

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1211

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S. P. 345

In Senate, March 5, 1969

Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Levine of Kennebec.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-NINE

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AN ACT Providing Free Tuition at State Colleges for Students from Low  
Income Families.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, c. 302-B, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 302-B, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 302-B

TUITION GRANTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

§ 2237. Tuition grants

Tuition grants are established by the State to foster the pursuit of higher education by full-time resident students enrolled in private and publicly supported nonprofit colleges or universities or post secondary vocational institutes in the State.

§ 2238. Administration of program

The State Board of Education shall administer the grants which shall be available to each eligible full-time resident student registered as a freshman after August 1, 1970; as a freshman or sophomore after August 1, 1971; as a freshman, sophomore or junior after August 1, 1972; as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior after August 1, 1973 and as a freshman, sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student after August 1, 1974 and if otherwise eligible.

§ 2239. Application

Upon application of any eligible full-time resident student, who is a person of good moral character, and has resided in the State continuously for

the preceding 3 years and who is registered in a private or publicly supported nonprofit college or university or post secondary vocational institute in this State, whose instructional programs are not comprised of programs in sectarian instruction or religious worship, the State shall grant an amount as provided for in this chapter for each semester of attendance. No student shall be eligible for a grant for tuition and fees for more than 8 semesters of undergraduate education, or its equivalent in trimesters, and in not more than 6 semesters of graduate education, or its equivalent in trimesters.

#### § 2240. Amount of grant

The amount of the grant to be paid for each semester, or trimester, shall be based on the figure represented by the effective income of the eligible student and on the effective income of the parent providing a majority of the eligible student's support.

Effective income of the eligible student and his parents shall include the total income subject to federal income tax, including interest from governmental obligations, less personal exemptions, standard or itemized deductions and all federal income taxes, paid on the prior calendar year by the student and his parents pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 of the United States, as amended, in effect on December 31, 1965.

When a parent provides the majority of the support of an eligible student and the student applies for a grant, the figure represented by the combined effective income of the parent shall be used in determining the amount of the grant.

If more than one eligible student for which the parent provides a majority of support is registered in an institution and qualifies for a grant under this chapter, the combined effective income of the parent shall be divided by the number of eligible students in the family in determining the amount of the grant payable under the schedule to each student.

No grant shall be made under this chapter to any student who is enrolled in a course of study leading to a degree in theology, divinity or religious education or who is a religious aspirant.

#### § 2241. Schedule

The following schedule shall be used for determining grants:

Effective Income	Amount of Grant Each Semester
\$ 0- 7,000	\$100

Students attending a state supported institution at which the tuition does not exceed \$100 per year shall be limited to a grant of \$100.

#### § 2242. Rules and regulations

The State Board of Education shall prescribe rules and regulations to carry out this chapter.

#### § 2243. Receipt of other scholarships

No tuition grant shall be awarded to any student receiving a state scholarship under sections 2306 and 2357 nor to any student awarded a scholarship from any other source, for the full cost of tuition and fees. If the scholarship is for only a portion of tuition and fees of the institution of higher learning, the student may qualify for a proportionate tuition grant in accordance with this chapter.

**§ 2244. Acceptance of employment by recipient; noncompliance, refund of moneys received**

Following the completion of a program of study, the recipient of a tuition grant shall be required to accept employment within one year in an approved program of special education in this State on the basis of  $\frac{1}{2}$  year of service for each academic year of training received through a grant under this chapter. Persons who fail to comply with this provision shall be required to refund the full amount of grant moneys received.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971 the sum of \$2,500 for administration of this program and the sum of \$75,000 for grants under this Act.

**Sec. 3. Effective date.** This Act shall become effective July 1, 1970.