# MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# IRA M. COBE FUND

# 2023-2024 COBE CONNECTS PROGRAM

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 on the reverse side of this application. 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. Payment will be made to the school sponsoring the program/activity. Email Jackie Shannon at [jshannon@mainecf.org](mailto:jshannon@mainecf.org) with any questions.

**Important reminder:** 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.**

Please include the brochure, flier, or newsletter explaining any field trips or out-of-school experiences for which individual funding is sought when submitting this application.

***Incomplete applications will not be considered.***

**Name:**

**Date of Birth:**   **Resident of Waldo County since:**

**Age:** **Grade:**

**Address:**

Street address or P.O. number

City: State: Zip code:

Phone: E-mail:

**Program/activity for which aid is requested:**

(For college-level courses please indicate college, class, credits, course number and if online.) **\*Pls. include the newsletter or brochure for outside the school programs and all field trips**

**Dates/Duration of the Program:**

**Guidance Counselor Signature:**

(Required to authorize enrollment in an early-college program)

**School:**

Street address or P.O. number

City: State: Zip code:

**Program/Activity Contact**: Phone:

**Total cost of Opportunity:**  **Amount contributed by student/parent:**

**TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED ($500 maximum - $250 for class trips): $**

Note: Cobe Connects will contribute a maximum of 50% of summer school tuition.

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 Parent:

**REQUIRED -** I certify that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ meets the eligibility criteria of the Ira M. Cobe Fund as outlined on the reverse side of 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:

**Maine Community Foundation**

**Ira M. Cobe Fund**

**2023-2024 Cobe Connects Program**

# Eligibility and Criteria for Selection

We welcome applications from students who meet the following Selection Criteria:

• 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):

**PLEASE NOTE:**

• 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.

Submit completed applications to:

Cobe Connects Program

Maine Community Foundation

245 Main St.

Ellsworth, ME 04605

Tel: 207-412-2004 Jackie Shannon

[jshannon@mainecf.org](mailto:jshannon@mainecf.org)

**Cobe Connects proposals are reviewed on a rolling basis and awards will generally be made within a week of receipt of the application. Payment will be made directly to the school sponsoring the program/activity.**

***Incomplete applications will not be considered.***

**2023-2024 School Year**

**Income Guidelines**

**Free and Reduced Price Meals**

• Family income must fall within the following guidelines (federal reduced lunch program):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Household size* | **Maximum Annual Income** |
| 1 | $26,973 |
| 2 | $36,482 |
| 3 | $45,991 |
| 4 | $55,500 |
| 5 | $65,009 |
| 6 | $74,518 |
| 7 | $84,027 |
| 8 | $93,536 |
| For each additional family member add | $9,509 |