Title 4 - Codification of Board Policy Statements

Chapter 18

FINANCIAL AID

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**Section 1.  Grants-In-Aid – General Administration**

Unless otherwise provided, the following provisions governing the administration of Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) student grants-in-aid are applicable to all grant-in-aid categories defined by this Chapter.

1. The registration fees associated with the William S. Boyd School of Law, the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and the UNLV School of Dental Medicine are not eligible for a student grant-in-aid.

2. Laboratory and other special course fees will not be included in a student grant-in-aid award.

3. Except as otherwise provided, persons who receive a student grant-in-aid pursuant to this Chapter and enroll in a state-supported course shall receive a grant-in-aid not to exceed in value that portion of the per credit registration fee allocated to the State Supported Operating Budget (or General Fund).
   a. Student grants-in-aid for state-supported courses may be awarded for Fall, Spring and Summer semesters only.
   b. Summer session grants-in-aid for state-supported courses shall be equivalent in value to the per credit grant-in-aid allowed in the prior Spring semester.
   c. Self-supporting courses, including community service and continuing education courses, may be eligible for a grant-in-aid equivalent in value to the total registration fee charged or the amount of the per credit registration fee that would be allocated to the state-supported operating budget (for state-supported courses), whichever is less.
   d. Grants-in-aid provided to student athletes and student body officers designated by the President enrolled in state-support courses shall include a waiver of the Capital Improvement Fee and General Improvement Fee at the state college and community colleges; and the Capital Improvement Fee only at the universities.
   e. Student grant-in-aid recipients must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0.

(B/R 12/09)

**Section 2.  Grants-In-Aid, Resident and Nonresident Awards**

1. Annually, the Board of Regents shall allocate the permissible number of grants-in-aid that may be awarded by each NSHE institution for resident and nonresident undergraduate and graduate students, excluding those for professional staff and their dependents, to the extent that funding is available.

2. In-State Awards. Student grants-in-aid may be provided to undergraduate and graduate students who are residents of Nevada not to exceed a number equal to three percent of the total matriculated enrollment of students for the preceding Fall semester. The allocation of awards for resident students includes, but is not limited to, the following specific categories:
a. Members of federally recognized Native American tribes residing on tribal lands located wholly or partially within the boundaries of Nevada;

b. The financially dependent child or spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States killed in the line of duty while permanently stationed in Nevada, excluding the child or spouse of a member of the Nevada National Guard killed while performing duties pursuant to the fee waiver established for such in Title 4, Chapter 17.

c. Military personnel assigned to ROTC detachments within the NSHE and their spouses and financially dependent children are eligible for the duration of such assignment.

3. Out-of-State Awards. Student grants-in-aid may be provided to nonresident undergraduate and graduate students, including foreign students, not to exceed a number equal to three percent of the total matriculated enrollment of students for the preceding Fall semester for the payment of nonresident tuition as authorized by Nevada Revised Statutes 396.540.

(B/R 12/09)

Section 3. Scholarships, General

1. All scholarships and awards shall be administered by the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at UNR; the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office at UNLV; and the Financial Aid Offices of NSC and the community colleges, unless otherwise specified by the Board of Regents or by the donor and approved by the Board of Regents.

2. Except as otherwise provided, applicants for general and college/department undergraduate scholarships at UNR, UNLV, and NSC must have a minimum 2.75 grade point average for all college course work, with at least 12 credit hours completed at the universities and Nevada State College at Henderson.

3. Except as otherwise provided, applicants for regular freshman scholarships at UNR and UNLV must be eligible for admission.

4. Except as otherwise provided, applicants for general and college/department graduate scholarships at UNLV and UNR must have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and must be enrolled for a minimum of six credits for the semester of the award.

5. Pre-arranged donor restrictions may dictate a change in institutional procedures.

6. All scholarships and awards must be coordinated through the Financial Aid Office in accordance with federal regulations.

7. The institution may make exceptions to the provisions of this section for students with documented disabilities.
8. Exceptions to the provisions of this section may be made with approval of the President or the President's designee. An institution may establish an appeals process for those students who wish to appeal general and college/departmental award decisions. (B/R 6/11)

Section 4. **Student Loans - Types**

1. Emergency loans involving small amounts of money for short periods of time may be made to qualified students for bona fide emergencies.

2. University educational loans normally payable within a year may be made to qualified students for educationally connected expenses while they are enrolled on at least a half-time basis (six credits or more for undergraduates, five credits or more for graduate students).

3. Long-term educational loans on a low interest basis, repayable after graduation, are available through the University for qualified students under various federal or federal/state loan programs. (B/R 3/88)

Section 5. **Student Loans - Cancellation**

1. In the event of the death of a student financially indebted to the University, the Dean of Student Personnel Services may authorize the cancellation of such indebtedness.

2. Subsection 1 shall not supersede any federal or federal/state regulation governing National Direct Student Loans (NDSLs), nursing or other loan assistance cancellation provisions. (B/R 3/68)

Section 6. **Student Employment**

1. The NSHE policy in regard to student employment on campus is that all part-time hourly-rate positions on campus paid from the Wages Account will be listed with and filled as vacancies occur through the Student Employment Service, with the ultimate goal of employing a qualified student in each such position. It has been found that students enrolled at NSHE institutions represent a comprehensive range of special skills and training. If a specific student is desired to fill a listed position, the employing official need only request that the student be referred after proper clearance. Otherwise, qualified students will be referred to the employing office until the position has been filled.

2. Minimum qualifications vary from one institution to another. Students should contact the student employment office at the appropriate institution for the rules governing student employment. (B/R 3/88)
Section 7. Regents’ Service Program

1. The Regents’ Service Program is established by the Board of Regents so that NSHE students can make a contribution to the critical needs of the community. Work opportunities for currently enrolled students shall be service-oriented and reflect a high level of skill or knowledge. Priority will be given to literacy and P-16 programs.

2. Each institution shall have the flexibility to design work, stipend, scholarship, or graduate support programs that meet the needs of students in accordance with the guidelines established for student access.

3. Annually, the System Office will prepare a report for presentation to the Board concerning program outcomes, number of students served, dollars expended, and other information as deemed appropriate.

4. Eligibility criteria and guidelines for the administration of the program shall be developed by the Chancellor.

(B/R 8/06)

Section 8. Use of Student Access Funds

In order to improve the access of all students and to encourage participation in higher education, an amount equal to at least 10 percent of the total registration fee at the community colleges (lower-division only) and at least 15 percent of the total registration fee for all other institutions including upper-division at the community colleges, net the amounts distributed to other fee categories, will be dedicated to student financial aid. These percentages are target amounts that must be achieved by academic year 2022-23. For the purposes of this section, “Student Access Funds” means budgeted dollars intended for student financial aid, including allocations for such funds from state appropriations and funds generated from registration fees. The guidelines for the use of Student Access Funds are as follows:

1. One-hundred percent (100%) of Student Access Funds will be used for financial assistance for students. Except for the Regents’ Service Program, funds will not be used for administrative or any other purposes, unless specifically authorized by Board policy. The portion derived from undergraduate student enrollments will be dedicated to undergraduate financial assistance. The portion derived from graduate student enrollments will be dedicated to graduate financial assistance; however this shall not include the funding of base salaries for graduate assistantships.

2. At least 80% of state-funded Student Access Funds for each institution each academic year will go to need-based programs, for both undergraduate and graduate students. Student eligibility for state-funded Student Access funds is limited to 150 percent of the published credits required for a program in accordance with Title IV Federal Student Aid guidelines governing satisfactory academic progress. Institutions shall establish an appeals process pursuant to Title IV Federal Student Aid guidelines.

3. The remainder of the state-funded Student Access Funds (not to exceed 20%) for each institution each academic year will go to other “access-oriented” financial assistance, including but not limited to scholarships, non-need based grants and work study programs, for both undergraduate and graduate students.
4. For fee-generated Student Access Funds, at least 80% of undergraduate funds and at least 50% of graduate funds for each institution each academic year will go to need-based programs. Student eligibility for fee-generated Student Access funds is limited to 150 percent of the published credits required for a program in accordance with Title IV Federal Student Aid guidelines governing satisfactory academic progress. Institutions shall establish an appeals process pursuant to Title IV Federal Student Aid guidelines.

5. The remainder of the fee-generated Student Access Funds (not to exceed 20% for undergraduate and 50% for graduate students) for each institution each academic year will go to other “access-oriented” financial assistance, including but not limited to scholarships, non-need based grants and work study programs.

6. The institution shall report each year, information on how fee-generated and state-supported Student Access Funds were utilized, including such information as defined by the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs that may be utilized to evaluate student success. This information will be included in the annual NSHE Financial Aid Report.

7. Nothing in this section precludes an institution from allocating additional funds for general scholarship purposes. Any such additional allocations are not subject to the student access distribution established in this section.

8. Awards granted to students using Student Access Funds shall be named the “Regents’ Higher Education Opportunity Award.”

(B/R 11/12)
The State of Nevada established the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship in order to increase the number of Nevada students who perform well in high school and then enroll in, and graduate from an eligible institution of higher education in Nevada.

An eligible institution is an institution at which a qualified student may receive a Millennium Scholarship. Eligible institutions are:

a. A university, state college or community college of the NSHE (NSHE); or
b. Any other nonsectarian institution of higher education in Nevada that,
   1. Was originally established in, and is organized under the laws of the state,
   2. Is exempt from taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §501(c)(3), and
   3. Is accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.
To receive a Millennium Scholarship, a student must meet the requirements of this Millennium Scholarship policy and enroll in an eligible institution. The admission requirements of eligible institutions may be different from the requirements for the Millennium Scholarship. The receipt of a Millennium Scholarship does not guarantee admission to all eligible institutions, nor does it guarantee admission to all programs at eligible institutions. The NSHE recommends that students who plan to attend the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, or the University of Nevada, Reno, seek an advanced high school diploma and check with the institution for information on admission requirements.

9.1 Eligibility requirements for Nevada high school graduates.

9.1.1 To be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship, a student must meet all of the following requirements:

a. Graduate\(^1\) with a diploma from a public or private high school in Nevada after May 1, 2000\(^2\);

b. Except as otherwise provided in Section 9.4, complete high school, with at least a:
   1. 3.00 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student graduated prior to the graduating class of 2005;
   2. 3.10 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2005 or 2006; or
   3. 3.25 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2007 or a later graduating class.

c. Pass all areas of the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination, if the student graduated prior to the graduating class of 2017; and

d. Have been a resident of Nevada for at least two years of high school.

9.1.2 All high school credit-bearing courses accepted toward fulfilling the high school's graduation requirements will be used in calculating the final grade point average.

9.1.3 A student who graduated from high school after May 1, 2003, must apply for the Millennium Scholarship within 6 years of high school graduation in order to be eligible for receipt of scholarship funds. Time served on active duty as a member of the United State Armed Forces, or for participation in a charitable, religious or public service assignment or mission will not apply to the limitations of this section, not to exceed six years.

9.1.4 A student who graduated from high school in Spring 2009 and thereafter must successfully complete the core curriculum defined in Section 9.15 to gain eligibility.

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1 Students who graduate with a diploma from a program for adult learners are eligible for the Millennium Scholarship if they (1) received their high school diploma within four years of the regularly scheduled graduation date of their class, and (2) meet the remaining conditions of 9.1.1.

2 Students who graduate with the class of 2000 are eligible for a Millennium Scholarship regardless of when they completed their high school course work. (B/R 6/05) Rev. 266 (06/15)

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9.2 Eligibility requirements for students who are not high school graduates.

9.2.1 To be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship, a student who is not a high school graduate must meet all of the following requirements:
   a. Would have graduated from high school after May 1, 2000 had the student been enrolled in high school;
   b. Receive an enhanced ACT composite score of 21 or higher or a combined (reading and math) SAT score of 990 or higher;
   c. Except as otherwise provided in Section 9.4, achieve at least the following grade point average in all courses completed in a Nevada high school as defined in Section 9.1.2:
      1. 3.00 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student graduated prior to the graduating class of 2005;
      2. 3.10 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2005 or 2006; or
      3. 3.25 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2007 or a later graduating class.
   d. Pass all areas of the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination, if the student would have graduated from high school prior to the graduating class of 2017 had the student been enrolled in high school; and
   e. Have been a resident of Nevada for at least two years of the normal years of high school attendance.

9.2.2 A student who is not a high school graduate must apply for the Millennium Scholarship within the limitations established in Section 9.1.3 for the student’s normal year of high school graduation.

9.3 Eligibility requirements for students whose family or legal guardian is a resident of the State of Nevada and who graduate from high school out-of-state.

9.3.1 To be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship, a student who is not a Nevada high school graduate, but whose family or legal guardian is a resident of the State of Nevada, must meet all of the following requirements:
   a. Graduate with a diploma from a public or private high school after May 1, 2000;
   b. Receive an enhanced ACT composite score of 21 or higher or a combined (reading and math) SAT score of 990 or higher if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2017 or a later graduating class;
   c. Except as otherwise provided in Section 9.4, complete high school, with at least a:
      1. 3.00 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student graduated prior to the graduating class of 2005;
2. 3.10 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2005 or 2006; or

3. 3.25 weighted or unweighted grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student was a member of the graduating class of 2007 or a later graduating class, and;

d. Pass all areas of the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination if the student graduated from high school prior to the graduating class of 2017, and

e. Establish residency by:

1. Providing evidence that a parent has been a resident of the State of Nevada for the last two years of the student’s high school attendance and verifying financial dependence on the parent; or

2. Providing evidence that a parent who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, on active duty, and stationed outside Nevada as a result of a permanent change of duty station pursuant to military orders, was a resident of the State of Nevada for the last two years of the student’s high school attendance and verifying financial dependence on the parent.

9.3.2 A student who is not a Nevada high school graduate must apply for the Millennium Scholarship within the limitations established in Section 9.1.3.

9.4 Eligibility requirements for students who do not satisfy the minimum grade point average requirements under Sections 9.1, 9.2, or 9.3.

A student who does not satisfy the minimum grade point average requirements under Sections 9.1, 9.2, or 9.3 is eligible for the Millennium Scholarship if the student:

a. Was a member of the graduating class of 2016 or a later graduating class;

b. Receives an enhanced ACT composite score of 21 or higher or a combined (reading and math) SAT score of 990 and the examination was administered while the student:

1. Was enrolled in a public or private high school if the student is applying for the Millennium Scholarship under Sections 9.1 or 9.3; or

2. Would have been enrolled in high school if the student is applying for the Millennium Scholarship under Section 9.2; and

c. Meets all other eligibility requirements applicable to the student under Section 9.1, 9.2, or 9.3.

9.5 Certification of eligibility for high school graduates will be established by a list provided by Nevada high schools. In other circumstances, evidence may be submitted by applicants to the Millennium Scholarship Office.
9.6 A Nevada resident who meets the requirements set forth in Section 9.1, 9.2 or 9.3 shall receive a Millennium Scholarship if the student:

a. Enrolls in at least 9 semester credits at an eligible community college or 12 semester credits at another eligible institution; and

b. Enrolls in a program of study leading to a recognized associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or pre-baccalaureate certificate.

Credits taken at another eligible institution to meet degree requirements at the student’s home institution shall count towards the requirement of 9.6(a) provided the student enrolls in at least 12 credits.

“Home institution” means the institution at which the student is enrolled in a program of study leading to a recognized degree or certificate.

9.7 Millennium Scholarship lifetime limits

9.7.1 The maximum total Millennium Scholarship award is $10,000.

9.7.2 All qualified students who graduated from high school on or before May 1, 2003, may receive a Millennium Scholarship during the eight academic years following (a) their high school graduation date\(^3\), or (b) the date when they satisfied the requirements of Section 9.2.

9.7.3 All qualified students, who graduated from high school after May 1, 2003, may receive a Millennium Scholarship during the six academic years following (a) their high school graduation date\(^4\), or (b) the date when they satisfied the requirements of Section 9.2.

9.7.4 An exception to the limitations of 9.7.2 and 9.7.3 shall be made for time served on active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces, or for participation in a charitable, religious or public service assignment or mission, will not apply to the limitations of this section, not to exceed six years.

9.8 Students who have a documented physical or mental disability or who were previously subject to an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., or a plan under Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§ 791 et seq. are to be determined by the institution to be exempt from the following Millennium Scholarship eligibility criteria:

a. 6 year application limitation following high school graduation set forth in Section 9.1.3;

b. Minimum semester credit hour enrollment levels set forth in Sections 9.6 and 9.1.3(c); and

c. Time limits for expending funds set forth in Sections 9.7.2 and 9.7.3.

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\(^3\) In the case of a student graduating from a program for adult learners (see section 9.1.1), on or before May 1, 2003, the eight-year period is the period following the regularly scheduled graduation date of the student’s original high school class.

\(^4\) In the case of a student graduating from a program for adult learners (see section 9.1.1), after May 1, 2003, the six-year period is the period following the regularly scheduled graduation date of the student’s original high school class.
9.9 Millennium Scholarship recipients may enroll in and receive the scholarship for Summer term as long as they meet all eligibility requirements and all continuation requirements, excluding the requirements of 9.6(a).

9.10 A student may receive simultaneously Millennium Scholarship funding at more than one eligible institution if the student meets the eligibility requirements established in 9.6.

9.11 The maximum amount of a Millennium Scholarship award each semester or Summer term is determined on a dollars-per-credit enrolled basis as set by the State of Nevada.\(^5\)
   a. Total semester disbursements shall not exceed the cost of 15 credits per semester across all eligible institutions based on dollar-per-credit rates set by the State of Nevada for the Millennium Scholarship.
   b. Millennium funds cannot be used to pay for remedial/developmental courses defined as any course with a course number less than 100.

9.12 The Millennium Scholarship may only be used for costs related to attendance that are not covered by other grants or scholarships. The Financial Aid Office in each eligible institution shall administer the Millennium Scholarship and calculate the amount of the scholarship for each student. Costs of attendance shall be defined by the institution and shall include, but not be limited to, all costs defined under federal financial aid guidelines.

9.13 Appeals related to initial eligibility shall be handled on a case-by-case basis by a standing Millennium Scholarship Appeals Committee appointed by the Chair of the Board of Regents. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Board of Regents, the NSHE’s universities, state colleges and community colleges, one representative from an eligible non-NSHE institution, and the Governor and State Treasurer or their designees.

9.14 To remain eligible\(^6\) for a Millennium Scholarship, a student must meet all of the following conditions at each institution where the student is a Millennium Scholarship recipient:
   a. The student must make satisfactory academic progress, as defined by the home institution, toward a recognized associate degree, baccalaureate degree, or pre-baccalaureate certificate;
   b. The student must maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average if Millennium Scholarship eligibility occurred on or before May 1, 2003, and a 2.60 cumulative grade point average if the student became eligible for a Millennium Scholarship after May 1, 2003; and
   c. Beginning January 1, 2006, all students with initial Millennium Scholarship eligibility occurring after May 1, 2003 must:

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\(^5\) The dollars per credit hour as set by the State of Nevada are: (a) $40 per enrolled credit in each lower-division course and $60 per enrolled credit in each upper division course for students attending a NSHE community college, (b) $60 per enrolled credit for students attending a NSHE state college, and (c) $80 per enrolled credit for students attending another eligible institution.

\(^6\) After initial eligibility is established (as specified in sections 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3), determinations of continuing eligibility are made only after the student’s first enrollment at an eligible institution with Millennium Scholarship support.
1. Maintain a 2.60 semester grade point average for each semester during their first year of enrollment (first year is defined as less than 30 credit hours earned); and

2. Maintain a 2.75 semester grade point average for each semester thereafter.

d. The student must satisfactorily complete the minimum credit requirements in each Fall and Spring semester in which enrolled pursuant to Section 9.6.

9.15 Core Curriculum Requirements

9.15.1 The Board recognizes the importance of a rigorous high school curriculum in adequately preparing students to succeed in college-level courses. Therefore, a student who graduates from a Nevada high school in Spring 2009 and thereafter must successfully complete the following curriculum in high school to be eligible for the Millennium Scholarship:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math (including Algebra II or higher)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science and History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.15.2 A student who graduates from a Nevada high school in 2009, who was not able to complete the fourth year math requirement established in Subsection 1 because it was not offered by the high school from which he or she graduated and the course was not accessible from an NSHE institution, shall be deemed eligible for the scholarship if all other eligibility requirements established in this Chapter are met.

9.15.3 The Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs shall develop procedures regarding the certification of high school courses that meet the core curriculum requirements established in Subsection 1.

9.16 A Millennium Scholarship recipient who fails to maintain the conditions of continuing eligibility as required in Section 9.14 is no longer eligible for the Millennium Scholarship.

a. Eligibility will be reinstated if the student subsequently enrolls without Millennium Scholarship support at an eligible institution and meets all the conditions of Section 9.14 for the semester enrolled.

b. Beginning in Fall 2005, all entering and continuing students who lose eligibility more than once (from Fall 2005 forward) will no longer be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship.
9.17 A student receiving a Millennium Scholarship who transfers to another eligible institution shall continue the Millennium Scholarship provided that the student has maintained eligibility as defined in Section 9.14. After transferring, a student must meet all the conditions of Section 9.14 at the new institution in order to remain eligible for the Millennium Scholarship.

9.18 Citizenship Affidavit
All students eligible to receive the Millennium Scholarship are required to execute an affidavit declaring the student’s eligibility for a Millennium Scholarship pursuant to the requirements of Nevada Revised Statutes 396.930. The affidavit shall appear on both the printed and on-line acknowledgment of the award form that a student is required to complete prior to receiving the Millennium Scholarship. The affidavit shall consist of a declaration that the student is a citizen of the United States or has lawful immigration status, or that the student has filed an application to legalize the student’s immigration status or will file an application to legalize the student’s immigration status as soon as the student is eligible to do so. This affidavit shall not require a notarized signature.

9.19 Any refund that would normally be given to a student who has withdrawn from courses for which Millennium Scholarship support has been given shall be transferred to the State Treasurer's Office.

9.20 The Millennium Scholarship Office established by the State Treasurer is responsible for transferring funds in a timely fashion to eligible institutions for all Millennium Scholars, maintaining data on all Millennium Scholarship candidates and recipients, and verifying that students have not exceeded the $10,000 lifetime maximum.

9.21 The State Treasurer shall prepare a list of all eligible Millennium Scholars for each graduation year. This list shall be conveyed to the Chancellor for transmittal to the Board of Regents. The Chancellor may act on behalf of the Board of Regents to certify the list of eligible students to be transmitted to the State Treasurer.

9.22 The standards set forth in this section are subject to amendment, and are not intended to and do not create any right or interest in liberty or property or establish a basis for any cause of action against the state, its political subdivisions, agencies, boards, commissions, departments, officers or employees.

(B/R 6/15)

Section 10. Silver State Opportunity Grant Program

The provisions of this section are applicable to the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program (SSOG Program) pursuant to Chapter 396 of NRS. The SSOG Program was created by the State of Nevada for the purpose of awarding need-based grants to eligible low-income students who are college-ready in order to pay for a portion of the cost of education at a community college or state college within the Nevada System of Higher Education.
Eligible institutions include each NSHE community college and state college that shall award grants under the SSOG Program according to policies established herein.

1. Eligibility Requirements – To be eligible for the SSOG Program, a student must:
   a. Enroll in at least 15 credit hours each semester of award at a community college or state college;
   b. Be enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree or certificate;
   c. Be placed into college-level English and mathematics courses in accordance with Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 1;
   d. Be classified as a resident in accordance with Title 4, Chapter 15; and
   e. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

2. Cost of Attendance
   a. Each community college and state college establishes an annual Cost of Attendance (COA) according to the provisions of 20 U.S.C. §108711. For the purpose of the SSOG Program, this COA shall be recognized as the official COA.
   b. Under no circumstances shall the grant received under the SSOG Program, along with other financial assistance received, exceed institutional COA.

3. Amount of the SSOG Award
   a. The maximum amount of the grant each student is eligible to receive shall not exceed the amount equal to the student’s COA minus the amounts determined for the student contribution, family contribution, and federal contribution, as defined and calculated pursuant to this section.
   b. Grant awards are subject to the limits of the funds available for the SSOG Program.
   c. The Chancellor shall establish procedures for determining the apportionment and distribution of funds between eligible institutions and the actual amount of the grant awarded to students who meet all eligibility requirements pursuant to this section.

4. Student Contribution
   a. The Chancellor or the Chancellor’s designee shall determine on an annual basis, no later than March 1, a standard student contribution that will be:
      i. Used by each community college and state college in the calculation of all grants awarded under the SSOG Program; and
      ii. Calculated by determining what a student could earn by working at minimum wage a reasonable number of hours during the school year and over the summer. This calculation should in no way be construed as requiring a student to seek or obtain employment as a condition of eligibility for the SSOG Program.
b. The student contribution may be covered by, but is not limited to, the following:
   i. Student earnings or savings;
   ii. Private, institutional, state or federal scholarships, including the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship;
   iii. Grants not listed under Subsection 6 of this section;
   iv. Veterans education benefits;
   v. Student loans; and
   vi. Financial assistance from family or friends.

5. Family Contribution – The family contribution shall be equivalent to the federal nine-month Estimated Family Contribution (EFC), as calculated by the U.S. Department of Education based on FAFSA data and reported on the Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR). The EFC may be prorated for an award period of less than nine months.

6. Federal Contribution
   a. The federal contribution shall be equivalent to the total of federal grant aid a student is awarded during the same award year from the following programs only:
      i. Federal Pell Grant;
      ii. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG); and
      iii. Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant.
   b. Under no circumstances shall the federal contribution include the amount the student is awarded in student loans.

7. Course Availability to Meet the 15-Credit per Semester Requirement
   a. Each community college and state college shall ensure that adequate courses are offered each semester so that a student otherwise eligible for the grant and desirous of enrolling in 15 credits is able to do so. If situations arise where such a student is, due to course availability, unable to enroll in 15 credits that count toward the student’s program of study, the institution shall consider feasible alternatives, including, but not limited to:
      i. Course substitutions;
      ii. Adjustment of a student’s academic plan; and
      iii. Opening a new course section.
   b. Credits taken at another eligible institution to meet degree requirements at the student’s home institution shall count towards the eligibility requirement of Subsection 1(a). For purposes of this subsection, “home institution” means the institution at which the student is enrolled in a program of study leading to a recognized degree or certificate.
c. Each community college and state college shall ensure advisors are available to assist SSOG students who experience difficulty in registering for 15 credits that count toward their program of study.

8. The Chancellor’s Office shall establish procedures concerning the reporting of data and information to evaluate the success of the SSOG Program and may establish additional procedures necessary for the administration of the SSOG Program.

(B/R 6/15)