

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Rulemaking Fact Sheet
(see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(1))

Agency: Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Services

Name, Address, Telephone Number, and Email Address of Agency Contact Person:

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Chapter Number and Rule Title: 12-597 Ch. 2: RULE GOVERNING THE COMPETITIVE SKILLS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Type of Rule: Routine Technical

Statutory Authority: 26 MRSA Chapter 25, Subchapter 5, §2033

Public Hearing(s) (include day, date, time, and location): 2:00pm on Tuesday, February 10th, 2026.

Hearing to be held at the Maine Department of Labor, Frances Perkins Conference Room, 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine 04330

Comment Deadline(s) (include day, date, and time): Friday, February 20th, 2026, 5:00pm

Principal Reason(s) or Purpose for Proposing this Rule [see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(1)(A)]:

CSSP is intended to provide individuals with access to education, training and support leading to skilled, well-compensated jobs with anticipated high employment demand, to improve the economic well-being of the participants in the program and to provide employers with a skilled labor force. This Rule change is required by Maine PL 2025, Ch. 396, which required "The commissioner adopt rules in accordance... to provide for the approval of cohort-based education or training programs and eligibility for individuals participating in those programs.

Is Material Incorporated by Reference into the Rule [see 5 M.R.S. § 8056(2-A)]? No

Analysis and Expected Operation of the Rule [see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(1)(B) & (D)]:

Brief Summary of Relevant Information Considered During Development of the Rule (including up to 3 primary sources relied upon)[see 5 M.R.S. §§ 8057-A(1)(E) & 8063-B]:

Staff expertise, stakeholder engagement, data and information from the CSSP Program

Estimated Fiscal Impact of the Rule [see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(1)(C)]:

FOR EXISTING RULES WITH FISCAL IMPACT OF \$1 MILLION OR MORE, ALSO INCLUDE:

Economic Impact, Whether or Not Quantifiable in Monetary Terms [see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(2)(A)]:

Individuals, Major Interest Groups and Types of Businesses Affected and How They Will Be Affected [see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(2)(B)]:

Benefits of the Rule [see 5 M.R.S. § 8057-A(2)(C)]:

Note: If necessary, additional pages may be used.