

# CHAPTER 8

## IOWA GRANT PROGRAM

### Overview

The Iowa Grant Program is a statewide need-based program to assist high-need Iowa residents with awards ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. Students meeting the priority specifications detailed in Section A.2 may receive up to \$6,658 during the 2014-15 academic year. Awards are prorated for students enrolling for less than full-time.

**Date Established:** May, 1990

### Funding:

<b>IOWA GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING HISTORY</b>			
<b>ACADEMIC YEAR</b>	<b>STATE APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>LEAP<sup>1</sup>/SLEAP<sup>2</sup> FUNDS</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>
1990-91	\$1,350,000	\$141,125	\$1,491,125
1991-92	\$1,426,155	\$141,571	\$1,567,726
1992-93	\$1,397,138	\$0	\$1,397,138
1993-94	\$1,435,790	\$250,000	\$1,685,790
1994-95	\$1,397,790	\$220,000	\$1,617,790
1995-96	\$1,426,683	\$220,000	\$1,646,683
1996-97	\$1,397,790	\$139,504	\$1,537,294
1997-98	\$1,397,790	\$205,000	\$1,602,790
1998-99	\$1,161,850	\$273,359	\$1,435,209
1999-00	\$1,161,850	\$273,362	\$1,435,212
2000-01	\$1,144,850	\$451,517	\$1,596,367
*2001-02	\$1,076,159	\$325,577	\$1,401,736
2002-03	\$1,029,884	\$322,339	\$1,352,223
2003-04	\$1,029,884	\$0	\$1,029,884
2004-05	\$1,029,784	\$347,840	\$1,377,624
2005-06	\$1,029,784	\$323,256	\$1,353,040
2006-07	\$1,029,784	\$323,463	\$1,353,247
2007-08	\$1,070,976	\$749,532	\$1,820,508
2008-09	\$1,070,976	\$739,067	\$1,810,043
2009-10	\$981,743	\$0**	\$981,743
2010-11	\$848,761	\$0	\$848,761
2011-12	\$791,177	\$0	\$791,177
2012-13	\$791,177	\$0	\$791,177
2013-14	\$791,177	\$0	\$791,177
2014-15	\$791,177	\$0	\$791,177

<sup>1</sup>State Student Incentive Grant Program name changed to Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Program in 1999.

<sup>2</sup>Supplemental Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Funding provided when LEAP funding exceeds \$30 million.

\*Reduced mid-year to \$1,029,884.

\*\*Lost LEAP/SLEAP eligibility mid-year due to 10% ATB cuts, as the Commission could not maintain the required Maintenance of Effort (MOE) in state appropriations.

## **A. ELIGIBILITY**

### **1. College and University**

The Code of Iowa limits eligibility to Iowa colleges and universities accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (NCA). NCA candidates are not eligible.

Each college or university must indicate to the Commission its intention to participate in this program.

Students attending the colleges and universities listed on the following page are eligible to receive Iowa Grant awards.

<b>Iowa Grant Participating Colleges and Universities</b>	
<b><u>Regent Institutions</u></b>	
Iowa State University	Ames
University of Iowa	Iowa City
University of Northern Iowa	Cedar Falls
<b><u>Private Colleges and Universities</u></b>	
AIB College of Business	Des Moines
Allen College	Waterloo
Briar Cliff College	Sioux City
Buena Vista University	Storm Lake
Central College	Pella
Clarke University	Dubuque
Coe College	Cedar Rapids
Cornell College	Mount Vernon
Dordt College	Sioux Center
Drake University	Des Moines
Emmaus Bible College	Dubuque
Faith Baptist Bible College	Ankeny
Graceland College	Lamoni
Grand View University	Des Moines
Grinnell College	Grinnell
Iowa Wesleyan College	Mt. Pleasant
Loras College	Dubuque
Luther College	Decorah
Maharishi University of Management	Fairfield
Mercy College of Health Sciences	Des Moines
Morningside College	Sioux City
Mount Mercy University	Cedar Rapids
Northwestern College	Orange City
St. Ambrose University	Davenport
St. Luke's College	Sioux City
Simpson College	Indianola
University of Dubuque	Dubuque
Upper Iowa University	Fayette
Wartburg College	Waverly
William Penn College	Oskaloosa
<b><u>Proprietary Colleges</u></b>	
Kaplan University	Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines, Mason City
Waldorf College	Forest City
<b><u>Community Colleges</u></b>	
Eastern Iowa Community College	Clinton, Muscatine
Des Moines Area Community College	Bettendorf
Hawkeye Community College	Des Moines
Hawkeye Community College	Waterloo
Indian Hills Community College	Centerville, Ottumwa
Iowa Central Community College	Fort Dodge
Iowa Lakes Community College	Estherville
Iowa Valley Community College	Ellsworth, Marshalltown
Iowa Western Community College	Council Bluffs
Kirkwood Community College	Cedar Rapids
North Iowa Area Community College	Mason City
Northeast Iowa Community College	Calmar, Peosta
Northwest Iowa Community College	Sheldon
Southeastern Community College	Burlington
Southwestern Community College	Creston
Western Iowa Tech Community College	Sioux City

## **2. Student**

In addition to the general eligibility requirements found in Chapter 1, eligible Iowa Grant recipients must be currently enrolled or planning to enroll at least part-time (3 hours minimum) in an undergraduate degree program at an eligible Iowa college or university.

Priority funding is reserved for Iowa residents under the age of 26 (or under the age of thirty if the student is a veteran and is eligible for benefits, or has exhausted benefits, under the federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008), is not a convicted felon as defined in Iowa Code section 910.15, and who meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Is the child of a peace officer, as defined in section 97A.1, who was killed in the line of duty as determined by the board of trustees of the Iowa department of public safety peace officers' retirement, accident, and disability system in accordance with section 97A.6, subsection 16.
- (2) Is the child of a police officer or a fire fighter, as defined in section 411.1, who was killed in the line of duty as determined by the statewide fire and police retirement system in accordance with section 411.6, subsection 15.
- (3) Is the child of a sheriff or deputy sheriff as defined in section 97B.49C, who was killed in the line of duty as determined by the Iowa public employees' retirement system in accordance with section 97B.52, subsection 2.
- (4) Is the child of a fire fighter or police officer included under section 97B.49B, who was killed in the line of duty as determined by the Iowa public employees' retirement system in accordance with section 97B.52, subsection 2.

Students meeting the priority criteria must complete both the FAFSA and a supplemental application specified by the Commission. The Commission will verify the eligibility of priority students, and notify financial aid directors of the students that will be attending their colleges or universities. Commission staff will withhold a specified amount of the appropriation to fund these awards (this specified amount will not be allocated to colleges/universities).

College and university staff award Iowa Grant allocations to eligible students at their college or university (college officials select recipients to expend their full Iowa Grant allocations). No priority students will be

funded through college allocations; Commission staff will reserve a specified amount of funds to award priority students.

Eligible full-time students may receive up to 8 semesters (or the quarter equivalent) of Iowa Grant assistance. Part-time students may receive up to 16 semesters (or the quarter equivalent) in assistance. Iowa Grant awards are not available for summer terms.

## **B. STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS**

Students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be eligible to receive Iowa Grants. There is no application deadline, but applicants must complete FAFSAs for the academic years during which they are seeking awards.

Priority students must complete both the FAFSA and a separate application provided by the Commission. Both applications should be completed by July 1.

## **C. COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ALLOCATIONS**

Funds are allocated to Iowa colleges and universities according to the annual legislative appropriation language. Distribution percentages by sector are:

Regent Universities	37.6%
Independent Colleges and Universities	36.5%
Area Community Colleges	25.9%

Allocations are made to colleges and universities which, in turn, select qualified recipients. The allocations are based on Iowa resident Pell Grant recipients at each eligible Iowa college or university. Students with the greatest need receive priority for assistance.

## **D. SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS**

Grants are awarded to eligible students by college and university officials in ascending Expected Family Contributions (EFC) rank order until available funds are fully committed. Awards made by college and university officials must be granted to those applicants who demonstrate the greatest financial need. Generally, Iowa Grant recipients have EFCs in the same range of the Federal Pell Grant for the corresponding award year. For the 2014-15 academic year, the EFC range is \$0 to \$5,157.

## **E. AWARD AMOUNTS AND LIMITS**

### **Priority Iowa Grant Recipients** (see Section A.2 above):

Iowa Grant recipients are eligible to receive maximum awards of \$6,658 for academic year 2014-15. The full-time priority Iowa Grant award is \$3,329 per semester. For students attending quarter schools, the maximum full-time award is \$2,220 for the first quarter, \$2,219 for the second quarter, and \$2,219 for the third quarter. Awards may not exceed financial need as determined by the Commission's need formula. The grant award should be allocated equally among semesters for similar levels of enrollment.

### **Regular Iowa Grant Recipients** (selected by the college or university):

Iowa Grant recipients are eligible to receive maximum awards of \$1,000 for academic year 2014-15. The full-time Iowa Grant award is \$500 per semester. For students attending quarter schools, the maximum full-time award is \$334 for the first quarter, \$333 for the second quarter, and \$333 for the third quarter. Awards may not exceed financial need as determined by the Commission's need formula. The grant award should be allocated equally among semesters for similar levels of enrollment.

### **All Iowa Grant Recipients:**

Qualified full-time resident students may receive Iowa Grants for no more than eight semesters of undergraduate study or the quarter or trimester equivalent. Awards for part-time students are calculated by dividing the yearly grant amount by 24 semester hours, or the quarter or trimester equivalent, and multiplying that amount by the number of hours students are enrolled. Qualified part-time resident students may receive grants for no more than 16 semesters of undergraduate study or the quarter or trimester equivalent.

Payments are credited on a per term basis by college or university officials and may be used to pay tuition, fees, and room and board charges. If credit balances remain after crediting grants to the students' accounts, college or university officials may distribute grant balances to students. Students must use the proceeds for other bona fide education expenses such as books, equipment, and transportation.

In no case may a college or university exceed its annual state allocation. Awards are not transferable among eligible Iowa colleges or universities.

## **F. AWARD NOTIFICATION**

College and university officials should provide award notices to all Iowa Grant recipients. Award notices must clearly indicate award amounts and the state programs from which students will benefit. All notices concerning state grants must include the following award notification statement:

**“In the event that available state funds are insufficient to pay the full amount of each approved grant, the Iowa College Student Aid Commission has the authority to administratively reduce the award.”**

## **G. RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY**

Financial need is determined annually on the basis of a new FAFSA filed by the applicant. Eligible Iowa students may be considered for subsequent awards if the students continue to meet Commission eligibility requirements and have not utilized cumulative Iowa Grant eligibility.

## **H. CHANGES/CORRECTIONS**

Any changes in awards must be provided to Commission staff electronically via the State Scholarship and Grant Reporting System (see Chapter 3 and Appendix A).

## **I. VERIFICATION/COMPLIANCE**

College officials are responsible for completing required federal verification procedures and for coordinating all aid to ensure compliance with student eligibility and allowable award amounts.

One disbursement of state-funded student financial aid may be made prior to completing the verification process as long as college or university officials have no reason to believe application information is inaccurate. If verification indicates that students are ineligible for aid, refunds must be made to state-funded programs.