

## **Supplemental Appendix**

### **Targeting Social Assistance: The Evolution of College Financial Aid in Colombia**

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Table 1—: Test Takers Who Met Financial Aid Programs' Eligibility Criteria, 2012–19

| Year | SABER  | Test takers |              |              |         |                 |                   | Recipients |  |
|------|--------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--|
|      | 11     | No          |              |              | Has     | SISBEN eligible |                   |            |  |
|      | cutoff | All         | SISBEN score | SISBEN score | All     | Top 10%         | SABER 11 eligible |            |  |
| (1)  | (2)    | (3)         | (4)          | (5)          | (6)     | (7)             | (8)               | (9)        |  |
| 2012 |        | 550,141     | 227,766      | 322,375      | 247,923 | 13,070          |                   |            |  |
| 2013 |        | 525,490     | 202,424      | 323,066      | 259,252 | 13,643          |                   |            |  |
| 2014 | 310    | 542,341     | 193,235      | 349,106      | 287,797 | 15,680          | 14,487            | 9,373      |  |
| 2015 | 318    | 538,001     | 178,044      | 359,957      | 305,111 | 19,164          | 16,195            | 11,929     |  |
| 2016 | 342    | 545,563     | 167,625      | 377,938      | 326,661 | 23,048          | 10,077            | 8,618      |  |
| 2017 | 348    | 540,840     | 161,521      | 379,319      | 332,675 | 24,159          | 7,600             | 7,180      |  |
| 2018 | 359    | 544,527     | 148,280      | 396,247      | 348,684 | 23,536          | 3,751             | 3,461      |  |
| 2019 | 350    | 547,883     | 137,151      | 410,732      | 356,370 | 22,996          | 5,442             | 4,126      |  |

*Note:* This table provides details on the yearly eligibility criteria for SPP (2014–17) and GE (2018–19), which were based on the student's SABER 11 test score and the household's SISBEN wealth index. Column (2) reports the SABER 11 score cutoff used each year. Columns (3) through (8) report the number of test takers, broken down into subgroups defined by their SISBEN and SABER 11 scores. Column (9) displays the number of students who received financial aid from SPP or GE.

*Source:* Authors' calculations based on SABER 11 (Icfes), SISBEN (DNP), and ICETEX.

Table 2—: Characteristics of the SPP and GE College Financial Aid Programs

| Program name | Year | Conditions colleges' tuition | Incentivizes public college enrollment | Stipend for those who relocate (in minimum wages) | Geographic affirmative action |
|--------------|------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|              | (1)  | (2)                          | (3)                                    | (4)                                               | (5)                           |
| SPP 1        | 2014 |                              |                                        | 4                                                 |                               |
| SPP 2        | 2015 |                              |                                        | 4                                                 |                               |
| SPP 3        | 2016 |                              |                                        | 4                                                 |                               |
| SPP 4        | 2017 | ✓                            | ✓                                      | 4                                                 |                               |
| GE 1         | 2018 | ✓                            | ✓                                      | 2 or 3                                            | ✓                             |
| GE 2         | 2019 | ✓                            | ✓                                      | 2 or 3                                            | ✓                             |

*Note:* This table details additional characteristics of the SPP and GE financial aid programs from 2014 to 2019. Column (2): In 2017, private colleges were required to keep tuition fees stable in real terms, and in 2018, they had to reduce tuition for beneficiaries by 25 percent. Column (3): In 2017, SPP offered a lump sum for students who chose public institutions (half of a monthly minimum wage). In 2018, this incentive was increased to between US\$927 and US\$3,379, depending on the institution. Column (4): In 2018, to deter talent concentration in large cities, the government reduced stipends from four to two monthly minimum wages for students relocating to another metropolitan area (three if no participating colleges were in their department). Column (5): To address geographic disparities, in 2018, the government ensured a minimum of three recipients from each of Colombia's 32 departments, selecting the top three SABER 11 scores that met the SISBEN criteria. Indigenous applicants were exempt from the SISBEN requirement. In 2019, aid was automatically extended to the top 10 students from Colombia's 12 poorest departments (Amazonas, Arauca, Caquetá, Casanare, Cesar, Chocó, Guainía, Guaviare, La Guajira, San Andrés, Vaupés, and Vichada).

*Source:* Authors' calculations based on ICETEX reports.