

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1582

H. P. 1136

House of Representatives, March 17, 1971

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Lucas of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Providing Educational Opportunity Grants at State Colleges for Students from Low Income Families.

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

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

§ 2237. Educational opportunity grants

Educational opportunity 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, 1971; as a freshman or sophomore after August 1, 1972; as a freshman, sophomore or junior after August 1, 1973; as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior after August 1, 1974 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 specially recruited and admitted student, who is a person that has resided in the State continuously for the preceding 3 years. 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, 1969.

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.

§ 2241. Schedule

The following schedule shall be used for determining grants:

Amount of Grant Each Semester

\$1,000

*Family Size	Effective Income	
	Nonfarm	Farm
1	1,840	1,569
2	2,383	2,012
3	2,924	2,480
4	3,743	3,195
5	4,415	3,769
6	4,958	4,244
7	6,101	5,182

For each additional member above a family of 7 add \$600 for nonfarm and \$500 for farm.

*** National Poverty Criteria
Bureau of Census—U. S. Department of
Commerce. July, 1970.**

Students attending an effective income supported institution at which the costs do not exceed \$1,000 per year shall be limited to a grant of \$1,000.

§ 2242. Rules and regulations

The university board of trustees shall prescribe rules and regulations to carry out this chapter.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the University of Maine for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, the sum of \$2,500 for administration of this program and the sum of \$500,000 for grants under this Act.

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act shall become effective July 1, 1971.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act will provide Educational Opportunity Grants to low income, high risk students specially recruited and admitted under the Onwards Program at UMO.

There is Federal and foundation money available, but unless the State Legislature proves its commitment to these low income students by coming up with substantial sums of money there is little hope that we could expect the Federal Government or private foundations to assist us.