New Pell Grant Regulation

What Has Happened?

In December 2011, President Obama signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2012 (Public Law 112-74). This law has significantly impacted the Pell Grant Program. Beginning in Fall 2012, students are now limited to 12 semesters or 600% Lifetime Eligibility of Pell Grant. This change affects all students regardless of when or where they received their first Pell Grant.

Students that are currently receiving Pell Grant and would have reached or exceeded their Lifetime Eligibility Used **(LEU)** (600%) will no longer be eligible to receive Pell Grant starting Fall 2012.

How Do I Know I am Affected?

If you have attended college for 4 years or longer and received Pell Grant each year, you are likely to soon exhaust or have already exhausted your LEU.

The Central Processing System (CPS), the system that processes your FAFSA, will notify you via **email only** if you have used at least 450% of your LEU. Notification will be sent mid-April 2012 to students and schools. Check the email account you provided on your FAFSA.

How Is The LEU Calculated?

The LEU is calculated for each academic year, beginning with 1977-1978. The LEU is based on the annual award for that academic year.

Examples

- First-time Pell Grant recipient, enrolled 12 or more credits for two semesters (ex. Fall and Spring), the LEU for the year is 100% leaving 500% LEU.
- First-time Pell Grant recipient, enrolled one term at half-time (50%) and 3/4 time another term (75%), total LEU for the year is 125% leaving 475% LEU.

To track your LEU, visit <u>www.NSLDS.ed.gov</u>. This site will be updated regularly as your Pell Grant awards are reported.