

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*Maine's  
Public  
Universities*

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**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM**

## **FY21 ANNUAL REPORT ON SLOT MACHINE INCOME**

*Submitted by the University of Maine System on September 15, 2021  
as required by Title 8, Chapter 31, Subchapter 3, Section 1036*



The University of Maine System (UMS) is committed to providing affordable access to high-quality public postsecondary education for Maine students. In recent years, the System has led the nation in advancing affordability, holding in-state undergraduate tuition flat for six of the last 10 years and expanding the availability of institutional financial aid as well as opportunities like Early College that allow students to get a head start in earning credit at no cost to their families. The debt load of UMS alumni is now 17.4% percent below the average for graduates of New England four-year public institutions.

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, its 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 \$6,345 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 (2019-20), students at Maine's public universities received \$290.5 million in total aid with \$172.0 million of that being scholarships, grants and waivers that students do not need to pay back, 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 to 4% 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 FY21, more than \$2.9 million was awarded to 3,672 Maine undergraduate students who exhibited financial need. Approximately \$0.4 million of that was awarded through the University's Adult Degree Completion Scholarship program, which supports Maine adults who have previously earned some college credit and return to earn their door-opening degree and realize their full potential in the workforce and in their communities. To date, more than 681 Maine adults have received this scholarship, including more than 245 who have gone on to complete their four-year degree. Late in FY21, a new Opening Doors Scholarship was established to offer assistance to newly enrolled students pursuing their degree or workforce credential. This is a renewable scholarship supporting adult and independent students attending one of the campuses of the UMS in pursuit of higher education. It should be noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the slot machine revenue to UMS was down \$1.8 million in 2020, resulting in a reduction of scholarships supported by this funding source in FY22.

# FIVE-YEAR REVENUE REPORT

	Total Awards				
	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
UM	\$685,000	\$695,153	\$728,601	\$875,464	\$852,098
UMA	680,468	824,142	743,175	511,133	548,276
UMF	221,330	208,056	247,241	282,699	285,605
UMFK	30,622	62,161	102,043	66,378	83,324
UMM	131,626	241,393	338,672	278,809	240,754
UMPI	64,630	137,676	145,121	118,572	173,727
USM	574,250	607,375	643,639	755,204	760,423
TOTAL	\$2,387,925	\$2,775,956	\$2,948,492	\$2,888,259	\$2,944,207

	Recipients				
	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
UM	272	779	691	1,541	1,156
UMA	830	862	759	578	700
UMF	177	44	81	115	265
UMFK	49	44	62	66	72
UMM	130	165	245	160	112
UMPI	55	136	101	111	158
USM	892	884	1,127	1,227	1,209
TOTAL	2,405	2,914	3,066	3,798	3,672

	Average Award				
	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
UM	\$2,518	\$892	\$1,054	\$568	\$737
UMA	\$820	\$956	\$979	\$884	\$783
UMF	\$1,250	\$4,729	\$3,052	\$2,458	\$1,078
UMFK	\$625	\$1,413	\$1,646	\$1,006	\$1,157
UMM	\$1,013	\$1,463	\$1,382	\$1,743	\$2,150
UMPI	\$1,175	\$1,012	\$1,437	\$1,068	\$1,100
USM	\$644	\$687	\$571	\$615	\$629
AVERAGE	\$993	\$953	\$962	\$760	\$802