

MCCC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

*"Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world."*

– Nelson Mandela



WHAT IS A SCHOLARSHIP?

Scholarships are payments to support a student's education that do not need to be repaid. Mercer County Community College and the MCCC Foundation award over \$350,000 in scholarship funds annually to current and graduating students.

Each semester, the MCCC Foundation has a number of scholarships available to award in all program areas. Scholarship award amounts vary. Whether you are a new, continuing or graduating student, you may be eligible for one or more scholarship opportunities. *Some of our scholarships do not even require completion of the FAFSA!*

APPLICATION DEADLINES

*Application period **CLOSES:***

- *Graduating Scholarships **April 1, 2022***
- *2022-2023 Academic Year Scholarships **July 7, 2022***



**PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR APPLICATION.**

OFFICE OF COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT

Phone | 609.570.3519

Email | scholarships@mccc.edu

FAQ | www.mccc.edu/m-scholarships

To Apply | www.mccc.edu/apply4awards

For More Opportunities | www.mccc.edu/fye

Mercer County Community College (MCCC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, military status, disability, national origin, gender identity or expression, or genetic information.



HOW TO APPLY

BEFORE APPLYING:

Before beginning your MCCC AwardSpring online application, have the following available:

- Mercer County Community College ID #, if you have one. If you do not have an MCCC ID, visit www.mccc.edu/apply to complete the online admissions application. Within 48 to 72 hours, the Admissions Office will send you an email and a letter, which will include your new MCCC Student ID number.
- Current GPA
- Most recent copy of your unofficial transcripts
- Program of study

Optional: FAFSA confirmation page. This is required to qualify for some financial need-based scholarships. *Not all of our scholarships require a FAFSA.*

WHEN APPLYING:

It's easy! Students may apply for one or more scholarships by submitting a single application. Scholarship applications may be submitted online at www.mccc.edu/apply4awards

- Create a user account in our online scholarship portal, MCCC AwardSpring, and complete the online scholarship application.
- Once you have submitted your application, check your MCCC AwardSpring Dashboard for any "Follow-Up" notifications.
- Generally, Follow-Ups are essays. Take your time and write thoughtfully, because a really good essay can set you apart from other applicants.
- Be sure to answer all questions and upload all required documents. Applications without all requested materials will be considered incomplete.

AFTER APPLYING:

- **IMPORTANT:** Keep your information, including email address changes, up to date on AwardSpring. We cannot notify you of scholarship updates if we cannot contact you!
- If you are a continuing student, you can apply using your Fall transcripts. But for your application to be complete, you must log in to AwardSpring after the end of the Spring semester and update your application with your most current Spring transcript. *Failure to update with your current Spring transcript will make you ineligible for Fall scholarships.*



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

ALL students attending MCCC are encouraged to apply for scholarships.

WHAT IS A FINANCIAL NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP?

Financial need for need-based scholarships must be evidenced through the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) process.

To be considered for need-based scholarships, you should complete the FAFSA by April 1. You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The federal school code for Mercer is **002641**. Remember to save your FAFSA confirmation page. You will need to upload it to your scholarship application.

Not all of our scholarships require a FAFSA. You can also explain financial need through your personal statement on your application.

WHAT IS "ENROLLMENT STATUS"?

- Full-time: 12 or more credit hours per semester
- Part-time: 11 or fewer credit hours per semester

I ALREADY APPLIED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO APPLY AGAIN?

Yes, you need to complete a new online application every awarding period. This will update your academic status in the system and match you to all scholarships you are eligible to receive.

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY CHANCES OF BEING SELECTED FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?

- Volunteer and participate in extracurricular activities.
- Ask for assistance from MCCC's Learning Center and your professors to write strong application essays.
- Apply by the deadline
- Make sure your application is complete and meets all of the requirements.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A NEW, CONTINUING, AND GRADUATING SCHOLARSHIP?

- New scholarships are for new incoming students.
- Continuing scholarships are for current students who have previously earned credits at Mercer.
- Graduating scholarships are for students who are obtaining their Associate degree.

WHERE CAN I GET HELP WITH WRITING MY SHORT ESSAYS?

The Learning Centers and their writing tutors offer an essay reviewing platform that provides brief feedback to improve your essay. You can submit your short essay and its prompt as attachments to essayglance@mccc.edu. For more information visit www.mccc.edu/tutoring.

For a guaranteed response, ***you must submit your short essays two weeks prior to the scholarship application deadline.***

I RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- By the set deadline in their notification, all recipients are **REQUIRED** to submit a "thank you" letter for **each** scholarship awarded. Students who do not meet this requirement will forfeit their scholarship award(s). Instructions for your "thank you" letters are available on your MCCC AwardSpring Dashboard and will also be in your award email.
- By accepting a Fall scholarship you are making a commitment to attend the **Honors Recognition Reception**. This is an opportunity to meet your scholarship donor and express your appreciation in person.
- It is your responsibility to meet the required scholarship standards in order to maintain eligibility for the award.

HOW DO I GET MY SCHOLARSHIP MONEY?

- Generally, Fall scholarship awards are disbursed in two equal payments directly to your MCCC student account upon Fall and Spring semester enrollment. It is your responsibility to meet the required scholarship standards in order to maintain eligibility for the award.
- Graduating scholarship recipients will receive a check with the scholarship award at Honors Convocation.

