



Pell Grant Eligibility

New Regulations effective July 1, 2012

Recently, President Obama signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74) which significantly impacted the Federal Pell Grant Program. Effective July 1, 2012, this law limits Federal Pell Grant to 12 semesters (or 600%) of Federal Pell Grant eligibility during the students' enrollment. This change affects all students regardless of when or where they received their first Pell Grant.

Effective Fall 2012, students who have already used 600% of their Pell Grant eligibility will no longer be eligible to receive Federal Grant and other federal and state assistance.

How does this change affect me?

If you attended any college for 4 years or longer and received the Pell Grant, you may have exhausted or be close to exhausting your 12 semesters of Pell Grant eligibility. The Department of Education began sending out notices to affected students who had a FAFSA on file for 2012-2013 in mid-April.

Can I review my lifetime Pell Grant usage?

The Department keeps track of your *Lifetime Eligibility Usage* (LEU) by adding together the percentages of your Pell Grant scheduled awards that you received for each award year. Beginning May 1, you may view your percentage of Pell Grant used by logging into http://www.nslds.ed.gov/nslds_SA/. Your "Lifetime Eligibility Used" percentage will be displayed in the "Grants" section. You must have your PIN from the Department of Education to log into this website.

Can I appeal my Pell Lifetime eligibility?

Students are not allowed to appeal for Pell Grant eligibility because the Federal Pell Grant limits are set by federal law.