

CHAPTER 7

ALL IOWA OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Overview

The All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship Program is a statewide need-based grant program that assists high-need Iowa residents with the cost of postsecondary education. Recipients must demonstrate a high level of financial need to receive awards up to the average tuition and fees at Iowa's Regent Universities. Awards are prorated for students enrolling on a less than full-time basis.

Date Established: May, 2007

Funding:

ALL IOWA OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FUNDING HISTORY			
ACADEMIC YEAR	STATE APPROPRIATION	LEAP ¹ /SLEAP ² FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDING
@2007-08	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000
@*2008-09	\$3,440,000	\$0	\$3,440,000
**2009-10	\$2,502,537	\$0	\$2,502,537
2010-11	\$2,413,949	\$0	\$2,413,949
2011-12	\$2,240,854	\$0	\$2,240,854
2012-13	\$2,240,854	\$0	\$2,240,854
2013-14	\$2,240,854	\$0	\$2,240,854
2014-15	\$2,240,854	\$0	\$2,240,854
#2015-16	\$2,740,854	\$0	\$2,740,854

@Original appropriation included \$500,000 earmark for Foster Care Grant Program.

Earmarked funds are not included in the appropriation above.

*Reduced by 1.5% due to mid-year across the board cut.

** Reduced by 10% due to across the board cut on 10/8/09. Backfill appropriation added \$250,254 on 10/28/09.

#Program changed to provide students the option of receiving the scholarship over one academic year or two.

A. ELIGIBILITY

1. College and University

The Code of Iowa limits eligibility to Iowa colleges and universities accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities (HLC). HLC candidates are not eligible.

Students attending the colleges and universities listed on the following page are eligible to receive All Iowa Opportunity Scholarships.

All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship Participating Colleges and Universities	
<u>Regent Institutions</u>	
Iowa State University	Ames
University of Iowa	Iowa City
University of Northern Iowa	Cedar Falls
<u>Private Colleges and Universities</u>	
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 University	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
<u>Proprietary Colleges</u>	
Kaplan University	Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines, Mason City
Waldorf College	Forest City
<u>Community Colleges</u>	
Eastern Iowa Community College	Clinton, Muscatine
	Bettendorf
Des Moines Area 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 All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship recipients must complete the FAFSA and Iowa Financial Aid Application and must be planning to enroll at least part-time (3 hours minimum) in an undergraduate degree program at an eligible Iowa college or university.

The student applicant must enroll at an eligible institution for the first time as a regular student within two academic years of high school graduation and continuously receive an award to maintain eligibility.

B. STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must complete the Iowa Financial Aid Application and must file Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSAs) as described in Chapter 1. Recipients must be on-time applicants (those meeting the Commission's March 1 priority deadline). If additional funding exists after awarding all eligible applications received on or before the priority deadline, additional applications will be considered.

C. SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarships are awarded by the Commission to on-time applicants (those meeting the Commission's March 1 priority deadline for completion of the FAFSA and Iowa Financial Aid Application) whose EFC levels are at or below the parameter defined by the Commission. If all applicants cannot be served due to funding limitations, priority will be given to students who participated in TRIO programs while in high school or students that graduated from alternative high school programs and students who participated in the GEAR UP program. **The EFC level for the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship Program for the 2015-16 academic year is \$7,885.** If funding permits, Commission staff will consider all applications submitted prior to the state July 1 deadline.

D. DISBURSEMENT OPTIONS AND AWARD AMOUNTS

Students may choose between two disbursement options for the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship; the maximum amount of their scholarship is determined by the disbursement option they select.

Option 1

Receive all scholarship proceeds during the 2015-2016 academic year **only**. All students choosing this option, who are enrolled full-time, may receive up to \$7,885 for the 2015-16 year only (including students at Iowa community colleges). There will be no scholarship award in the 2016-17 academic year.

Students who select this option and who attend full-time can receive up to \$3,943/\$3,942 per semester. For students attending quarter schools, the maximum full-time award is \$2,629/\$2,628/\$2,628 per quarter. Awards may not exceed financial need as determined by the Commission’s need formula.

Part-time students may receive assistance prorated based on their enrollment level. All Iowa Opportunity Scholarships are not available for summer terms. When determining eligibility for renewals, Commission staff will review prior year recipient enrollment statuses as reported by college and university officials in the State Scholarship and Grant Reporting System to determine if the applicant has received the maximum full-time or part-time assistance.

Payments are credited on a per term basis by college or university officials and credited to student accounts.

The following chart provides the maximum All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship award allowed per enrollment level based on the maximum award of **\$7,885**.

Enrollment Level	Semester	Quarter
Full-time 12+ credits	\$3,943/\$3,942	\$2,629/2,628/2,628
Three-Quarter Time 9, 10, 11 credits	\$2,957	\$1,972/1,971/1,971
Half – Time 6, 7, 8 credits	\$1,972	\$1,315/1,315/1,314
Less-than-half-time 3, 4, 5 credits	\$ 986	\$ 658/657/657

Option 2

Receive scholarship funds during the 2015-2016 **AND** 2016-2017 academic years. Students choosing this option may receive up to \$3,943 in 2015-16 and another disbursement of approximately \$3,943 ** in the 2016-17 academic year.

**The amount of this scholarship is based on the Regent average tuition and fee rate so the actual amount of the 2016-17 award is not known at this time.

Students who select this option and who attend full-time can receive up to \$1,972/1,971 per semester. For students attending quarter schools, the maximum full-time award is \$1,315/1,314/1,314 per quarter. Awards may not exceed financial need as determined by the Commission's need formula.

Part-time students may receive assistance prorated based on their enrollment level. All Iowa Opportunity Scholarships are not available for summer terms. When determining eligibility for renewals, Commission staff will review prior year recipient enrollment statuses as reported by college and university officials in the State Scholarship and Grant Reporting System to determine if the applicant has received the maximum full-time or part-time assistance.

Payments are credited on a per term basis by college or university officials and credited to student accounts.

The following chart provides the maximum All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship award allowed per enrollment level based on the maximum award of **\$3,943**.

Enrollment Level	Semester	Quarter
Full-time 12+ credits	\$1,972/\$1,971	\$1,315/1,314/1,314
Three-Quarter Time 9, 10, 11 credits	\$1,479	\$ 986
Half – Time 6, 7, 8 credits	\$ 986	\$ 658/657/657
Less-than-half-time 3, 4, 5 credits	\$ 493	\$ 329/329/328

E. AWARD NOTIFICATION

The Commission will provide electronic award notices to All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship recipients. Award notices will clearly indicate the disbursement options and associated amounts and will 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.”

F. RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY

Financial need is determined annually on the basis of a new FAFSA filed by the applicant. Scholarship recipients who choose to receive a scholarship award over two academic years will be considered for a second award if the recipient completes the FAFSA and Iowa Financial Aid Application by the priority deadline and continue to meet Commission eligibility requirements.

G. CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

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

H. 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.