



Quick Reference Guide

Participant Eligibility Criteria

Parental Status	Parent or caretaker relative of a minor child who is living in the household
Income	At or below 185% FPL for Family Unit size. FPL's are found here: https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines
Assets	\$10,000 or less in assets
Age	16 through 64
Residency	Maine Resident
Citizenship	U.S. Citizen or Qualifying Non-Citizen
TANF/PaS	No member of the Family Unit can be receiving a TANF or PaS benefit
Previous Education	Must lack a Marketable Bachelor's Degree
Enrollment Status	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Must be accepted to or already enrolled in a post-secondary education program that meets HOPE Program Requirements below. 2. Less than half-time enrollment needs to be approved by the HOPE Program.
Satisfactory Progress	Must be making and maintain satisfactory progress in the training or education program
Maximum Enrollment	500 Participant limit. There is a wait-list for Applicants who are denied because the program is full.

Program of Study Eligibility Criteria

Program Type	<p>Eligible program types include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short-term occupational training programs 2. Certificate programs 3. Associate degree programs 4. Bachelor's degree programs. Bachelor's degree programs must be in a health care, engineering, or technology field
Institution	<p>The Institution providing the program must meet the requirements below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Must be accredited, recognized by trade or industry associations as preparing individuals for their desired occupation, or endorsed by a group of employers to address a skill gap. 2. For-Profit institutions need HOPE Program approval 3. Out-of-state institutions need HOPE Program approval
Online Programs	Programs entirely online need HOPE Program approval
Remedial Programs	Remedial programs must be necessary for enrollment in the training or education program the Applicant is pursuing
Average Job Outlook	<p>The program must be in a field or industry that will lead to a job with at least an average job outlook. Average Job Outlook refers to jobs with <u>30 or more total annual openings</u> as reported by the Center for Workforce Research and Information (CWRI). Any applicant in a Program that does not meet this requirement may petition the Department to approve the program. To locate the CWRI Job Outlook list:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow this link: https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/ 2. Click the green "Job Outlook" button 3. Search for occupation either by "Occupational Group" (category) or "Detailed Occupation" (specific job) 4. Locate the "Annual Total Openings" column

Support Services

Support Service	Limit	Period
Tuition and Fees (Current)	\$6,000	Annual
Tuition and Fees (Prior)	\$1,500	Lifetime
Child Care	Office of Child and Family Services Market Rate Cap	Weekly
Transportation	\$140	Weekly
Books and Supplies Tools and Equipment	\$2,000	Annual
Technology and Software	\$500	Lifetime
Vehicle Inspection Vehicle Registration Vehicle Repair	\$1,000	Annual
Vehicle Insurance	\$600	Annual
Corrective Eyewear	\$200	Annual
Dental Care	\$2,000	Lifetime
Other Supports	\$500	Annual

The weekly period is Sunday to Saturday
The annual period is January 1st to December 31st

HOPE Program Contact Information

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