MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

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HISTORY

BILL SIGNED INTO LAW
MAY 8, 2018

• FIRST AWARDS ARE FOR 2019-20
• $15 MILLION WAS ALLOCATED TO BE SPENT
• Awardees must be Maryland residents attending the community college in the student’s home county
• Students have to enroll in the community college within 2 years of high school graduation or receiving a GED.

SEVERAL BILL REVISIONS

• Over the next year, we saw many changes to the original statute
• The first official roster of awards was created July 10, 2019 with a return date of qualified recipients back to MD state by July 26
• This was later extended to August 8.
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) by March 1, 2020 for the 2020-21 academic year.
- Enroll at a community college within 2 years of high school graduation (or GED).
- Enroll in a certificate or A.A. degree program.
- Enroll in 12 or more credit hours per term (including developmental courses).

- Be a Maryland resident and attend your home county’s community college.
- Graduate high school with a 2.3 GPA or higher.
- Adjusted gross income must be lower than $100,000 if single parent and $150,000 for married parents.
- Student cannot already possess an A.A. degree.
- Student must have unmet tuition and fee costs.
WHAT IS UNMET TUITION AND FEE COSTS?

TUITION + FEES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR – FEDERAL GRANTS – OTHER MD STATE AWARDS – MINUS ALL OTHER INSTITUTIONAL AND NON-INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS = **UNMET NEED**

- WE DO NOT COUNT ANY STUDENT LOAN MONEY
- WE DO NOT COUNT OUR ALLEGANY COUNTY OPPORTUNITY MERIT OR SUBSIDY AWARDS OR ANY SCHOLARSHIPS THAT ARE EARMARKED SOLELY FOR BOOKS
**EXAMPLE**

**TUITION AND FEES**
- $2500 FALL 2019
- $2500 SPRING 2020

**FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS**
- PELL GRANT $1050 FOR THE YEAR
- ACM SCHOLARSHIP $500 FOR THE YEAR
- ALLEGANY COUNTY MERIT AWARD $1000 FOR THE YEAR

**UNMET NEED**
- $3450
- $5000 – 1550 = $3450

Remember our Merit Award does not have to be counted!
TO RECEIVE THE AWARD NEXT YEAR…

• THE STUDENT MUST:
  • FILE THE FAFSA AGAIN BY MARCH 1
  • MAINTAIN MARYLAND RESIDENCY
  • AFTER THE FIRST TIME RECEIVING THE AWARD, MAINTAIN A GPA OF 2.5 OR HIGHER

STUDENTS CAN RECEIVE THE AWARD FOR A MAXIMUM OF 3 YEARS ONLY!
2 Caveats to Attending the Community College in Your County of Residence

If the student attends a community college outside of his home county and that college has a residence hall (like our Willowbrook Woods), then the student can be considered for an award.

If the student wants to be enrolled in a program of study that his home community college does not have, then the student can be considered for an award.
1. Each college sends in their roster of students with each student's total unmet need.

2. The state of Maryland ranks all students from highest unmet need to lowest unmet need and makes awards of that unmet need until the $15 million is gone.

3. No award is more than $5000 for the year or less than $200 for the year.

How are awards made across the state of Maryland?
IMPORTANT REMINDERS...

• MD STATE COMMUNICATES WITH ALL STUDENTS VIA THEIR EMAIL ON THE FAFSA AND THROUGH THE MD STATE SCHOLARSHIP PORTAL CALLED “MDCAPS.” STUDENTS NEED TO BE MONITORING BOTH OF THESE. MD STATE WILL ENFORCE A STRICT DEADLINE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD AND TAKE CARE OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS (MAY 1 OR JUNE 15 – TBD).

• BEFORE THE AWARD IS FINAL, STUDENTS MUST SIGN A PROMISSORY NOTE AGREEING TO GRADUATE FROM THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITH AN A.A. DEGREE; MAINTAIN MARYLAND RESIDENCY AS VERIFIED FROM A STATE TAX RETURN; AND WORK FULL TIME FOR ONE YEAR FOR EACH YEAR THE AWARD IS RECEIVED.

• IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT FULFILL THESE 3 CRITERIA, THE TOTAL PROMISE AWARD BECOMES A LOAN PAYABLE TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND.
PLEASE SEND ME ANY QUESTIONS!

I WILL COMPILE A Q AND A DOCUMENT AND POST IT FOR YOUR REVIEW.