§11614. Determination of grants

Grants to eligible students must be determined as follows, subject to the limitations set forth in section 11613. [PL 2001, c. 70, §8 (AMD).]

- 1. Priority for awards of grants. Students with the lowest student aid index must be given priority over all other eligible students for the awards of grants. [PL 2023, c. 23, §5 (AMD).]
- **2. Minimum amount.** It is the intent of the Legislature that grants awarded under this chapter, except as provided in subsections 4, 5 and 6, may not be less than \$1,000 or, if sufficient funds are appropriated for this purpose, less than \$2,500. The authority may establish by rule increased grant amounts for students attending their 2nd, 3rd and 4th years, or the equivalents thereof, at institutions of higher education. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

[PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. XXX, §1 (AMD).]

- 3. Scholarships for students attending private institutions. [PL 1997, c. 643, Pt. HH, §2 (RP).]
- **4. Prorated grants.** A grant recipient whose course load is reduced from full time is entitled to receive a grant prorated for that term of the recipient's enrollment. [PL 2001, c. 70, §8 (AMD).]
- 5. Withdrawal. If a recipient of a grant withdraws from an institution and the student is entitled to a refund of tuition, fees or other charges, the institution shall make a refund payment directly to the authority in accordance with the institution's refund policy.

 [PL 2001, c. 70, §8 (AMD).]
- **6. Safety net.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the authority may not allocate less in grants under this chapter for students attending the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy, the Maine Community College System and private postsecondary institutions than was allocated for students in each of those institutions or groups of institutions of higher education in 1988-89

[PL 2001, c. 70, §8 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §4 (AFF).]

7. Part-time students. The authority may allocate grants to eligible part-time students. The authority must establish eligibility criteria by rulemaking pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

[PL 2011, c. 642, §4 (AMD).]

8. Exception for certain public institutions outside the State. The authority may adopt rules establishing criteria and an application process for making grant awards to students who wish to pursue a course of study available only at a public institution outside the State as part of the New England regional student program offered by the New England Board of Higher Education established by Title 5, section 12004-K, subsection 2. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

[PL 2011, c. 642, §5 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1989, c. 559, §10 (NEW). PL 1991, c. 573, §2 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 832, §3 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 643, §§HH1,2 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 233, §1 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 70, §8 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 20, §OO2 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 20, §OO4 (AFF). PL 2011, c. 642, §§3-5 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. XXX, §1 (AMD). PL 2023, c. 23, §5 (AMD).

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