

FEDERAL GRANTS

Federal grants are awarded to both Iowa resident and non-resident students. Eligible students can receive these federal grants for attendance at any postsecondary education institution participating in the program. **Complete and submit a FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov as soon as possible after October 1 to apply for federal financial aid programs.**

Pell Grants

Pell Grants are funded by the federal government to assist the neediest undergraduate students. For many students, Pell Grants provide a financial aid foundation to which aid from other federal and non-federal sources is added. The maximum grant award is \$5,815 for the 2016-17 award year. Data from your FAFSA determines Pell Grant eligibility.

Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) are based on financial need as determined by the results of the FAFSA. Pell-eligible students with exceptional financial need are given priority. Eligible recipients may receive between \$100 and \$4,000 per year depending on when they apply, financial need, the funding at the college or university and the policies at the college or university's financial aid office. Not all colleges and universities participate in the SEOG program.

Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grants (TEACH Grants)

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant program was created to help all levels of collegiate students enrolled in teaching preparation programs pay for their college education. In exchange for receiving a TEACH Grant, recipients must agree to serve as full-time teachers in designated high-need fields in public or private non-profit elementary or secondary schools that serve low-income students.

These grants are available to eligible undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate students for a maximum amount of \$4,000 per year. The award amount is reduced for students enrolled on a part-time basis. Students must meet academic standards (generally, scoring above the 75th percentile on one or more portions of a college admissions test or maintaining a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25). More information on TEACH Grants, including high-need areas and eligible low-income schools, is available in the Student Resources section of IowaCollegeAid.gov.

WORK-STUDY AND PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

You may decide to pay for some of your college expenses by taking a part-time job. The extra income may reduce the amount you need to borrow in student loans. Part-time jobs can include work-study and jobs on and off campus. Work-study provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need. If you are eligible for work-study, your college or university will include it as an option for you to consider in your financial aid award letter. Students not eligible for work-study can still seek part-time work to assist with their college expenses. When searching for a part-time job, keep in mind the following:

- While working teaches financial responsibility and self-discipline, it's important that it doesn't conflict with your primary objective: completing your college education.
- Do not work so many hours that you jeopardize the amount of time you have to study or attend class. Typically, part-time employment will not affect grades if you work 20 hours or less each week.
- Don't discount a part-time job opportunity that is outside your field of study. You can still gain real-life, marketable experiences. Collaborating with colleagues, answering to a boss and meeting deadlines will benefit you no matter your career path.

// Study and work hard. Just because you don't excel at something doesn't mean you will fail. Ask for help! //

Leticia Paulsen,
freshman at Iowa Lakes
Community College

TEACH GRANTS TEACHING REQUIREMENTS

If you do not fulfill the required teaching service, your TEACH Grants will become unsubsidized Direct Stafford loans that must be repaid to the U.S. Department of Education. In addition, you will be charged interest starting from the first disbursement date of each grant.