Beyond Need and Merit: Strengthening State Grant Programs

Vermont 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.

Colleges in Vermont – Grants, Funding and Tuition

$19,678,963

in student aid funds disbursed by

6

state grant programs.

Tuition and fees, four-year public colleges, 2009-2010

VT $12,016

U.S. AVG. $7,050

Avg. state grant aid per student, 2009-2010

VT $599

U.S. AVG. $627

% funding of publics from state/local gov, 2008-2009

VT 29%

U.S. AVG. 10%

% grant aid based on need, 2009-2010

VT 100%

U.S. AVG. 73%

Vermont Residents

33%

of Vermont residents have a B.A. degree

47%

of Vermont students attend an in-state college

$55,942

Median household income in Vermont (2010)

Largest Two Grant Programs in Vermont

(See Appendix B of the full report for a complete listing of grant programs)

Vermont Incentive Grant

Funds disbursed: $17,575,114

% of all state grants: 89%

Number of recipients: 9,228

Avg. aid per recipient: $1,905

Eligibility criteria: Financial

% of dollars disbursed by sector:

PUBLIC 53%

PRIVATE 41%

FOR-PROFIT 5%

VT Part-Time Grant

Funds disbursed: $1,213,382

% of all state grants: 6%

Number of recipients: 2,431

Avg. aid per recipient: $499

Eligibility criteria: Financial

% of dollars disbursed by sector:

PUBLIC 69%

PRIVATE 25%

FOR-PROFIT 6%