

Workforce Pell Webinar – August 31, 2026

Q&A

Question 1: Who does the institution sign the Data Sharing Agreement with? Will student data, including personally identifiable information (PII), be shared?

Answer 1: The Data Sharing Agreement, which is part of the institution's Workforce Pell application, is an agreement between the institution and the Maine Department of Labor (MDOL). MDOL will use the participant-level information solely for authorized program administration, including matching records with state workforce and wage data to calculate required performance outcomes used to determine or maintain Workforce Pell eligibility, and produce aggregate reports. Participant-level information will not be publicly disclosed and will be protected in accordance with applicable federal and state confidentiality requirements.

Question 2: Is Workforce Pell a separate stream of funding from traditional Pell?

Answer 2: No, the funding for Workforce Pell is not a separate source of funding from traditional Pell. Workforce Pell does not create new funding; rather, it expands federal Pell Grant eligibility to approved short-term workforce training programs that meet federal requirements.

Question 3: How does Workforce Pell impact a student's lifelong Pell eligibility?

Answer 3: Workforce Pell Grants count against a student's Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) in the same as a traditional Pell Grant. Federal law limits Pell Grant funding to the equivalent of six years of full-time enrollment.