



Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

Montana Resident Undergraduate Student Financial Aid – Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) – Eligibility Criteria and Procedures

The purpose of the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant is to support resident students who demonstrate exceptional financial need based on their Expected Financial Contribution (EFC), from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants will be implemented in accordance with Board of Regents Policy 940.8 – *Montana Resident Undergraduate Student Financial Aid*, and the following eligibility criteria and procedures.

A. A student is eligible to receive a SEOG grant providing the student:

1. has filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); and
2. is Pell Grant eligible.

B. AWARD AMOUNTS

1. Award amounts are determined by each campus and can vary, the federal minimum is \$100 and the maximum is \$4,000.

C. ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

1. A campus of the Montana University System (MUS), as defined in § 20-25-201;
2. A Montana community college, defined and organized as provided in § 20-15-101;
3. SEOG grants are awarded by each campus, based upon a student's FAFSA until all funds are extinguished.

D. AUTHORIZATION TO DISTRIBUTE FUNDS

1. Campuses report the amount of Federal SEOG funds they receive each year to the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE).
2. OCHE matches those funds, 3 federal dollars to 1 state dollar.
3. OCHE distributes state SEOG funding directly to each campus; each campus is responsible for awarding funds according to the established eligibility criteria.
4. Continued awards are contingent upon continued funding through the Federal Department of Education and the Montana State Legislature and can be discontinued at any time.

E. ADMINISTRATION

1. OCHE will develop and maintain appropriate procedures that enable SEOG grants to be administered in accordance with Board policy.
2. OCHE is charged with the central administration of the SEOG grants and is responsible for the disbursement of the state appropriated funds to each campus.
3. The MUS campuses are charged with the execution of the individual student awards according to the established eligibility criteria set forth in the operating procedures.