



NEW MEXICO
OPPORTUNITY



The New Mexico **Opportunity** Scholarship

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham believes it is more important than ever to prepare the workforce for high-demand positions in healthcare, education, and other critical sectors. Now is the time to obtain the credentials that can launch you on a meaningful and family-sustaining career pathway.

The New Mexico Opportunity Scholarship provides tuition and fee assistance for students enrolled in 2-year programs, including credit-bearing certificate or associate degree programs, in a public institution of higher education or Tribal College in New Mexico.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST:

- Be 18 years of age or older at time of enrollment
- Be a resident of New Mexico
- Enroll full-time (at least 12 credit hours) in a credit-bearing 2-year program
- Maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average (GPA)

CAN THE NM OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT ME?

- Recent high school graduates and returning adult learners can apply for this scholarship. You may also be eligible if you are currently enrolled in good standing in a 2-year degree or credit-bearing certificate program in New Mexico.
- A 2-year degree is a strong investment in your future. Individuals who have completed associate degrees earn higher wages than those with high school degrees.
- An associate degree or certificate can help you develop the skills you need to compete for new positions in our growing economy.
- The scholarship begins in the fall 2020 semester. Enroll in your new program now and ask about the New Mexico Opportunity Scholarship!

Frequently Asked Questions:

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE NM OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP?

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP IF YOU:

- Are a resident of New Mexico
- Have a high school degree or the equivalent
- Are at least 18 years old (or eligible to receive the NM Lottery Scholarship) at the time of your enrollment
- Enroll in a 2-year program
- Maintain full time enrollment and a 2.5 GPA

IN WHAT PROGRAMS CAN I ENROLL?

Two-year programs, credit-bearing certificate programs or associate degree programs at a public, post-secondary institution or Tribal College in New Mexico (such as a community college or branch community college campus). Consider programs that prepare you for high-demand positions in healthcare, education, and other fields.

DO I HAVE TO BE A FULL-TIME STUDENT?

Yes, the NM Opportunity Scholarship assists full-time students; that is, those who are taking at least 12 credit hours per semester.

WILL THE NM OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP COVER ALL MY TUITION AND FEES?

The answer to this question depends upon the cost of tuition for the particular program in which you are enrolled and what other state aid you have been awarded. The Opportunity Scholarship provides tuition and fee assistance after other state aid is applied. Once you enroll in your program, the Financial Aid staff at your institution will assist you to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or other income verification and apply this scholarship to your financial aid package.

CAN I APPLY IF I AM ALREADY A STUDENT IN A QUALIFYING PROGRAM?

Yes. If you otherwise meet the eligibility criteria described, you are eligible to receive the Opportunity Scholarship.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE NM OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP?

After enrolling in a 2-year program, speak with your institution's financial aid staff to access the NM Opportunity Scholarship and other aid.