New Mexico Lottery Scholarship

- The Lottery Scholarship helps pay for tuition for 7 semesters of undergraduate study. If you attend a two-year college, the Lottery Scholarship is available for 3 semesters.
- If eligibility requirements are met, the Lottery Scholarship will kick in the second semester of your freshman year.
- The scholarship pays for a percentage of tuition, which varies from school to school and from one academic year to another.
- You become eligible for the scholarship by filling out your admissions application. It’s also important to complete your FAFSA.

To receive the Lottery scholarship...

- You must be a New Mexico resident.
- You have to graduate from a New Mexico public high school, an accredited New Mexico private high school or have obtained a New Mexico GED/HSE. Home-schooled students are eligible only if they pass the New Mexico GED/HSE.
- You must be enrolled full-time in a New Mexico public college, university or trade school within 16 months of graduating from high school or passing the HSE/GED.
- You must achieve a 2.5 grade point average in the first semester of your first year of college.

Until the Lottery Scholarship kicks in...

Since the Lottery Scholarship does not go into effect until the second semester of your freshman year, most schools have a ‘gap’ scholarship that helps with tuition during the first semester of college. Each school has a different name for this scholarship, and eligibility requirements vary from school to school, but generally require a minimum final high school GPA. Check with your college to learn the requirement for their ‘gap’ scholarship. Also, some schools have additional paperwork for you to fill out in order to receive a first-semester scholarship – ask about this when you submit your application or your financial aid paperwork.

To keep the Lottery Scholarship...

You need to maintain full-time status and satisfactory academic progress with a 2.5 or higher GPA. Full-time status means that you take 15 credit hours at a four-year college or university and 12 credit hours at a two-year school each semester and that you only take summers off.

Accommodations

Students who have documented disabilities may qualify for reduced credit hour requirements and additional semesters for which they are eligible for the Lottery Scholarship. Check with your school to learn more about Lottery Scholarship accommodations.