

Pell Grants:

Keeping College Affordable for Washington Students

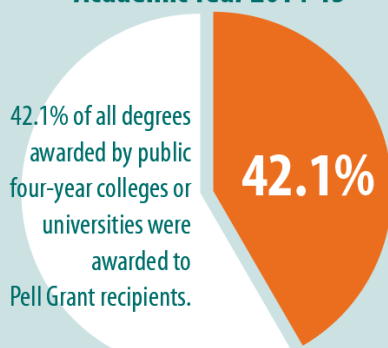
Washington is a National Leader in Serving Pell Grant Recipients

- ◆ \$146.2 million in Pell Grant awards made college possible for **over 35,000** students attending a Washington public four-year college or university in 2014-15.
- ◆ Washington public four-year institutions **rank 7th** in the nation for Pell Grant recipients.
- ◆ Washington public four-year institutions **rank 5th** for Pell Grant recipients as a percentage of undergraduate enrollment.
- ◆ Pell Grant recipients attending a Washington public four-year college or university **increased by 36%** between 2004-05 and 2014-15.
- ◆ **18.2%** of resident undergraduates at a public four-year college/university received both a State Need Grant and a Pell Grant in 2014-15.
- ◆ Washington Pell Grant recipients in the Class of 2015 graduated with a **similar number** of total credits and time to degree as students who did not receive a Pell Grant.

Pell Grant History

Created in 1972, the Pell Grant program is the largest federal need-based grant program. The program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and some postbaccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education.

Washington Fast Facts Academic Year 2014-15



Over **35,000** students enrolled at public four-year colleges or universities received a Pell Grant.

Though Pell Grants are Critical to College Access and Affordability in Washington State, challenges exist

- ◆ The maximum Pell Grant in 2016-17 will cover the **smallest share of college costs** in more than 40 years.
- ◆ Nationally among Pell Grant recipients who graduate from a four-year institution, nearly 9 out of 10 have student loans.
- ◆ Since 2011 students can no longer receive Pell Grants year-round impacting time to degree and student debt.

Sources

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