

## **Federal Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility**

In December 2011, President Obama signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74). This law has significantly affected the Pell Grant Program. Beginning in Fall 2012, students are now limited to 12 semesters (or 600%) of Pell Grant eligibility during their lifetime. This change affects all students regardless of when they received their first Pell Grant. Students that are currently receiving the Pell Grant in the 2011-2012 academic year and have already used 600% of their Pell Grant Eligibility will no longer be eligible to receive a Pell Grant starting Fall 2012.

### **How is the percentage calculated?**

The percentages are based off the annual award at full time enrollment status. If you were a full time student for the 2011-2012 academic year and you received the maximum annual award, the percentage used for 2011-2012 is 100%. If you were a  $\frac{3}{4}$  time student for each semester and received a  $\frac{3}{4}$  time annual award, the percentage used is 75%.

### **How do I see my Lifetime Pell Grant used?**

You may view your percentage of Pell Grant used by logging into [NSLDS.ed.gov](http://NSLDS.ed.gov). Your 'Lifetime Eligibility Used' percentage will be displayed in the 'Grants' section.