Beyond Need and Merit: Strengthening State Grant Programs

Maryland Profile

Why State Grants Matter
State grant programs have the potential to make college possible for many students who could not otherwise afford to enroll. Grant policies vary widely across states in terms of their funding levels, whether they are based on financial or academic criteria or a combination of the two, and which students and institutions are eligible.

Maryland Residents
35% of Maryland residents have a B.A. degree
65% of Maryland students attend an in-state college
$64,025 Median household income in Maryland (2010)

Colleges in Maryland – Grants, Funding and Tuition
$97,151,733 in student aid funds disbursed by 8 state grant programs.

Tuition and fees, four-year public colleges, 2009-2010
$7,476 MD
$7,050 U.S. AVG.

Avg. state grant aid per student, 2009-2010
$450 MD
$627 U.S. AVG.

% funding of publics from state/local gov, 2008-2009
33% MD
29% U.S. AVG.

% grant aid based on need, 2009-2010
95% MD
73% U.S. AVG.

Largest Two Grant Programs in Maryland
(See Appendix B of the full report for a complete listing of grant programs)

H. P. Rawlings Educational Assistance Grant
Funds disbursed: $60,151,975
% of all state grants: 62%
Number of recipients: 28,683
Avg. aid per recipient: $2,097
Eligibility criteria: Financial

H. P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access Grant
Funds disbursed: $12,272,699
% of all state grants: 13%
Number of recipients: 1,380
Avg. aid per recipient: $8,893
Eligibility criteria: Financial, Academic

DATA UNAVAILABLE