



**Howard Community College  
Financial Aid Services  
Fall 2019**

# **Finding the Money**

**Understanding Financial Aid**

For High School Students and Families

# Application Forms to Apply for Aid?

For Federal Aid, MD State Scholarships & College Need-based Grants:

**FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)**

*Some state scholarships may require an additional application. Please review the Maryland State Scholarship website!  
Some Schools require the "PROFILE" for institutional aid*

For Each College's Donor Scholarships:

**The college's Scholarship Application, if they have one**

For Private Scholarships:

Free scholarship search engines on the web  
Apply to the source

*Your church, local community organizations, free scholarship search engines*

**\*The bottom line is TWO FORMS are most important.  
The FAFSA and each college's Scholarship Application!**

Use reliable free scholarship search services

- <http://www.fastweb.com>
- <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay>
- <http://www.finaid.org>
- [www.central-scholarship.org](http://www.central-scholarship.org)

# When *Should* I Apply for fall 2020/spring 2021?

## **2020-2021 FAFSA** *(for federal aid and MD state aid, & college's need-based grant)*

**For Federal aid – October 2019 through May/June 2021**

**For MD State Scholarships - by March 1, 2020 – Final Deadline!**

*Some MD State Scholarships have a separate application & deadline*

**For College Grants – January 15, 2020? Ask the college!**

*HCC Need-based Grant – Priority Deadline of March 1, 2020!*

## **College Scholarship Applications** *(for college donor scholarships)*

**For College Scholarships - Check each college for their deadline!**

**Call or email each college to find out their deadlines!**

- What is their deadline for the FAFSA?
- Is there a separate scholarship application and what is the deadline?
- Is the Profile required?
- Check the university's financial aid website.

# FAFSA Filing Tips

A new FAFSA must be completed each year

## Use the **FAFSA On The Web** at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

- Click on “Start A New FAFSA” for AY2019-2020

## **BOTH the student and one parent must have an FSA ID**

- Be sure to sign your FAFSA with both FSA IDs and hit the submit button

## **Have BOTH parent and student’s SSN ready.**

- Put your SSN on your college admissions applications too

## **Have parent and student financial records for the required tax year**

- The FAFSA requires both taxed and untaxed income information (2017 income for 2019-2020)
- **Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) option when completing your FAFSA!**
- With situations of divorce and remarriage, use the custodial parent AND step-parent’s household and income information

Complete all questions as accurately as possible.

**Don’t leave any questions blank.**

# What is your goal in applying for financial aid?

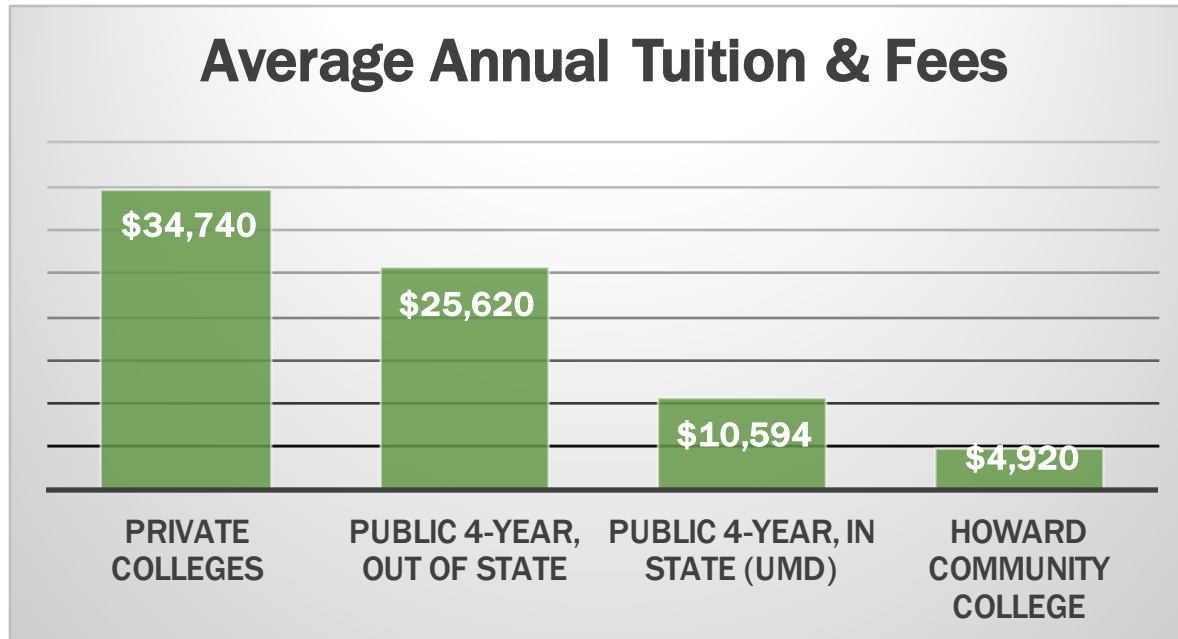
	Federal Aid	State Aid	College Aid	Private Aid
<b>Grants</b>	Pell Grant; SEOG Grant; <b>TEACH Grant</b>	MD EA & GA Grants; CC Promise Scholarship	College Grants	n/a
<b>Scholarships</b>	n/a	<b>Senatorial/Delegate;</b> <b>Several occupation-</b> <b>based scholarships</b>	<b>Donor Scholarships</b>	<b>Private Scholarships</b>
<b>Loans</b>	<b>Direct Loan Programs</b>	n/a	n/a	<b>Bank Loans</b>
<b>Work-study</b>	Federal Work-study	n/a	<b>Institutional Work-study</b>	n/a

Note: Aid programs in red are *not* all need-based!

*\*Student loans do NOT reduce the cost of an education, and are a risky form of consumer debt – why?*

For more information on State Aid: <https://mhec.state.md.us> See “State scholarships and Grants”.

# Is COST a factor in choosing a college?



\*Add another \$10k to \$15k per year to live on-campus.

That's about **\$100,000** to earn a bachelor degree at a public, in-state 4-year college, living on campus!

**HINT: Cost vs Value – Look at U.S. News & World Report College Rankings**

<https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/average-published-undergraduate-charges-sector-2017-18>

UMD & HCC's tuition & fees based on AY18-19 tuition & fees for 30 credit hours

# Cost Comparison Example

	College A	College B
<u>Annual Cost</u>	\$20,000	\$50,000
<u>Grant &amp; Scholarship Aid</u>	\$10,000	\$30,000
<u>Net Cost To You!</u>	\$10,000	\$20,000

**Estimate the cost of each college as either what the college will bill you (Tuition & Fees, Dorms & Dining), OR you can estimate full costs including estimated expenses such as books and supplies, transportation costs, and incidentals/personal. It's up to you!**

**Do not subtract student loans when determining your Net Cost!!! Student loans help you pay, but do NOT decrease your costs.**

**NOTE: If you do this estimate using only the charges that the college will bill you (recommended), just remember that you will have additional costs at some point not billed by the college, i.e. books & supplies, transportation costs, and other costs for personal/miscellaneous items.**

**HINT: With private colleges, you can negotiate the grant and scholarships aid!**

**HINT: Cost vs Value – Look at U.S. News & World Report College Ranking**

# Other Ways to Make College More Affordable

- **Earn college credit before going to college!**
  - Take college courses while in high school
    - HCC's Dual Enrollment, Jumpstart, Startalk
  - Take AP courses and score well on the AP tests
- **2 + 2 Transfer Programs!**
  - 2 years at a Community College, then transfer to a 4-year College

- **Don't Withdraw From Courses!**

- Tuition Payment Plans
- 529 Savings & Prepaid Tuition Programs

*Parents with 529 plan must include the plan on the FAFSA as an asset of the parent.*

- Employer Tuition Reimbursement Plan
- Military Tuition Assistance
- Veterans Benefits
- Tuition Waivers



# A little Financial Aid “To-Do” Chart

	College 1	College 2	College 3	College 4	College 5
<b>FAFSA -</b> What is the college’s FAFSA deadline?					
<b>PROFILE -</b> Does the college require the “Profile”, and if yes, what is the deadline?					
<b>College Scholarships -</b> Does the college have a Scholarship Application & What is the deadline?					
<b>State Scholarships –</b> Applicable Applications & Deadlines?					
<b>Private Scholarships –</b> Applications & Deadlines?					
<b>Other?</b>					

# MD Community College Promise Scholarship

- **WHEN:** Began Fall 2019
- **WHO:** MD high school graduates within 2 years of graduation  
*(or earning their GED)*
- **WHAT:** Covers Tuition & Fees to a maximum of \$5000 annually  
*(AFTER other grant/scholarship aid up to the amount of tuition & fees charges)*
- **COST:** Service requirement after graduation OR converts to a loan  
*(1 year of employment in MD for each year the scholarship was received)*
- **CRITERIA:**
  - Based on financial need
  - Enroll full-time at a MD **LOCAL** Community College
  - High School GPA of 2.3 out of 4.0
- **APPLICATION:**
  - FAFSA – by 3/1/20 *(MSFAA application in MDCAPS for undocumented students)*
  - **All documents requested by MHEC must be submitted a date TBD**

For more information, refer to MHEC's website – [mhec.Maryland.gov](http://mhec.Maryland.gov)

# Need Help with the FAFSA?

- Onsite FAFSA workshops at OMHS (10-7&10-8)**
- HCC's Financial Aid Services Office**
- FAFSA labs onsite at HCC (Check our website for updates)**
- Email us with questions at ([Finaid@howardcc.edu](mailto:Finaid@howardcc.edu))**

# Where can I find more information?

- **Each college's financial aid office**
- **Financial Aid Services at Howard Community College**  
We serve as a community resource for Howard County.
- **FAFSA Workshops** – HCC conducts an onsite FAFSA workshop every year at each HCPSS high school. Check with your guidance counselor for the date and time.
- **Important Websites:**
  - **U.S. Department of Education** - [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)
  - **MD State Scholarships** - <https://mhec.state.md.us>
  - **National Center for Education Statistics** - <https://nces.ed.gov>



Howard Community College's Financial Aid Services department serves as a community resource for Howard County.

Rouse Student Services Hall, RCF-222.

Find us online at [www.howardcc.edu](http://www.howardcc.edu)

Email: [Finaid@howardcc.edu](mailto:Finaid@howardcc.edu)

Thank you!

Questions?

