Important Note about 2011 1098-Ts

Due to a processing error, an amount was entered in Box 10 of the original 2011 1098-T forms mailed in January. Box 10 on the form should be blank. We have corrected this error and new forms were mailed on February 09, 2011.

If you have already accessed your 1098-T form online via MaineStreet Self-Service, please know the form in MaineStreet does not contain the error.

Information about 1098-T Reporting

The 1098-T form is a statement of qualified tuition and fees charged by the University of Maine System that we provide to students and to the IRS. Institutions are required to report either the payments made or the charges incurred during a tax year but cannot report both. The University of Maine System chooses to report charges incurred since payments made are not directly allocated to specific charges. Therefore, it would be impossible to verify if a certain payment was designated for a certain charge.

Qualified tuition and fees include tuition charges as well as mandatory course fees such as lab fees, technology fees, and general fees. Room, board, and health insurance fees are not included in qualified tuition and fees as determined by IRS regulations.

IRS regulations also require that all institutions assessing qualified charges provide a 1098-T form to each student enrolled in a particular tax year. The University of Maine System must also file an information return with the IRS for each of these students.

On the 1098-T form, we report the name, SSN and address of the student, and indicate the student classification (graduate or undergraduate) and status (at least half-time or not). We report the total amount of qualified tuition and fees in a given tax year. For example, if tuition and fees for the spring 2012 term are posted on accounts in December 2011, the amounts will be reflected on the 2011 1098-T form.

The University of Maine System may not give tax advice. If you are unsure about your eligibility or have any questions, you should consult with a qualified tax preparer or advisor. You may also consult IRS Publication 970 (http://www.irs.gov/publications/p970/index.html).

For information about accessing your 1098-T forms online, go to http://www.maine.edu/pdf/Accessing1098-TSelf-Service.pdf.

To view student account, login to MaineStreet (https://mainestreet.maine.edu), select Student Self-Service > Student Center > scroll down to the Finances section of the Student Center > select the Account Inquiry link > select the Item Summary tab. On the Item Summary page, you can view charges, payments and refunds for a specific campus and term.
Campus contacts are:
UMaine – Carmel Livi, 207/581-4232
UMPI - Eldon Levesque, 207/768-9547
UMF - Deborah Moody, 207/778-7104
UMA – Student Accounts, 207/621-3412
UMM - Barbie Holmes, 207/255-1312
UMFK - Leslie Guerrette, 207/834-7550
USM - Cynthia Quinn, 207/780-4696

1098-T FAQs

What do the amounts located on the form represent?

Box 1 represents payments received for qualified tuition and related expense
(Note: the University of Maine System does not report payments received)
Box 2 represents the total amount billed during the tax year for tuition and qualified fees.
Box 4 represents any adjustments made for a prior year Form 1098-T. This may reduce any
allowable education credit that you claimed for the prior year.
Box 5 represents the total of all scholarships or grants administered and processed by the
eligible educational institution. The amount of scholarships or grants for the calendar year
reduce the amount of any allowable tuition and fees deduction or the education credit you may
claim for the year.
Box 6 represents adjustments to scholarships or grants for a prior year. This may affect the
amount of any allowable tuition and fees deduction or education credit claimed for the prior
year.
Box 7 is checked on the 2010 109-Ts if any amounts billed relate to an academic period that
began in January through March of 2011.
Box 8 is checked if you have been a student for 6 credit hours (half time) or more for one
academic period that began during the calendar year.

Who can claim a Hope or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit or the Higher Education
Tuition and Fees Deduction?
An eligible taxpayer who incurred the cost of the qualified tuition payments may claim them. An
eligible taxpayer may be the student or, if the student is a dependent for federal income tax
purposes, the person (e.g., parent) claiming the student as a dependent. A student who is a
dependent cannot claim the tax credits or deduction on his or her own tax return.

If an employee of the University of Maine System has tuition or fees paid by the university, the
employee cannot claim the tuition or fees paid by the university as a tax credit or deduction
even if the tuition or fees paid by the university is included on the 1098-T.

I paid my qualified tuition and expenses with student loans or scholarships. Can I
still claim a Hope or Lifetime Learning Credit or the Higher Education Tuition and
Fees Deduction?
Loan funds should be considered in the same manner as cash payments when calculating a
Hope or the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit or the Higher Education Tuition and Fees deduction.
However, any scholarships, grants, or other non-taxable aid must be deducted from the amount of qualified tuition and related expenses paid to calculate the education credits or deductions.

Where will my form be mailed?
1098-T forms are sent to the student’s home or mailing address entered in MaineStreet. If you opted for electronic delivery you will not receive a form in the mail.

Why didn’t I receive a 1098-T in this tax year?
There are several possibilities:
- The IRS does not require University of Maine System to issue a 1098-T form if your scholarship and financial aid total exceeded the billed amount for tuition and qualified expenses.
- Your tuition amounts consisted of only non-credit courses.
- If you did not opt to receive the form electronically and did not receive the form in the mail, it is possible that your mailing or home address on file is incorrect or missing.
- You are classified as a non-resident alien.

If I receive Form 1098-T, does it mean I qualify for the Hope Scholarship or Lifetime Learning Tax Credits?
Not necessarily, the University of Maine System is required to provide Form 1098-T to individuals who paid for qualified tuition and fees during the prior calendar year. Please consult with a qualified tax preparer or CPA to make an individual determination.

There are prior year adjustments on the form (Box 3 and 5) but these fields have not been populated on past forms. Why?
Beginning in tax year 2004, educational institutions must also report certain amounts to the IRS pertaining to prior year reductions to qualified tuition and related expenses as well as reductions to scholarship and/or grant amounts for a prior year.

I took non-credit courses last year that were required by the university before I could enroll. Why are these amounts not shown on the 1098-T?
The University of Maine System does not generate 1098-T information for non-credit courses, even if they were required by the university.