# A logo with white text Description automatically generated Ira M. Cobe Fund: Cobe Connects Program

## Guidelines

### History

### This is a partnership with eligible students to support school-sponsored, curriculum-based, educational opportunities during the academic year for which funding is not otherwise available. Maximum award is $500 and $250 for class trips, and each applicant is expected to share the cost of the opportunity.

### Preference is for students who have not received a Cobe Connects award in the current academic year. Eligibility is based on the guidelines below.

### Curriculum-based educational opportunities include but are not limited to: enrollment in an early-college program; participation in class trips (maximum award $250); purchase of educational supplies; and summer school tuition. Please contact the Maine Community Foundation if you have questions concerning a specific opportunity.

### Proposals are reviewed on a rolling basis and awards will generally be made within a week of receipt of the application. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Payment will be made to the school sponsoring the program/activity. Email Jackie Shannon at jshannon@mainecf.org with any questions.

### Eligibility Requirements

We welcome applications from students who are a resident of Waldo County (preferably for at least one year) under the age of 23 in need of financial assistance in meeting the expenses of school-sponsored, educational opportunities with a family income that falls within the following guidelines (federal reduced lunch program).

* Preference is for students who have not received a Cobe Connects award in the current academic year.
* The maximum amount available per student per year through Cobe Connects is $500.00
* The maximum award per student for a class trip is $250.00
* Each student (or school) is expected to share the cost of the opportunity.
* Cobe Connects will contribute a maximum of 50% of summer school tuition.

Cobe Connects is intended to help individual students participate in experiences that would require payment by a student, no matter their financial situation, to enable children from low-income families to participate in early college courses, Skills USA, or an overnight class trip for which the rest of non-Cobe-eligible students are paying the same amount to participate.

# Ira M. Cobe Fund: Cobe Connects Program Application

### Applicant Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant’s name:** |  |
| **Home address:** |  |
| **Phone:** |  |
| **Email address:** |  |
| **Applicant’s date of birth:** |  |
| **Resident of Waldo County since:** |  |
| **Applicant’s school grade:** |  |

### Program Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Program for which aid is requested:**  *For college-level courses, please indicate college, class, credits, course number and if online.* |  |
| **Dates/duration of program:** |  |
| **Signature of guidance counselor:**  *Required to authorize enrollment in an early-college program.* |  |
| **School name:** |  |
| **School address:** |  |
| **Program/activity contact:**  *Include phone number.* |  |

### Program Costs

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total cost of opportunity:** | $ | **Amount contributed by student/parent:** | $ |
| **Total amount requested:**  *$500 maximum, $250 for class trips. Note that Cobe Connects will contribute maximum of 50% of summer school tuition.* | $ | | |

### 2024-2025 School Year Income Guidelines

Family income must fall within the following guidelines for federal reduced lunch program.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Household Size** | **Maximum Annual Income** |
| 1 | $26,861 |
| 2 | $37,841 |
| 3 | $47,767 |
| 4 | $57,720 |
| 5 | $67,673 |
| 6 | $77,626 |
| 7 | $87,579 |
| 8 | $97,532 |
| For each additional family member, add: | $9,953 |

### Application Checklist and Attachments

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please review this list and make sure you have taken care of all required parts, including attachments listed.** | ☐ **Completed application form (pages 2-3)**  **☐ Copy of brochure, flier or newsletter explaining field trips or out-of-school experiences for which funding is sought** |

### Certifications

I certify that I am a legal resident of Waldo County, Maine, and that all information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I give my permission for any person listed on this application to be contacted for more information. I certify that I meet the eligibility requirements for the Cobe Connects Program as outlined on the reverse side of this application.

**Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature of Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Principal Certification**

This section must be signed and dated by the applicant’s school principal.

I certify that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria of the Ira M. Cobe Fund as outlined in this application. I also certify that funds awarded will be used for the requested intent and that all unused funds will be returned to the Maine Community Foundation.

**Signature of Principal: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please submit completed applications to:

**Cobe Connects**  
Maine Community Foundation  
245 Main Street  
Ellsworth, ME 04605  
Tel: 207-412-0849  
semery@mainecf.org