



# Education Program Reviews in Maine

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Education Programs Officer

Finance Authority of Maine

- Centralized
  - Need based grant – 1 program
  - Merit & Need based loans – 4 programs
  - Merit based scholarship – 1 program
  - Tuition Waiver – 2 programs
- General Fund Appropriations
  - Biennial
- Agency control
  - Online exclusively
  - Electronic payment exclusively
  - System flags student as eligible
  - Institutions verify student eligibility when certify for payment

## Program Reviews

- Once per biennium (“may”)
  - In State schools only
- Modeled after Common Review Initiative
  - Test each attribute of the Rule
  - Sample population of students based on total number paid each fiscal year
- Engagement Letter & Questionnaire
- Site visit
  - System access
  - Paper access

- Data Gathered

### STATE OF MAINE GRANT PROGRAM

#### Recipient Detail Information

INSTITUTION NAME:

School Code:

Desk Reviewer(s) Name:

Desk Review Date:

Site Reviewer(s) Name:

Site Review Date:

2015-2016		2016-2017																					
EFC = \$5000		EFC = \$5000																					
FT = 1500		FT = 1700																					
PT = 7850		PT = \$850																					
LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		SSN	School Yr	COA	EFC	OTHER AID**	UNMET NEED	Default (FAFSA)	Dependency (FAFSA)	SSRA (FAFSA)	Last Date of Attendance	Number of Semesters	Fulltime/Parttime	Number of credits fall	Number of credits spring	FALL DISBURSEMENT	SPRING DISBURSEMENT	REFUND (FAME)	\$ CREDITED FALL	\$ CREDITED SPRING	REFUND (SCHOOL)
1									0														
2									0														

*Works for ME* ✓

## ■ Attributes Tested

STATE OF MAINE GRANT PROGRAM																							
Attribute Testing Worksheet																							
<b>Attribute Testing Indicator Legend</b> P = Passed F = Failed N/A = Not applicable												<b>Desk Reviewer(s) Name:</b> <b>Desk Review Date:</b> <b>Site Reviewer(s) Name:</b> <b>Site Review Date:</b>											
INSTITUTION NAME:																							
NO.	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SSN	School Yr	ENROLLMENT STATUS	US CITIZEN	ME RESIDENT	Graduate/GED	ELIGIBLE PROGRAM	FAFSA FILED	SAP	Default	Dependency	SSRA	Need/Overaward	Length of Grant	First degree	Number of semesters	Award amount (FT)	Withdrawal	Reduce Aid	Credited to account	Comments for Failed Attribute(s)
1					A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	



**Questions?**

**Finance Authority of Maine**

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# Program Reviews in Nebraska

J. Ritchie Morrow  
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Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education  
NASSGAP Conference  
October 26, 2017



# Current

- 2003
  - Decentralized - three grant programs combined into one
    - General funds & Lottery proceeds
    - Students attending in all sectors
    - New allocation formula in statute
    - Established new rules
  - Onsite audits of all institutions every year
    - Currently 40 institutions





# Background

- Prior to 2003...
  - Decentralized – three state grant programs
    - General funds
    - Two for all sectors
    - One for only private non-profits
    - Allocation formula in statute
    - Institutions had autonomy
      - List of recipients submitted at end of AY
      - Program review occurred onsite every 3-4 years
        - Would catch multiple years of errors
        - Grant repayment issues





# Connecticut Office of Higher Education State Financial Aid Program Reviews

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# Statutory Authority

General Statutes of Connecticut

Public Act No. 16-179

Section 1. Subsection (h)

“In administering the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program, the Office of Higher Education shall develop and utilize fiscal procedures designed to ensure accountability of the public funds expended. Such procedures shall include provisions for compliance reviews that shall be conducted by the Office of Higher Education on any institution of higher education that participates in the program.”



# Pre-Program Review

- Establish Annual Program Review Calendar with Consultant
- Review Institutional Unit Data Report
- Notification Letters
- Random Selection of Student Files to Review



# Program Review

- Conduct On-Site Review for Selected Students
- Work with Institution's FAM System to Minimize Paper Process
- Review Student Record for Adherence to State Statute and Program Policies
- Review Student Record for Certain Title IV Requirements
- Summarize Initial Findings and Discuss with Institutional Representatives



# Post Program Review

- Issue Initial Written Report
- Review Institutional Response to Initial Report
- Issue Final Program Review Report
- Submit Request to Institution for any Required Refund as a Result of Findings
- Issue Closeout Letter



## Results – October, 2005 through March, 2017

- 48 Program Reviews
- 147 Findings
- Returned Funds \$418,144