



Maryland Promise Scholarship



The Maryland Promise Scholarship is a state-funded award that creates opportunities for students to attend their local Maryland public community colleges by providing tuition assistance for any student eligible for in-state tuition.

Who May Apply?

Any person who enrolls at Hagerstown Community College (HCC) as a candidate in a credit-bearing vocational certificate, a credit-bearing certificate, or an associate degree program; or in a sequence of credit or non-credit courses that leads to licensure or certification; or in a registered apprenticeship program within two years after graduating from high school or successfully completing a GED in the State (on or after January 1, 2019).

How to Apply:

An individual must:

- Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.gov or submit the Maryland State Financial Aid Application (MSFAA) online through MDCAPS for any applicant who is ineligible to receive federal aid but is eligible for in-state tuition by March 1;
- Applicants who complete and list HCC on their FAFSA or MSFAA by March 1 will be notified by email of the required documentation to submit for further consideration of the Promise Scholarship. Applicants can also log in to their MDCAPS and check their "To Do List" for a complete listing of all required documentation; and
- Submit all documentation, if required, by June 15 to MHEC. Documentation received after this date will not be accepted.

Applicants who fail to complete the FAFSA or MSFAA by March 1 are ineligible for the Promise Scholarship.

Eligibility Criteria:

An applicant is eligible for a scholarship if the applicant:

- Is enrolled at HCC as a candidate in an eligible program within two years after graduating from a high school or successfully completing a GED (on or after January 1, 2019)
- Completes at least 12 credits per semester and is continuously enrolled at HCC
- Is eligible for in-state tuition, as determined by HCC in accordance with Education Article, Title 15, Annotated Code
- Earned an overall high school grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.3
- Had an annual adjusted gross income of 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 most recent tax year as defined by MHEC
- Has not earned a bachelor's degree or an associate degree
- Has not been awarded another educational grant or scholarship that covers the applicant's full cost of attendance at HCC

Service Obligation Requirements:

Within 1 year after completing their college program or apprenticeship, recipients must begin working full-time and paying Maryland state income tax for the same time period they received the Promise funds. They may work outside of Maryland but should maintain Maryland residency and pay Maryland income tax for that time period. If recipients either choose not to, or are unable to, remain in Maryland for the required time period, or do not graduate from an HCC program, the Promise would convert to a low-interest student loan payable to the State of Maryland.

To apply or learn more:

Visit www.hagerstowncc.edu/promise or contact Justin Burnett at 240-500-2677 or jlburnett@hagerstowncc.edu.