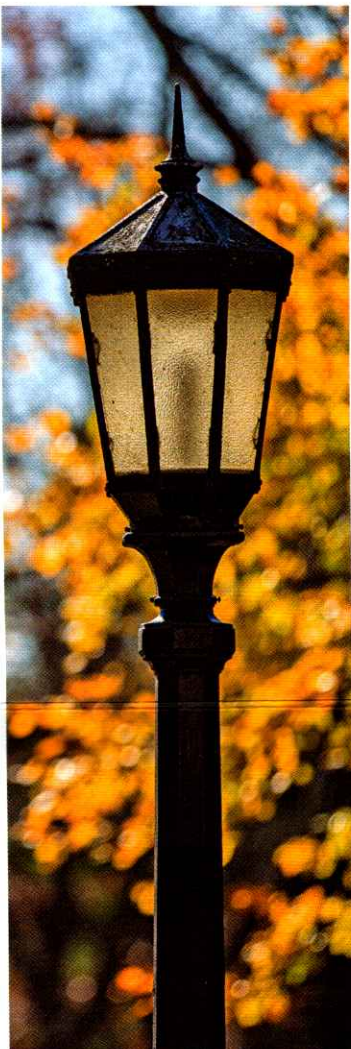


Bates | The Schuler Access Initiative

\$100 Million Expansion of Need-Based Financial Aid



Bates College has partnered with the **Schuler Education Foundation** to make a significant new investment in financial aid for Pell Grant recipients at Bates. A challenge grant of \$50 million to Bates College from the **Schuler Access Initiative**, matched dollar for dollar by Bates donors, will fuel an unprecedented \$100 million expansion of financial aid to enroll students from America's lowest-income families. Bates will focus on increasing enrollment of Pell financial aid recipients by 50% during the ten-year grant period.



The Federal Pell Grant Program was established under The Higher Education Act of 1965. Since then, it has served as a centerpiece of financial assistance for low- and moderate-income families. Eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant is calculated from information provided in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and funds are awarded to undergraduate students with financial need.



- Bates meets 100% of demonstrated financial need for every admitted student
- \$39 million in grant aid annually
- 45% of Bates students receive financial aid
- 2020–21 average financial aid award is \$52,508



- 93% of Pell-eligible students graduate Bates within four years
- Average 2021 federal student loan debt was \$14,387 — less than half the national average
- Within six months, 99% of the Class of 2019 were settled in graduate school, employment or fellowships



Bates students benefit from numerous support systems:

- Bobcat First for first-generation-to-college students
- STEM Scholars for underrepresented students in the STEM fields
- Entering students are assigned faculty, residence life, and student affairs advisors