



**Your Employer is a member of a statewide initiative that qualifies **YOU** for benefits; read on for details!**

## **Tuition Discounts**

As the employee of a member of the Maine Employers' Initiative, you qualify for discounts at several Maine institutions if you want to take classes or return to school to get a degree.

- **Saint Joseph's College Online offers a 15% discount to member employees.** For details go to: [www.online.sjcme.edu](http://www.online.sjcme.edu) To take advantage of this benefit, contact Suzanne Murphy at Saint Joseph's College at 207-893-7824 or [smurphy@sjcme.edu](mailto:smurphy@sjcme.edu).
- **The New England College of Business & Finance offers a 25% discount to member employees and their families.** For details of the programs offered online go to: [www.necb.edu](http://www.necb.edu) For assistance, contact Joanne Lakin at 603-867-4391 or [joanne.lakin@necb.edu](mailto:joanne.lakin@necb.edu).
- **The University of New England will waive application fees for member employees.** To have your application fee waived, contact Cynthia Forrest at 207-602-2372 or [CForrest@une.edu](mailto:CForrest@une.edu).
- **The University of Maine at Fort Kent is now offering a discount of 50% on tuition for the second 3 or 4 credit course to all member employers and employees.** If you don't happen to be in Northern Maine, don't worry: UMFK has 9 online degree programs, 4 online certificate programs, and a whole host of distance learning and online course offerings. To take advantage of this great discount, contact Scott Voisine at 834-8644 or [voisine@maine.edu](mailto:voisine@maine.edu).
- **Husson University is now offering a tuition discount for the College of Business.** The discount ranges from 5% to 15%, and includes additional credit toward an MBA, as well as 10% off certificate program offerings. Please contact Maggie at 626-3124 or [mdrummond@mdf.org](mailto:mdrummond@mdf.org) to take advantage of this great offer.

## **Other Benefits & Resources**

- Southern New Hampshire University offers lower tuition to Maine students – generally 30% lower. To find out about programs offered at SNHU, go to: [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu) or contact Bo Yerxa at the Brunswick Center at 207-725-6486 or [boyerxa@snhu.edu](mailto:boyerxa@snhu.edu)
- The Opportunity Maine Program offers a tax credit for student loan payments to all students who earn a degree at a Maine school and continue to live and work here. For details go to: [www.opportunitymaine.org/opportunity-maine-program](http://www.opportunitymaine.org/opportunity-maine-program)
- Jump start a degree by receiving college credit for work done outside the classroom in a work setting or other venue. You can save time and money by doing a prior learning assessment to verify college credit you may have already earned. Go to: [www.usm.maine.edu/pla](http://www.usm.maine.edu/pla) or [www.uma.edu/portfolioassessment.html](http://www.uma.edu/portfolioassessment.html) or [www.cael.org](http://www.cael.org)

## Other Benefits & Resources Cont'd...

- The Harold Alfond College Challenge provides a one-time \$500 grant for all Maine resident babies to open a NextGen® college savings account by the baby's first birthday, regardless of family income. Initial or subsequent contributions are not required to receive the Alfond Grant. For terms and conditions and more details go to: [www.500forbaby.org](http://www.500forbaby.org)
- Maine also has programs that provide matching grants to eligible NextGen® college savings accounts regardless of family income. The matching grants range from \$50 up to \$400. For terms and conditions and more details go to: [www.famemaine.com/nextgen](http://www.famemaine.com/nextgen)
- Need help financing college classes or degree? You and your employer can match funds with a LifeLong Learning Account. For information, go to:  
[www.mainecareercenter.com/services-programs/training/lila/index.shtml](http://www.mainecareercenter.com/services-programs/training/lila/index.shtml)
- Transitioning from high school degree to college level classes or degree path? Want to talk with someone just to find out what your options are? Contact Maine College Transitions at:  
[www.maine.gov/education/aded/dev/transitions.htm](http://www.maine.gov/education/aded/dev/transitions.htm)
- Maine Apprenticeship Program - Gain experience and education at the same time, working directly in an industry of your choice. For more information go to:  
[www.mainecareercenter.com/services-programs/training/apprenticeship/workers/index.shtml](http://www.mainecareercenter.com/services-programs/training/apprenticeship/workers/index.shtml)
- Maine Educational Loan Authority (MELA) was established by the Maine Legislature in 1988 to provide a supplemental or alternative student loan program to bridge the gap between the full cost of a college education and traditional financial aid resources such as scholarships, grants, and Federal education loans. The Maine Loan® is a credit based education loan and allows borrowers to borrow up to the full cost of an undergraduate or graduate education less other financial aid. For more information about MELA and The Maine Loan program, please call 1-800-922-6352 or visit: [www.mela.net](http://www.mela.net)

## Scholarships

- **The Competitive Skills Scholarship Program (CSSP)** offered through the Career Centers: Post-secondary degree or certificate programs for high wage jobs in industries that need skilled workers; Income eligibility - 200% of the federal poverty level. For more details go to:  
[www.mainecareercenter.com/services-programs/training/cssp/index.shtml](http://www.mainecareercenter.com/services-programs/training/cssp/index.shtml)
- **Sunrise County Economic Council's (SCEC) Eaton Foundation Young Adult Scholarship Program** targets young adults aged 18-29. Financial assistance of up to \$500 for Washington County residents attending training and/or certification courses, not covered by traditional forms of financial aid, which will increase their employability and/or career advancement potential. For details go to:  
[www.sunrisecounty.org/crmacna.html](http://www.sunrisecounty.org/crmacna.html)
- **Osher Scholarships** are available to Maine residents of all ages. Osher Scholarship covers costs to take one course, including books and required materials for individuals who have never completed a college course. For details go to: [www.mccs.me.edu/student/osher.html](http://www.mccs.me.edu/student/osher.html)
- **The Maine Sea Coast Mission Scholarships** for non-traditional students of all ages and HS students who are residents of the islands and coastal communities of Downeast Maine enrolling in degree programs or taking specialized courses to prepare for advancement in a variety of fields. For more information about the scholarship deadlines and requirements, call Terri Rodick, 207-288-5097. For details go to: [www.seacoastmission.org/scholarships.html](http://www.seacoastmission.org/scholarships.html)