all? Not so easily,” then answer the questions that follow.

- What is Bernie Sanders promising? How does he plan to implement this proposal? Do you think that he could deliver on this promise? Do you think it would work? Why or why not?
- Who do you think he perceives he would be helping, i.e. ‘fighting for,’ by doing this? Is any program actually ‘free?’ Who would actually end up paying for this? Do you think that more people would be harmed or hurt by the attempted implementation of this plan? What might the unintended consequences be?
- Do you think that Mr. Sanders’ promise of free university education equates to “I’ll fight for you,” “I’ll level the playing field for you,” or “I’m going to get rid of all your problems, take care of you, and tuck in your kids at night?” Why or why not? Do you think that Mr. Corolla would vote for Mr. Sanders? Why or why not?



QUIZ

WHO NOT TO VOTE FOR

1. Who should you NOT vote for?

- a. Any Democrat
- b. Any Republican
- c. The guy who says "I'll fight for you."
- d. The guy who says "Playing fields are inherently imbalanced."

2. How are daytime television commercials different today than in the past?

- a. They're geared to people who want to work.
- b. They're geared to giving people free stuff.
- c. They're mostly infomercials.
- d. They are geared to frequenting local business.

3. Humans need _____.

- a. government handouts
- b. personal trainers
- c. no life challenges
- d. challenges to overcome

4. The government's job is to _____ the playing field.

- a. harvest
- b. level
- c. clear
- d. fence

5. Fixing your screwed up life is not the government's job.

- a. True
- b. False



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<https://berniesanders.com/issues/its-time-to-make-college-tuition-free-and-debt-free/>

Bernie Sanders

Issues

It's Time to Make College Tuition Free and Debt Free

In a highly competitive global economy, we need the best-educated workforce in the world. It is insane and counter-productive to the best interests of our country and our future, that hundreds of thousands of bright young people cannot afford to go to college, and that millions of others leave school with a mountain of debt that burdens them for decades. That shortsighted path to the future must end.

As President, Bernie Sanders will fight to make sure that every American who studies hard in school can go to college regardless of how much money their parents make and without going deeply into debt.

Here are the six steps that Bernie will take as President to make college debt free:

1. MAKE TUITION FREE AT PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

This is not a radical idea. Last year, Germany eliminated tuition because they believed that charging students \$1,300 per year was discouraging Germans from going to college. Next year, Chile will do the same. Finland, Norway, Sweden and many other countries around the world also offer free college to all of their citizens. If other countries can take this action, so can the United States of America.

In fact, it's what many of our colleges and universities used to do. The University of California system offered free tuition at its schools until the 1980s. In 1965, average tuition at a four-year public university was just \$243 and many of the best colleges – including the City University of New York – did not charge any tuition at all. The Sanders plan would make tuition free at public colleges and universities throughout the country.

2. STOP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM MAKING A PROFIT ON STUDENT LOANS.

Over the next decade, it has been estimated that the federal government will make a profit of over \$110 billion on student loan programs. This is morally wrong and it is bad economics. As President, Sen. Sanders will prevent the federal government from profiteering on the backs of college students and use this money instead to significantly lower student loan interest rates.

3. SUBSTANTIALLY CUT STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATES.

Under the Sanders plan, the formula for setting student loan interest rates would go back to where it was in 2006. If this plan were in effect today, interest rates on undergraduate loans would drop from 4.29% to just 2.37%.

4. ALLOW AMERICANS TO REFINANCE STUDENT LOANS AT TODAY'S LOW INTEREST RATES.

It makes no sense that you can get an auto loan today with an interest rate of 2.5%, but millions of college graduates are forced to pay interest rates of 5-7% or more for decades. Under the Sanders plan, Americans would be able to refinance their student loans at today's low interest rates.

5. ALLOW STUDENTS TO USE NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID AND WORK STUDY PROGRAMS TO MAKE COLLEGE DEBT FREE.

The Sanders plan would require public colleges and universities to meet 100% of the financial needs of the lowest-income students. Low-income students would be able to use federal, state and college financial aid to cover room and board, books and living expenses. And Sanders would more than triple the federal work study program to build valuable career experience that will help them after they graduate.

6. FULLY PAID FOR BY IMPOSING A TAX ON WALL STREET SPECULATORS.

The cost of this \$75 billion a year plan is fully paid for by imposing a tax of a fraction of a percent on Wall Street speculators who nearly destroyed the economy seven years ago. More than 1,000 economists have endorsed a tax on Wall Street speculation and today some 40 countries throughout the world have imposed a similar tax including Britain, Germany, France, Switzerland, and China. If the taxpayers of this country could bailout Wall Street in 2008, we can make public colleges and universities tuition free and debt free throughout the country.

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/02/03/politics/bernie-sanders-free-college-costs/>

Can Bernie Sanders deliver free college for all? Not so easily

Tami Luhby, CNN

Updated 6:03 AM ET, Wed February 3, 2016



Bernie Sanders: Wall Street tax will pay for college 01:11

Story highlights

- It might not be possible to implement Sanders plan
- Many states are already having trouble funding higher education

(CNN)Free college for all may sound appealing, but it's not as simple as Bernie Sanders makes it out to be.

Paying for college isn't only a major burden for families. It's also very costly for states, who would have to pick up one-third of students' tuition at public colleges and universities under Sanders' plan.

This would hit states at a time when most are having trouble funding higher education as it is. They are shifting more of the responsibility to students -- hiking tuition and fees -- to free up revenue to pay for Medicaid and K-12 education.

"There's not a lot of extra money to spend on other programs," said Brian Sigriz, state fiscal studies director for the National Association of State Budget Officers. "Things still remain tight."

What's more, many governors and lawmakers aren't keen on expanding state-based programs, even with the promise of federal funding. Some may not want to be beholden to Washington D.C., while others may not agree with subsidizing students from higher-income families.

Take Medicaid expansion. Nearly half of states have yet to sign up, despite the promise of 100% federal support initially. Holdouts say either they are ideologically opposed or they simply can't afford it.

Sanders' [free college plan](#) would require states buy in big.

The Vermont senator hasn't released many details on his proposal. However, his campaign pointed to legislation he introduced last year that called for the federal government to cover two-thirds of the bill for undergraduate students, with the states handling the rest. This would cost the feds \$47 billion a year, while states would be left with a \$23 billion tab, he estimated.

The price tag may turn out to be even bigger, depending on how many more students enroll. A tuition-free degree would likely attract many takers.

Some 11.1 million students attended public colleges and universities in 2014. (This is the full-time equivalent figure, which takes into account those who only take a few classes a year. It also includes both undergraduates and graduate students.)



Sanders: Last night we began the political revolution 00:57

States allocated about \$73 billion to higher education in 2014, while students kicked in \$64.3 billion in tuition, according to the State Higher Education Executive Officers.

The balance, however, has shifted more to tuition in recent years. In 2000, states spent \$51.9 billion to educate 8.6 million students. Students paid \$21.5 billion.

During the recent recession, states slashed higher education budgets, sending tuition and fees skyrocketing and leading to student protests in several states, most notably California. While governors and legislators have restored some funding in recent years, it remains below historical levels.

Sanders says he would pay for his college plan -- which includes reducing student loan interest rates -- by taxing Wall Street speculators, though some experts question whether that would cover the full cost.

States, meanwhile, would also face the tough choice of either raising taxes or cutting funding for other programs.

"Is [free college] likely to occur, given all the other demands states and the federal government face? It's difficult," said George Pernsteiner, former chancellor of the Oregon University System who now heads the higher ed executive officers group.

Sanders' campaign, however, believes the deal is too good for states to pass up.

"It's a very, very generous match," said Warren Gunnels, the candidate's policy director.

While some states were reluctant to sign up for Medicaid when it was first introduced in the 1960s, they all did eventually, Gunnels said. The feds provide 60% of the funding for that program. States are also gradually agreeing to expand Medicaid, which began in 2014.

Just like with Medicaid, lawmakers will come under pressure to accept the federal funds, especially if neighboring states do. Students and their parents will demand the same benefits as their peers elsewhere.

Also, employers will likely support eliminating tuition since it would give them a better educated hiring pool, said Barmak Nassirian, director, federal policy analysis, American Association of State Colleges and Universities. It could also boost local economies.

"Governors tend to run to free money when it's out there," he said.