

# Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG)

January 2025

## Overview

The Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG) program provides financial aid to students who are residents of Nebraska, have not earned a bachelor's, graduate or professional degree, have high financial need, and who are attending eligible Nebraska colleges and universities to earn a degree or credential. NOG is the State of Nebraska's only need-based financial aid program for postsecondary students.

## By the Numbers (2023-24)

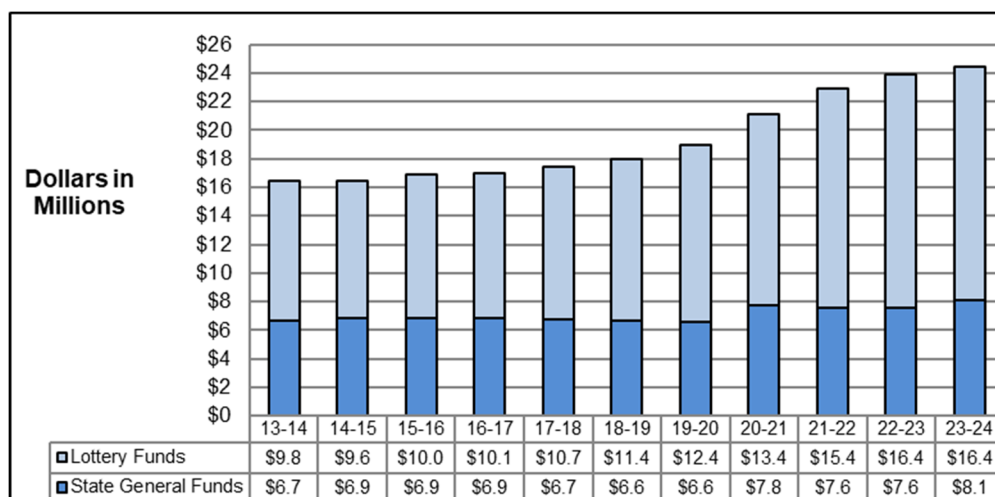
**Amount awarded:** \$24,416,074

**Recipients:** 13,507

**Recipients by sector:** 43% - University of Nebraska; 9% - State Colleges; 29% - Community Colleges; 17% - Independents; 2% - Private Career Schools

**Average grant:** \$1,808

**NOG recipients by income level:** 29.0% - \$19,999 or less; 23.9% - \$20,000-\$39,999; 23.4% - \$40,000-\$59,999; 23.7% - \$60,000+

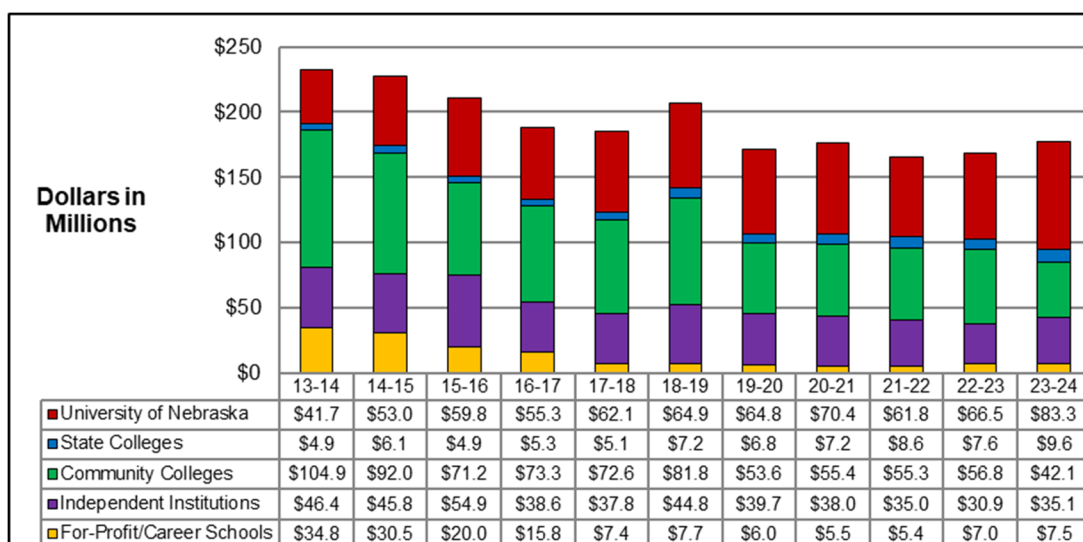


## Funding

NOG is funded through state General Fund appropriations and lottery funds. As indicated on the chart to the left, increases in NOG funding over the past decade have come primarily from lottery funds. Student need far exceeds available funding.

## Unmet Financial Need

Over 13,000 students received NOG awards in 2023-24 — but over 17,000 students qualified for grants and did not receive them due to a lack of NOG funds. The chart to the right illustrates the unmet financial need of Nebraska students who qualified for Pell grants. A



lack of State-sponsored financial aid is a contributing factor to this — Nebraska ranked 31st in the country for 2022-23 in the amount of State-provided need-based financial aid on a per student basis.