



# Investigation and Research on Educational Assistance Countermeasures for Rural Poor Students and Their Families in Chongqing Colleges and Universities During the Epidemic of COVID-19

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**Abstract:** This paper empirically investigates the impact of COVID-19 epidemic on rural poor students and their families in colleges and universities in Chongqing. The results show that COVID-19 epidemic will aggravate the academic and employment difficulties of rural poor college students. It seriously affects the family income of rural poor college students, which can easily lead to poverty of rural poor college students and their families. In view of the challenges and problems, this paper puts forward the educational assistance countermeasures for the rural poor students and their families in colleges and universities in Chongqing during the epidemic prevention and control period by adhering to the "four combinations" and precise implementation of policies.

**Keywords:** COVID-19 epidemic situation, poor college students, impact, investigation and research

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## 1. Introduction

COVID-19 epidemic has had a great impact on China's social and economic development<sup>[1]</sup>, and has brought huge challenges to the poverty alleviation work in 2020. In this regard, President Xi Jinping asked local departments at all levels to earnestly do a good job in epidemic prevention and control and poverty alleviation to ensure the completion of the goal and task of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and poverty alleviation<sup>[2]</sup>. The new crown epidemic will have a greater impact on poor rural students and their families in colleges and universities, increase the risk of returning to poverty for poor student families in rural areas that have been lifted out of poverty, and easily lead to academic and employment difficulties for poor college students<sup>[3-4]</sup>, thereby affecting the overall poverty alleviation. The effect of work<sup>[5]</sup>. This paper aims to understand the impact of the epidemic on poor rural students and their families in Chongqing's colleges and universities through empirical investigations, and propose effective solutions<sup>[6]</sup>.

## 2 Data sources and sample overview

### 2.1 Data sources

The Research Center for Precision Poverty Alleviation and Regional Development Evaluation of Southwest University and the New Education Innovation Center of Southwest University used the gold data online platform from April 10 to April 13, 2020 to investigate poor rural students and their families in Chongqing. A special survey on the impact of the new crown epidemic on poor rural college students and their families was conducted. This survey is divided into questionnaire survey and telephone interview. Among them, 859 online questionnaire surveys were completed, 850 valid questionnaires, and the questionnaire effective rate reached 98.96%. At the same time, 37 village officials or members of the village task force were interviewed by telephone.

### 2.2 Sample structure analysis

In terms of sample composition, among the interviewed students, there are 530 female students, accounting for 62.35% of the total sample size, and 320 male students, accounting for 37.65% of the total sample size. In terms of grade structure, there are 65 first-year undergraduate students, accounting for 7.65%, 162 undergraduate graduates, accounting for 19.06%, and 623 undergraduate students in other grades, accounting for 73.29%. From the perspective of the poverty status of student families, mainly poverty-stricken households, accounting for 97.29% of the total sample size.

### **3. The impact of the new crown epidemic on poor rural college students and their families**

Through the analysis of 850 questionnaires, combined with telephone interviews with village officials or working teams in the village, the impact of the new crown epidemic on poor rural college students and their families was sorted out and summarized.

#### **3.1 There are difficulties in online learning and employment pressure after graduation**

Since the outbreak of the epidemic, Chongqing's colleges and universities have persisted in suspending classes and using online platforms to take classes online, which has largely solved the problem of student learning. However, due to poor economic conditions and poor learning equipment for students from poor rural families, 17.00% of the poor students surveyed are not suitable for online learning. More importantly, poor areas are geographically remote, especially in the Wuling Mountain area, where communication signals are unstable. 44.33% of the students believe that the signal of home learning is average or poor, and there is a disconnection phenomenon; 55.88% of the students interviewed believe that online learning lacks interactivity, is not suitable for online learning, and its effect is average or poor. At the same time, for students from poor families who are about to graduate, there is greater pressure on graduation thesis and employment. 54.97% of the classmates have varying degrees of psychological pressure, and occasionally have bad emotions such as tension, anxiety, fear, upset, and panic. On the one hand, students cannot conduct graduation experiments and can only write graduation thesis by reading the literature, resulting in a decline in the quality of the thesis. 70.25% of students worry about the quality of the paper. On the other hand, the epidemic has led to a sharp drop in the number of employers recruiting, making employment more difficult. Among them, 48.73% of graduating students believe that missing the critical period of job hunting has a serious impact on employment.

#### **3.2 It is more difficult to resume work and production, and short-term family income drops sharply**

Working alone, the whole family gets rid of poverty. Poverty alleviation through employment is the most stable and most important means of poverty alleviation. Since the outbreak of the epidemic, all regions have accurately and steadily promoted the resumption of work and production, and restored and stabilized employment. However, the resumption rate of small, medium and micro enterprises with a concentration of migrant workers is still not high, and development pressure is high. Survey data shows that 67.09% of poor families' migrant workers have been affected, and there are greater difficulties in migrant workers and nearby employment. The local government has introduced various measures to organize and solve the employment problem of migrant workers, but 13.92% of students think the effect is not obvious and the target is not strong. At the same time, in certain high-risk areas, poor farmers can only be isolated at home, which affects spring farming production. Although the epidemic situation has improved and the masses are rushing to catch spring ploughing, the output of crops is still affected. Therefore, migrant workers are hindered and spring ploughing lags behind. 84.09% of students believe that the epidemic has affected family income to varying degrees. Among them, 23.89% of students believe that their family income has decreased by more than 50% over the same period last year, and 82.82% of students believe that their family income has decreased by more than 25%. It is more difficult to resume work and production, and incomes have dropped significantly, leading to a greater risk of poor families returning to poverty due to the epidemic. Among them, 27.12% of rural households believe that the family is at risk of returning to poverty.

#### **3.3 The development of the poverty alleviation industry has stagnated, and the poor sales of poverty alleviation products have been obvious**

Industrial development is the key to achieving sustained and stable poverty alleviation for poor farmers. However, compared with cities, rural areas have weak links in prevention and control systems, prevention and control resources, and even villagers' awareness of prevention and control. The advancement of poverty alleviation projects faces a higher risk of epidemics, and there is greater pressure to complete the projects on schedule. 30.74% of the students surveyed believe that the epidemic has a greater impact on poverty alleviation industries. At the same time, the sales and consumption chains of agricultural and livestock products have not yet fully recovered, and some products are backlogged. As an emerging power source for poverty alleviation, the special aquaculture industry has encountered a total fast. Consumption of rural tourism and farm stays is still frozen. 37.25% of the students interviewed believed that the epidemic had a greater impact on the sales of household agricultural products. The products cannot be sold anymore, and some products that are consumables have deteriorated, and economic benefits have been seriously damaged. The stagnant industrial development and unsalable

products have caused poor farmers to be under greater pressure to repay the small loans for poverty alleviation used to develop their industries. Among the rural households applying for poverty alleviation microloans, 16.82% of the rural households indicated that they could not repay the loans on time, and there was a certain financial risk.

### **3.4 The assistance and linkage mechanism between universities and the government needs to be further strengthened**

Since the outbreak of the epidemic, governments at all levels have insisted that poverty alleviation work is not closed, and invested human, material and financial resources to seize the time to formulate response measures. However, the propaganda of assistance measures for poor rural students and their families in colleges and universities needs to be further strengthened. 83.54% of students said they did not know the government's assistance measures during the epidemic. However, colleges and universities mainly use economic poverty alleviation to help poor students, and provide relief and support to poor families. The assistance measures are relatively simple, and the amount of financial aid is relatively limited, causing poor student families to face the dual risks of the epidemic and the return to poverty. Colleges and local governments lack information sharing and assistance communication mechanisms for poor rural students in colleges and universities, and they have not formed a joint assistance force. 53.70% of students are not clear about the policies they enjoy.

## **4. Educational assistance measures for poor rural students and their families in colleges and universities**

### **4.1 Insist on combining prevention and control with precise policy implementation**

In response to the possible impact of the new crown pneumonia epidemic on poor rural college students and their families, focus on the thoughts, worries, and expectations of poor college students. In the process of implementing epidemic prevention and control, relief and support are provided to poor families, help poor college students solve practical difficulties, and make epidemic prevention and control humane. Colleges and universities in Chongqing must take timely financial assistance measures and establish a support and communication mechanism for poor rural students in colleges and universities to help them relieve economic pressure. It is necessary to strengthen academic guidance and assistance in a timely manner, and carry out academic guidance through video online guidance, sharing of online learning resources, etc., to help students stay on the line and grow up. It is necessary to strengthen employment guidance services, develop a number of online employment guidance courses, open an employment consultation hotline, organize online graduates "cloud recruitment" and other double selection meetings to provide employment assistance to poor graduates. It is necessary to promptly open a psychological counseling service hotline, set up psychological guidance courses, and provide psychological counseling services for impoverished college students and their families to help them relieve panic and anxiety, and cultivate a rational, peaceful and positive attitude.

### **4.2 Insist on combining fighting the epidemic with poverty alleviation and education**

The prevention and control of the epidemic is a people's war of the whole nation, and the fight against poverty is a tough battle that must be won. No one is an outsider. As a college student in the new era, we must bravely shoulder our mission, face difficulties, take action, participate in it, and contribute our youth. Universities in Chongqing must combine the needs of epidemic prevention and control, poverty alleviation tasks, and the needs of student growth and development, focusing on ideal and belief education, patriotism education, labor education, social responsibility education, life and health education, etc., and organize living in poverty-stricken villages. Rural college students in poverty-stricken areas help spring plowing production on the spot, participate in voluntary services for epidemic prevention and control, give full play to their professional advantages to help fight poverty, and guide young college students to build "four consciousnesses" and strengthen "four confidences."

### **4.3 Insist on combining preventing poverty-returning with risk prevention and control**

At present, the domestic epidemic prevention and control situation is positively improving, while the foreign epidemic situation is still severe. However, the task of preventing and controlling the epidemic is still arduous, and the fight against poverty is facing new challenges. Faced with new problems and new situations, the local government must have new measures and new countermeasures. The government must carry out a major investigation and a thorough investigation of all registered households, find out and grasp the information of households returning to poverty and under-evaluation of poor households that may be caused by the epidemic, and formulate relevant poverty alleviation measures to achieve

"one household, one policy" , To ensure that college students who have established a filed card family do not drop out or fall behind. It is necessary to proactively promote the employment and resumption of work and production of college students in filed registered households, and organize the mobilization of labor from poor college students who have been affected by the epidemic by conducting relevant professional skills training in a timely manner and contacting leading local companies to provide jobs. Employment nearby. It is necessary to solidly help the families of college students who have established registered card households to prepare for spring ploughing, and actively help find channels for technological increase in production and income. For agricultural products that are unsalable due to the epidemic, the local government must contact orders and "package" agricultural products to ensure the income of poor college students. It is necessary to formulate and promulgate financial assistance and medical security policies for the families of college students who have filed cardholders in a timely manner. In response to the impact of the epidemic, a microfinance policy has been formulated to increase the loan line of microfinance for poverty alleviation, extend the discount period, and help the industrial development of poor families. At the same time, financial aid should be given to families of impoverished college students who have been diagnosed with new coronary pneumonia.

#### 4.4 Insist on combining information sharing with school and local collaboration

Colleges and universities are not only an important cradle for the country to train talents, but also bear the responsibility of serving the development of local economic and social undertakings. Promoting the integration of universities and localities, establishing a coordination mechanism between universities and localities, and realizing joint construction and sharing between universities and localities, will help form a joint force of assistance and complete the tasks of epidemic prevention and control and poverty alleviation. Colleges and universities in Chongqing must establish a poverty alleviation mechanism to help poverty-stricken towns and villages at designated locations, to have a thorough understanding of the actual problems of poor towns and towns, and to make suggestions for them. At the same time, it is necessary to pair up with the families of impoverished township and registered college students for one-to-one tracking and assistance; work with the township to effectively solve the economic, academic and employment problems of the impoverished college students who have established the archives; the rural community must be the bridge and key. Establish a school-home-community integrated collaborative education system, extend ideological and political education to every family, and form a joint effort; organize and mobilize poor college students to actively participate in the front-line battlefield of epidemic prevention and control and poverty alleviation, and participate in epidemic prevention and control and poverty alleviation volunteers Service activities, be a combatant, propagandist, and supporter for epidemic prevention and control and poverty alleviation. Build a science and technology service team, send science and technology service personnel to poverty-stricken areas, rely on the advantages of disciplines, carry out precise consultation on science and technology services, combine scientific and technological achievements with agricultural production, and improve the development level of characteristic agriculture.

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