To meet the needs of its diverse student community, Northeastern continues to expand its student financial aid program. Today, more than 80 percent of Northeastern students receive some form of financial aid. For students to obtain the education and skills they need to succeed in the global economy, it is critical that state and federal leaders preserve and strengthen vital grant and loan programs.

In the 2010-2011 academic year, Northeastern provided $160 million in institutional scholarships and grants and administered more than $210 million in federal financial aid to its students. Below are selected stories of Northeastern students who benefit from federal and institutional aid.

**Nicole Bourque**, a second-year health science major from Pelham, New Hampshire

“My Pell Grant makes possible my dream of attending Northeastern and becoming a doctor, rather than having to put college on hold to work full-time.”

About Pell Grants: The Pell Grant Program provides grants to high-need undergraduate students at more than 5,400 institutions nationwide. There are a wide range of factors taken into account when a student is considered for a Pell Grant, such as the student’s expected family contribution, the cost of tuition, the student’s enrollment status (full time or part time), and whether or not the student will attend an institution for a full academic year.

**Justin Bensan**, a third-year political science major from Los Angeles, California

“Without my Perkins loan, there is no way that my family would be able to send me to Northeastern. The Perkins program gives me the opportunity to invest in my education while receiving the unique co-op experience.”

About Perkins Loans: The Perkins Loan Program provides low-interest loans to help middle-class students pay for higher education. The program is need-based and Perkins Loans often provide the last dollar of aid necessary for students after all other forms of available aid are exhausted. Some 1,800 participating institutions retain discretion in determining students’ Perkins award amounts.

**$5 million**

Total Perkins Loan awards received by Northeastern students in the 2010-2011 academic year

**$12.2 million**

Total Pell Grant awards received by Northeastern students in the 2010-2011 academic year

**Recent News**

Northeastern president Joseph Aoun has been a leader on college affordability. On June 14, 2011, President Aoun convened a group of university presidents and officials from the U.S. Department of Education, including Under Secretary Dr. Martha Kanter, to discuss the administration’s proposal to modernize and expand the Perkins Loan program. Without action by Congress, the program is set to expire in 2014.

Financial-aid administrators from a range of schools across the country came to Washington to participate in the discussion among department officials, presidents of universities, and presidents of associations on the fate of Perkins.

This program is essential in providing financial support to middle-class students at higher-education institutions across the country. The meeting served as the first stop in a national dialogue needed to strengthen the program.

President Aoun noted that higher-education institutions have a duty to work with the administration and Congress: “We cannot take Perkins for granted. That’s our duty, to advocate for it.”

Northeastern University
For more information about financial aid at Northeastern, contact Tim Leshan, vice president for government relations, 617.373.8528, t.leshan@neu.edu; or visit northeastern.edu/governmentrelations.

FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM: A KEY TO EDUCATING TOMORROW’S INNOVATORS

Maintaining federal support for Pell Grants and other federal aid will ensure that students can access and afford the higher-education opportuni-
ties that help to develop the skills they need to be successful innovators in the global economy, says Joseph E. Aoun, president of Northeastern University. “Significant cuts to financial aid programs would cause students to withdraw from college before graduation or postpone attending college entirely.”

PELL’S IMPACT AT NORTHEASTERN . . . AND ACROSS THE NATION

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<th>Northeastern students</th>
<th>Total Pell Grant recipients</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pell’s Impact</strong></td>
<td><strong>2010-2011</strong></td>
<td><strong>2010-2011</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Pell Grant awards received by Northeastern students</strong></td>
<td>$12.2 million</td>
<td>$22.8 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Northeastern students who received Pell Grants</strong></td>
<td>3,174</td>
<td>9.4 million</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Average Pell award to Northeastern students, with a maximum of $3,500 (2010-2011)</strong></td>
<td>$3,850</td>
<td>105,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>High-need students nationwide who will receive Pell Grants (2011-2012)</strong></td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>5,400</td>
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