



COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

# Nebraska Opportunity Grant (NOG)

February 2019

## 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 (2017-18)

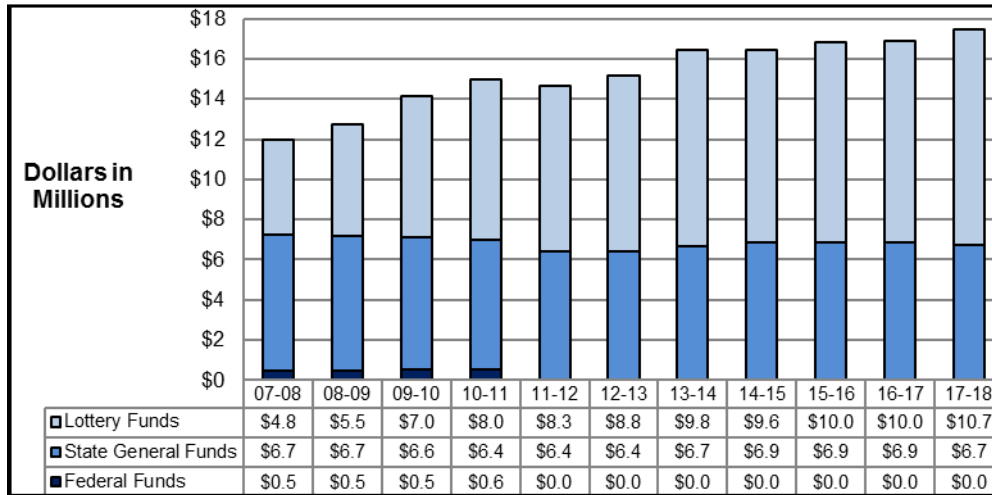
**Amount awarded:** \$17,392,498

**Recipients:** 12,849

**Recipients by sector:** 35% - University of Nebraska; 29% - Community colleges; 23% - Independents; 9% - State Colleges; 4% - Private career schools

**Average grant:** \$1,354

**NOG recipients by income level:** 36.2% - \$19,999 or less; 28.7% - \$20,000-\$39,999; 35.1% - \$40,000+

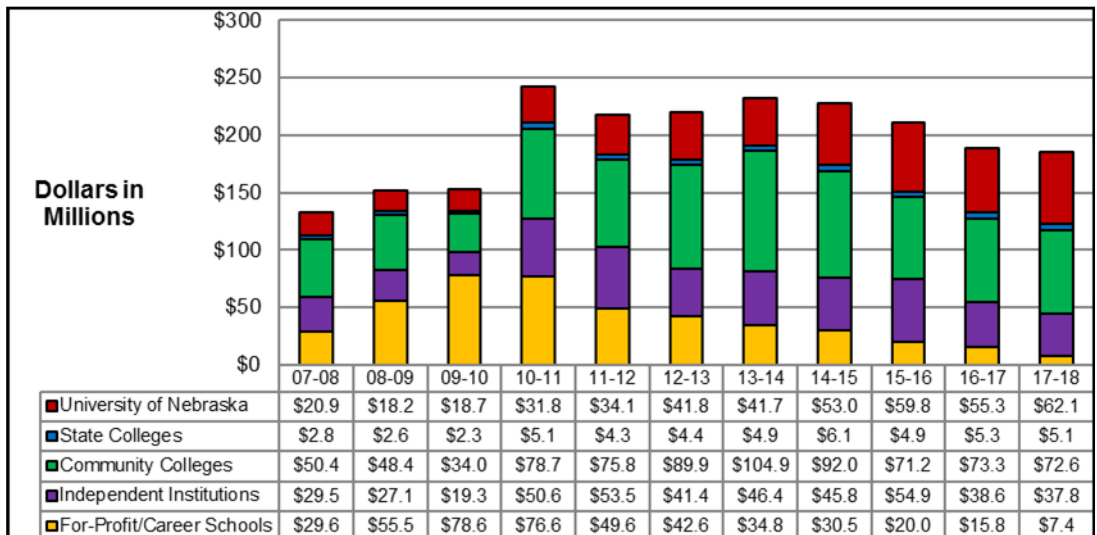


## Funding

NOG is funded through General fund appropriations and lottery funds. As indicated on the chart to the left, General funds have remained stagnant since 2007-08; the only increase in NOG funding has come from lottery funds. Student need has continued to increase at a rate that outpaces any increase in funding.

## Unmet Financial Need

Nearly 13,000 students received NOG awards in 2017-18 — but over 23,000 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 35th in the country for 2016-17 in the amount of State-provided need-based financial aid on a per student basis.