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# Pell Grant

## *Eligibility*

## Pell Lifetime Eligibility

Taking effect in the 2012-13 academic year, Congress has changed the law to reduce the duration of a student's eligibility to receive a Federal Pell Grant from 18 full-time semesters (or its equivalent)\* to 12 full-time semesters (or its equivalent)\*. The calculation of the duration of a student's eligibility will include all years of the student's receipt of Federal Pell Grant funding, regardless of when they first received a Pell Grant award.

## How is Lifetime Eligibility Calculated?

The Department of Education will calculate the Pell Grant length for a student by adding together each of the annual percentages of a student's award that was actually disbursed to the student.

- Twelve Full-Time Semesters =600%
- Full-Time per Semester (12+ Credits) =50%
- Three-Quarter-Time per Semester (9-11 Credits) =37.5%
- Half-Time per Semester (6-8 Credits) =25%
- Part-Time per Semester (1-5 Credits) =12.5%

For additional information on the new Pell regulation, view <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/PellLimit.jsp> on the Department of Education web site **Student Aid on the Web**. The web page includes a table with examples that will help you understand how the percentages are calculated.

Whether you have used all of your Pell Grant eligibility or only a portion, please be conscious about the lifetime limit of the Pell Grant when changing majors and/or scheduling classes or if you plan to transfer on to a four-year school.

# What Does This Mean To Me?

Beginning with Fall 2012, a student has **6 years** (12 full-time semesters) of total Pell Grant lifetime eligibility. (This includes *all* years Pell was received prior to Fall 2012.) All the years each student has received federal Pell grant will be counted toward the 6 years, regardless of when the student began receiving aid.


## Can I See My Lifetime Pell Grant Used?

In mid-July 2012, you may view your lifetime Pell Grant percentage used by logging into [www.NSLDS.ed.gov](http://www.NSLDS.ed.gov). This will include all Pell grants received over your lifetime from any College, not just College of Menominee. As long as you have not reached 600% of Lifetime Eligibility, you will still have some Pell Grant eligibility remaining.

## Sample Screen Shot of NSLDS

Grants

Pell Lifetime Eligibility Used: 198.901%



	Award Year	Type Of Grant:	School	Scheduled Amount
1	2011 - 2012	FEDERAL PELL GRANT	WEST VIRGINIA NORTHERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE-WHEELING CAMPUS	\$5,550
2	2010 - 2011	FEDERAL PELL GRANT	FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY	\$4,300
3	2009 - 2010	FEDERAL PELL GRANT	FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY	\$5,350
4	2009 - 2010	FEDERAL PELL GRANT	WEST VIRGINIA NORTHERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE-WHEELING CAMPUS	\$5,350
Total All Grants				\$20,550

Information contained on these pages reflects the most current data in the NSLDS database. The data contained on this site is for general information purposes and should not be used to determine eligibility, loan payoffs, overpayment status, or tax reporting. Please consult the Financial Aid Officer at your school or the specific holder of your debts for further information.

## The National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)

**Step 1:** Obtain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) from the U.S. Department of Education. Your PIN serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal records with the U.S. Department of Education systems. You can request a PIN via the U.S. Department of Education's PIN Web site at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

**Step 2:** Access NSLDS by going to [www.nsls.ed.gov](http://www.nsls.ed.gov). On the NSLDS screen, click on **Financial Aid Review**

**Step 3:** Read the privacy statement on this screen. If you agree, click **Accept** to find your Lifetime Eligibility Used. A security configuration question may or may not prompt depending on your browser's security configuration. If you are comfortable with your browser's current security configuration, click **Accept** to continue. The **Confirming Your Identity** screen will appear after you click **Accept**.

**Step 4:** Enter your *Social Security number (SSN)*, the *first two letters of your last name*, your *date of birth*, and your *PIN* to confirm your identity. **Keep your PIN safe and secure.**

**Step 5:** View the **Financial Aid Review** screen listing your total **Lifetime Eligibility Used**

