

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



*Maine's
Public
Universities*

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

FY20 ANNUAL REPORT ON SLOT MACHINE INCOME

*Submitted by the University of Maine System on September 15, 2020
as required by Title 8, Chapter 31, Subchapter 3, Section 1036*

The University of Maine System (UMS) is committed to providing affordable access to quality public postsecondary education for Maine students. In recent years, the System has led the nation in advancing affordability including reducing the inflation-adjusted cost of tuition over the past decade years and expanding the availability of institutional financial aid as well as opportunities like Early College that allow students to earn credit at little or no cost to their families. The debt load of UMS graduates is now 30 percent below the national average.

Students receive various types of financial aid (scholarships, grants, waivers, work-study, and loans) from various funding sources (federal, state, university, and private). Federal and State aid is awarded primarily on the basis of financial need. University and private aid is awarded based on financial need, merit, talent, or other criteria set forth by UMS universities or the donor. The majority of Maine residents enrolled in undergraduate programs received some form of need-based federal financial aid. These students may have received Federal Pell Grants (up to a maximum of \$6,195 each year), federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), Federal Work-Study, and/or federal loans.

In the most recent year for which there is complete data (2018-19), students at Maine's public universities received \$292.1 million in total aid with \$167.3 million of that being scholarships, grants and waivers, including scholarships funded by proceeds from slot-machine income.

RACINO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Title 8, Chapter 31, Subchapter 3, Section 1036 of the Maine Revised Statutes stipulates that 2 percent to 4 percent of net slot machine income is apportioned between the UMS Scholarship Fund and the Maine Maritime Academy based on ratio of enrollment. As defined in Title 20-A, Part 5, Chapter 411, Section 10909 of the Maine Revised Statutes, "The University of Maine System Scholarship Fund is created and established as a non-lapsing fund under the jurisdiction and control of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System. All revenues credited to this fund must be distributed as need-based scholarships for students attending the University of Maine System. These scholarships may be awarded only to those students who are residents of the State. The fund may not be used for the costs of administering the scholarships..."

Given the importance of providing postsecondary education and workforce training access to all Mainers regardless of their ability to pay, slot machine income for need-based scholarships is an important funding source. In FY20, \$2.9 million was awarded to 3,798 Maine undergraduate students who exhibited financial need. Approximately \$0.5 million in FY20 was awarded through the University's Adult Degree Completion Scholarship program, which supports Maine adults who have attended some college and return to earn their door-opening degree and realize their full potential in the workforce and in their communities. To date, more than 600 Maine adults have received this scholarship, including more than 150 who have gone on to complete their four-year degree. With the closure and then phased reopening of Maine's casinos due to COVID-19, UMS slot machine revenue was down \$1.4 million already in the first seven months of 2020, likely resulting in a reduction of scholarships supported by this funding source in FY22.

FIVE-YEAR REVENUE REPORT

Total Awards

	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
UM	\$801,065	\$685,000	\$695,153	\$728,601	\$875,464
UMA	562,561	680,468	824,142	743,175	511,133
UMF	198,767	221,330	208,056	247,241	282,699
UMFK	64,665	30,622	62,161	102,043	66,378
UMM	66,025	131,626	241,393	338,672	278,809
UMPI	131,903	64,630	137,676	145,121	118,572
USM	563,212	574,250	607,375	643,639	755,204
TOTAL	\$2,388,198	\$2,387,925	\$2,775,956	\$2,948,492	\$2,888,259

Recipients

	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
UM	562	272	779	691	1,541
UMA	797	830	862	759	578
UMF	53	177	44	81	115
UMFK	57	49	44	62	66
UMM	68	130	165	245	160
UMPI	145	55	136	101	111
USM	1,394	892	884	1,127	1,227
TOTAL	3,076	2,405	2,914	3,066	3,798

Average Award

	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
UM	\$1,425	\$2,518	\$892	\$1,054	\$568
UMA	\$706	\$820	\$956	\$979	\$884
UMF	\$3,750	\$1,250	\$4,729	\$3,052	\$2,458
UMFK	\$1,134	\$625	\$1,413	\$1,646	\$1,006
UMM	\$971	\$1,013	\$1,463	\$1,382	\$1,743
UMPI	\$910	\$1,175	\$1,012	\$1,437	\$1,068
USM	\$404	\$644	\$687	\$571	\$615
AVERAGE	\$776	\$993	\$953	\$962	\$760