

Student Aid on the Web Pell Grant LEU Page
Attachment to April 2012 Electronic Announcement

Calculating Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility Used

The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over his or her lifetime is limited by a new federal law to be the equivalent of six years of Pell Grant funding. Since the maximum amount of Pell Grant funding a student can receive each year is equal to 100%, the six-year equivalent is 600%.

How is my Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility Used calculated?

Scheduled Award: The maximum amount of Pell Grant funding you can receive is calculated for an “award year.” An award year is a period from July 1 of one calendar year to June 30 of the next calendar year. Your “scheduled award” is partially determined by using your expected family contribution (EFC) that is calculated from the information you (and your family) provided when you filed your FAFSA. Your scheduled award is the maximum amount you would be able to receive for the award year if you were enrolled full-time for the full school year. Your scheduled award represents 100% of your Pell Grant eligibility for that award year.

Percent Used: To determine how much of the maximum six years (600%) of Pell Grant you have used each year, the Department compares the actual amount you received for the award year with your scheduled award amount for that award year. Of course, if you receive the full amount of your scheduled award, you will have used 100%. Some students do not receive their entire scheduled award for an award year. There are a number of reasons for this, the most common of which are that the student was not enrolled for the full year or that the student was not enrolled full-time, or both.

If you did not receive the full amount of your scheduled award, we calculate the percentage of the scheduled award that you did receive. For example, if your scheduled award for an award year is \$5,000, but because you were enrolled for only one semester you received only \$2,500, you would have received 50% of the scheduled award for that award year. Or if you received only \$3,750 for the award year because you were enrolled three-quarter-time and not full-time, you would have received 75% for that year.

Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU): The Department keeps track of your LEU by adding together the percentages of your Pell Grant scheduled awards that you received for each award year. The table below shows examples of the LEUs of three students who received differing amounts of their scheduled awards over a four year period.

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Examples of Pell Lifetime Eligibility Used		Student A	Student B	Student C
Award Year 1	Pell Grant Scheduled Award	\$5,550	\$5,000	\$4,000
	Pell Grant Amount Received	\$2,775	\$3,750	\$4,000
	Percent Used	50%	75%	100%
Award Year 2	Pell Grant Scheduled Award	\$5,200	\$5,000	\$5,550
	Pell Grant Amount Received	\$5,200	\$5,000	\$5,550
	Percent Used	100%	100%	100%
Award Year 3	Pell Grant Scheduled Award	\$4,700	\$5,000	\$5,550
	Pell Grant Amount Received	\$4,700	\$1,250	\$5,550
	Percent Used	100%	25%	100%
Award Year 4	Pell Grant Scheduled Award	\$4,700	\$5,000	\$5,550
	Pell Grant Amount Received	\$4,700	\$5,000	\$5,550
	Percent Used	100%	100%	100%
Total Lifetime Eligibility Used – LEU		350%	300%	400%
<p>Note: From 2009-10 through 2010-11, it was possible for a student to receive up to two scheduled awards in a year. So some students will have a “percent used” of up to 200% for one or more of those years.</p>				

Of course, if a student’s LEU equals or exceeds 600%, the student may no longer receive Pell Grant funding. Similarly, a student whose LEU is greater than 500% but less than 600%, while eligible for a Pell Grant for the next award year, will not be able to receive a full scheduled award.

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How can I see my Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) percentage?

In mid-July 2012, you will be able to log on to our [National Student Loan Data System \(NSLDS\) Student Access Web site](#) using your [Federal Student Aid PIN](#) and view your LEU. The LEU will be found on the Financial Aid Review page.

How can I learn more about Pell Grants?

For more information about Pell Grants and how much you might receive in a year, visit our [Pell Grant page](#). If you have questions regarding your Pell Grant or the LEU, you can also contact your school's financial aid office.