

HOWARD P. RAWLINGS GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT

Student Information and Instructions

Academic Year 2012-2013

(410) 767-3203 OSFAmail@mhec.state.md.us



Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access Grant: The Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access (GA) Grant provides an award from the State of Maryland which, when combined with the Federal Pell Grant and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), will help cover the cost of full-time study at a Maryland college or university. The amount of the award varies up to \$15,500 annually and can be used at any public or private college or university in Maryland. The total dollar amount of all State scholarship awards may not exceed your cost of attendance, as determined by your school's financial aid office, or \$19,000, whichever is less.

Eligibility: To be eligible for this grant, you must:

- o Be a senior in high school, or provide written documentation explaining why you were unable to attend college within 1 year of graduating from high school;
- o Be under 22 years old at the time of receiving the first award;
- o You and your parent(s) must be Maryland residents;
- o Complete a college preparatory program;
- o Have a minimum, cumulative, unweighted 2.5 grade point average (GPA) from your high school, grades 9 through the first semester of your senior year;
- o Enroll at a Maryland college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate (at least 12 credit hours each semester; audited classes cannot be used to reach minimum number of required credits); and,
- o Have a total family annual income that qualifies for the GA Grant.

Total Family Income: Total family income includes all income (taxed and untaxed) for your parent(s) and yourself that is reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This income includes: parent and student earned income (W-2 form); and child support. The income limits for academic year 2012-2013 are:

Family Size	Total Family Income (not to exceed)	Family Size	Total Family Income (not to exceed)
1	\$14,157	5	\$34,021
2	\$19,123	6	\$38,987
3	\$24,089	7	\$43,953
4	\$29,055	8	\$48,919
For each additional family member add: \$4,966			

Application Process:

- o Complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov, preferably by **March 1**. If you do not have access to a computer, you may file a paper FAFSA and mail it to the federal processor.
- o Complete the GA Grant application online at <https://mdcaps.mhec.state.md.us>. If you do not have access to a computer, contact our office for a paper GA Grant application and mail it to the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) by **March 1** for priority consideration.
- o The guidance counselor at your high school must submit your official high school transcript reporting grades earned through the first semester of your senior year and a Certification form.
- o Applications submitted after March 1 will also be considered based on the availability of funds.

Mail completed application and official transcript to: Maryland Higher Education Commission
 Office of Student Financial Assistance
 Attention: Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed
 Access Grant Program
 6 N. Liberty Street, Ground Suite
 Baltimore, MD 21201