

## How Do I Apply?

If you are receiving assistance from another DHHS- Office for Family Independence program, we can start your application over the phone.

Or, you can find an application online at:

[www.maine.gov/dhhs/hope](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/hope)

Or at your local DHHS office.



**Submit completed applications by email, fax, or mail:**

[HOPE.DHHS@maine.gov](mailto:HOPE.DHHS@maine.gov)

Fax: (207) 287-3455

DHHS-OFI

HOPE Program

11 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Or, return to your local DHHS office.

# HOPE

**Contact us with questions or for more information!**

**(207) 624-4170**  
[www.maine.gov/dhhs/hope](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/hope)



# HOPE BEGINS HERE

Higher Opportunity for  
Pathways to Employment (HOPE)



**Helping Maine families pursue training and education beyond high school**



Prepared by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence

11/3/21

## What is HOPE?

The HOPE Program will help Maine families pursue training and education beyond high school and achieve their career plans by addressing barriers to success.

HOPE provides financial support to eligible parents for costs related to training and education to help parents enroll in and complete their training or education program.

### Did you know?

By 2020, **66%** of jobs in Maine will require more than a high school diploma.

**21%** of Maine college students 25+ years old are taking care of dependent children.

**109,000** Maine adults have begun, but not completed, a program of study beyond high school.

Sources: Maine Center for Economic Policy, Maine SPARK, and Maine CWRI.



## Who is Eligible?

You might be eligible if :

- ✓ You are a parent or caretaker relative of a minor child.
- ✓ You are at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. Visit our website to learn what this means for you.
- ✓ You are not receiving a monthly TANF or PaS cash benefit.
- ✓ You are enrolled in or have been accepted to an eligible training or education program that:
  - ✓ Awards a degree or certificate beyond high school.
  - ✓ Is accredited or recognized by trade and industry associations.
  - ✓ Leads to a job with adequate job outlook. Visit our website to learn what jobs are on this list.
- ✓ You are making satisfactory progress and are on track to graduate.

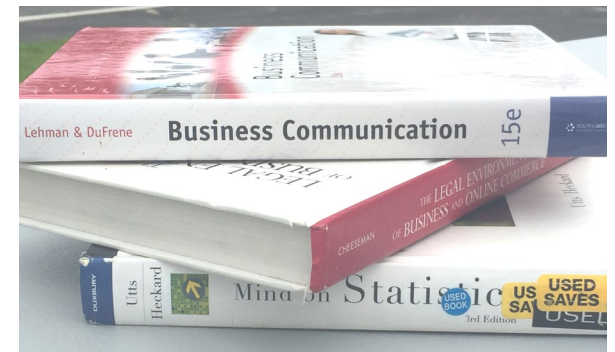
Call or visit our website for more information and to see if you are eligible

[www.maine.gov/dhhs/hope](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/hope)

## What Can HOPE Help With?

HOPE may help cover :

- ✓ Current Tuition
- ✓ Prior Tuition (preventing enrollment)
- ✓ Child Care
- ✓ Mileage and Transportation
- ✓ Books and Supplies
- ✓ Tools and Equipment
- ✓ Computer and Software
- ✓ Internet
- ✓ Car Inspection and Repairs
- ✓ Car Insurance and Registration
- ✓ Corrective Eyewear
- ✓ Dental Treatment (certain types)
- ✓ And other costs associated with going to school!



### Student Navigators

HOPE offers all participants access to Student Navigators. Student Navigators stand ready to assist you on your journey! The support they offer is based on what you decide you need, and choosing to meet with a Navigator is voluntary.