

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**



**BILL NO. 61-38**

**INTRODUCED BY: Harding (VPIA)**

**SECONDED BY: Salinas (CSS)**

**CONTRIBUTORS: President Le**

**A BILL TO: Allow ASMSU to Sign On to the Intercollegiate Pell Grant Op-Ed**

**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:**

**WHEREAS**, Several institutions across the United States have written a letter to send to Congress in order to increase funding for the Pell Grant<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Pell Grant is the largest federal grant program for undergraduate students in the United States and is designed to assist students from low-income households<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, The doubling of the Pell Grant would allow for increased financial aid for students and which would help alleviate stress caused by financial hardship for students; and


**WHEREAS**, ASMSU has precedence in supporting the doubling of the Pell Grant through the passage of Bill 58-03<sup>3</sup>; therefore be it,

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall sign onto the Intercollegiate One Pager Op-Ed which can be found as Appendix 1.

**INTRODUCED ON** 11.14.2024

**REFERRED TO** Academic **COMMITTEE ON** 11.07.2024

**SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup>  Intercollegiate One Pager OpEd

<sup>2</sup> <https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/article/federal-pell-grant-program>

<sup>3</sup>  \_Bill 58-03\_Advocate for Doubling the Pell Grant\_Boling\_Sawyer\_Final (1).pdf

FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>	Voice Majority	<u>11.14.2024</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	DATE

## Appendix 1:

The Pell Grant program is the U.S. federal government’s “foundational” system for helping low-income families pay the costs of college; in short, Pell Grants are financial aid packages given directly to students that qualify based on need. Most importantly, they don’t need to be repaid. Pell Grants are a boon for the millions of students that receive them: Roughly half of first-generation college students and student parents, and almost 40% of student veterans, are Pell Grant recipients. Nearly 60% of Black students and roughly half of American Indian/Alaska Native and Hispanic students receive a grant each year.

However, as the costs of college have sharply risen — even outpacing inflation — funding for Pell Grants has failed to keep up..



Sector Cost of Attendance % Covered by 2020-21	Max Pell Grant % Covered by Max Pell	Grant if Doubled to \$13,000
Public 4-year (in-state, on campus)	\$25,048 25.9% 51.9%	\$43,873 14.8% 29.6%
Private 4-year (on campus)		

We hold that **Congress should *double* the maximum Pell Grant with a fully mandatory funding structure and a 5% minimum Pell award** to reduce “eligibility cliffs” (people who just

barely fall out of the Pell range receiving nothing). This would mark a long overdue step to cover the rising costs of college and support those who have been left out of higher education for too long. This would:

- Double the grant for those with an expected family contribution (EFC) of zero and increase all other grants by the same amount.
- Expand the EFC range that qualifies students for Pell, which means more moderate-income students would be covered.