

PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

Conditions of Award

Academic Year 2023-2024

Eligibility Requirements:

- A Maryland high school graduate or GED recipient must be planning to enroll, or is currently enrolled, at a Maryland community college as a candidate in:
 - a credit-bearing **vocational** certificate;
 - a credit-bearing certificate;
 - an associate degree program;
 - a sequence of credit or non-credit courses that leads to licensure or certification; or
 - a registered apprenticeship program.
- Applicants must be eligible for in-state tuition, as determined by the community college in accordance with Title 15 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.
- High school applicants must have an unweighted cumulative GPA of at least a 2.3 (or its equivalent) at the end of the first semester of their senior year in high school or at the end of their senior year in high school.
- Applicants currently or previously enrolled at a community college must have earned either:
 - a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.5 from the community college; or
 - a high school unweighted cumulative GPA of at least a 2.3 or its equivalent at the end of the first semester or at the end of their senior year in high school

(Applicants should submit an official or unofficial high school OR community college transcript)
- Applicant's annual adjusted gross income was not more than:
 - \$100,000 if the applicant is single or resides in a single-parent household; or
 - \$150,000 if the applicant is married or resides in a two-parent household for the 2021 tax year as defined by MHEC;
- Applicants may not have earned a bachelor's degree or an associate degree; and
- Applicants may not have received any other educational grants or scholarships that cover the full cost of attendance at community colleges.

If you fail to meet any of these eligibility requirements, your award will be canceled.

Drug Free Pledge: As a condition of receiving a Maryland scholarship or grant, you pledge to remain drug free for the full term of the award. Unlawful use of drugs and alcohol may endanger your enrollment in a Maryland college, as well as your Maryland financial aid award.

Award Details:

- The annual award amount is up to \$5,000 or actual tuition and mandatory fees after federal and state financial aid is applied, whichever is less. The minimum award amount is \$100 annually, \$50 per semester. **Awards are subject to the availability of funds.**
- The Promise Scholarship covers the remaining tuition and mandatory fee amounts after all federal and state financial aid funds have been applied.
- If there is no remaining need after the federal and state financial aid awards have been applied, the Promise Scholarship will not be awarded. Applicants will see a status of "Ineligible due to no unmet need" on their MDCAPS account.

Renewing an Award:

The award will be renewed up to up to two years of undergraduate study if you:

- complete the FAFSA or MSFAA by April 15 each year;
- remain eligible for in-state tuition;
- enroll in and complete either:
 - a sequence of credit or non-credit courses that leads to licensure or certification; or
 - 6 credits at the end of each semester in credit bearing programs.
- maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative college GPA if enrolled in a credit-bearing program;
- make satisfactory progress toward a vocational certificate, a certificate, or an associate degree; and
- continue to meet the income requirements.

Payment to Your Institution:

At the beginning of each semester, your institution will be asked to certify that you meet the requirements of the award. When the institution completes the certification and requests funds from OSFA, your award will be processed for payment.

Payment to the institution will be made approximately four weeks after the institution completes the certification.

Contact your institution's financial aid office if you have questions about the payment status of your award.