State of Mississippi Aid Programs

Summary/Purpose: State of Mississippi aid programs such as MTAG, MESG, Mississippi HELP, William Winter Teacher Program, Critical Needs Teacher Program, and GEARUP.

State of Mississippi aid programs such as the Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant (MTAG), the Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant (MESG), the Critical Needs Teacher Program, Mississippi HELP, GEARUP, and the William Winter Teacher's Program are administrated by the State of Mississippi's Office of Student Financial Aid (MOSFA) in Jackson. To be considered for these awards, each year the student must complete the MOSFA's application available online at http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/financialaid/default.asp. Eligibility is determined by the MOSFA. MTAG/MESG as well as other state aid programs may be prorated subject to funds availability or other awards that are received. Funds are disbursed upon receipt.

Upon the creation of the MTAG, the Legislature of Mississippi stipulated that the Federal Pell Grant plus the MTAG may not exceed the maximum value of the Federal Pell Grant. Therefore, a student may not be awarded the Federal Pell Grant and the MTAG in excess of the maximum value of the Federal Pell Grant. To comply with this law, reductions are made to the MTAG.