

Student Financial Aid

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To Apply

To apply for financial aid, students must complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** annually. Apply electronically (fafsa.gov). To request a paper application, contact the U.S. Department of Education (1-800-433-3243). FAFSA Code for UMaine: **002053**

Deadlines

The FAFSA must be received by the Federal Processing Center by **March 1** to be considered for priority financial aid. Please submit by Feb. 15 to allow sufficient processing time. Applications submitted after March 1 will be considered for limited aid programs.

Helpful Links

The Barking Foundation
 (barkingfoundation.org)
 College Board (collegeboard.com)
 Finance Authority of Maine
 (famemaine.com)
 FastWeb (fastweb.com)
 Maine Community Foundation
 (mainecf.org)
 Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute
 (mitchellinstitute.org)
 Sallie Mae (salliemae.com)
 SmartStudent Guide to Financial Aid
 (finaid.org)
 U.S. Department of Education
 (studentaid.ed.gov)

Office of Student Financial Aid

The Office of Student Financial Aid administers a variety of federal, state and university aid programs to help University of Maine students finance their education. Office staff award, process and disburse financial aid for University of Maine students, and advise students and their families, the campus community and the general public on issues related to financial aid. All students wishing to receive financial aid must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually in order for financial need to be determined.

How is need for financial aid determined?

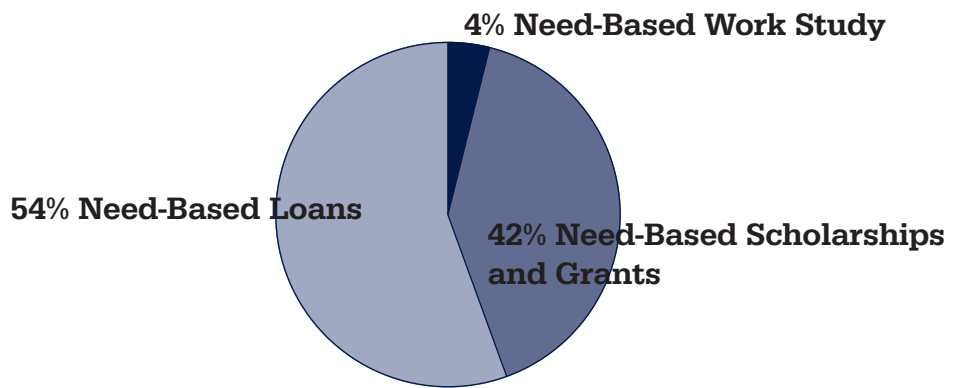
$$\text{Financial Need} = \text{Cost of Attendance} - \text{Expected Family Contribution}$$

Cost of Attendance includes tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, travel and miscellaneous expenses. **Expected Family Contribution** is the amount the federal financial aid formula has calculated that a family can contribute to their student's education. **Financial need** is calculated as the difference between the cost of attendance and the expected family contribution, and is what the student's financial aid award package is based upon.

Distribution of Aid

Of all undergraduate students who apply for financial assistance, 87 percent received some sort of need-based financial aid.

Types and Amounts of Need-Based Aid



Total Need-Based Scholarships and Grants awarded in 2010–11 = \$36,222,063

Total Need-Based Loans awarded in 2010–11 = \$47,361,816

Total Need-Based Work Study awarded in 2010–11 = \$3,450,262

Eligibility for Financial Aid

To be eligible for most types of federal, state and university financial aid, a student must:

- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- have earned a high school diploma or GED
- be offered admission to a University of Maine degree program
- not be in default on a previous federal educational loan program
- continue to be in good academic standing
- continue to make satisfactory progress toward a degree

Financial Aid Programs

The grant programs listed below are only available to students enrolled in their first undergraduate degree program:

Federal Pell Grant – The largest of the federal grant programs, the Federal Pell Grant is available to students who demonstrate exceptional need.* The Pell Grant amount depends on the student's financial need and enrollment level.

Federal Supplemental Grant** – The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) is available to students who demonstrate exceptional need.* The SEOG amount depends on the student's financial need.

State Grants – The State of Maine Grant Program provides grants to undergraduate students attending an eligible institution in Maine. Students must complete the FAFSA annually by May 1 and demonstrate financial need* to be considered for these funds. Many other states offer grants through similar programs. Students should check with their state of residence to determine requirements.

University Grant** – University Grants are available to undergraduate students who have demonstrated financial need.*

Federal Perkins Loan** – The Federal Perkins Loan is a low-interest loan for students who have demonstrated financial need.* Perkins Loans are federal funds administered by the University of Maine as the lender. The interest on a Perkins Loan is subsidized by the federal government while the student is in school and during a nine-month grace period.

Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan – The Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan is a low-interest loan for students who have demonstrated financial need.* Federal Direct Stafford Loan funds are made available through the Department of Education, but eligibility is determined by, and the initial processing is done through, the school. The interest on a Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan is paid by the federal government while the student is in school and during a six-month grace period.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan – The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan program is available for students who have limited or no demonstrated financial need and interest accrues on the loan while the student is in school.

Federal Work Study** – Work-Study awards are a form of financial aid that provide jobs for undergraduate students who need help to pay their educational expenses. Students must have demonstrated financial need.*

* Demonstrated financial need is determined as a result of the student's FAFSA information.

** To be considered for these programs, a student's FAFSA must be received by the Federal Processing Center by March 1 and students must respond to any requests for information from the University in a timely fashion.

About UMaine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, go online (umaine.edu). Equal opportunity information also is available online (umaine.edu/eo).

How do I apply?

Visit go.umaine.edu for an application as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.



Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online (factsheets.umaine.edu). This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.

