



Howard Community College  
Financial Aid Services  
Fall 2018

# Finding the Money

Understanding Financial Aid

For High School Students and Families



# A College Education Matters!

Average annual earnings in 2015 for full-time employees 25 to 34 years old by level of educational attainment:

<b>Bachelor's degree</b>	<b>\$ 59,124</b>
<b>Associate's degree</b>	<b>\$ 41,496</b>
<b>High school diploma</b>	<b>\$ 35,256</b>
<b>No high school diploma</b>	<b>\$ 25,636</b>

\*Those who earned an associate degree earned 25% more than those with a high school diploma.

\*Those who earned a bachelor degree earned 68% more than those with a high school diploma.

Source: [http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_chart\\_001.htm](http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm)

# Is cost a factor in choosing a college?

The College Board reports that the average annual tuition and fees by type of college is:

	<u>Annual Tuition &amp; Fees</u>
Private Colleges	\$ 34,740
Public 4 Year, Out of State	\$ 25,620
Public 4 Year, In State (UMD)	\$ 10,594
<b>Howard Community College</b>	<b>\$ 4,920 (30 credits)</b>

*\*Other non-tuition expenses average another \$10k to \$15k per year to live on-campus.*

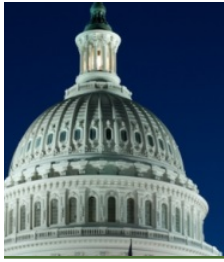
That's about **\$100,000** to earn a bachelor degree at a public, in-state 4-year college, living on campus!

*<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*

# Financial Aid by Source





# Federal Aid

## Federal Grants

### Pell Grant

- Need-based (high need students only)
- Up to \$6095/year for 2018/2019

### Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

- Need-based (high need students only)
- Up to \$4,000/year

### Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant

## Federal Work Study

**Allows the student to work part-time and earn some spending money**

- Need-based
- College identifies the jobs
- Most jobs are on campus
- Students can earn up to \$3000/year

## Direct Student Loans

### Subsidized Loans (*Need Based*)

- Government pays the interest while enrolled in college at least half time

### Unsubsidized Loans

- Interest accrues while in school

### Parent PLUS Loan

- Credit Based
- Up to Cost of Attendance (COA) less other aid received



# Maryland Aid

## Grants and Scholarships

Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) administers over 20 programs for the State of MD ([www.mhec.state.md.us](http://www.mhec.state.md.us)) Parent and student must be Maryland State Residents.

## Examples of State Aid

- Educational Assistance Grant (up to \$3,000 /year)
- Guaranteed Access Grant (up to \$17,500/year)
- Part-Time Grant (up to \$2,000/year)
- Senatorial Scholarships (\$200-\$10,100/year)
- Delegate Scholarships (\$200-\$10,100/year)

## MD Community College Scholarship

WHEN:	Begins Fall 2019
WHO:	MD high school graduates within 2 years of graduation ( <i>or earning their GED</i> )
WHAT:	Maximum \$5000 annually ( <i>AFTER other grant/scholarship aid up to the amount of tuition &amp; fees charges</i> ) Service requirement after graduation ( <i>1 year of employment in MD for each year the scholarship was received</i> )
CRITERIA:	Based on financial need Enroll full-time at a MD Community College HS GPA of 2.3 out of 4.0
APPLICATION:	FAFSA and a separate application at MHEC

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



# Institutional Aid

## **Grants**

- Grants from the institution based on need

## **Work Study**

- Institutional Work Study

## **Scholarships, including donor scholarships**

Awarded by the institution based on various criteria, such as:

- financial need
- academic merit
- special skills or talents
- volunteer experience

**\*\*PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO DEADLINES**



# Private Aid

## Scholarship Funding From Private Organizations

- Civic Organizations
- Professional Associations
- Private Businesses
- Use reliable scholarship search services
- <http://www.fastweb.com>
- <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay>
- <http://www.finaid.org>

## Private Sector Student Loans

- Credit-based
- Usually requires co-signers
- Check with your local bank



# What Application Forms?

## 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: two forms are most important.**

- **The FAFSA**
- **Scholarship application of each college**

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 2019/spring 2020?

## **2019-2020 FAFSA** *(for federal aid and MD state aid, and college's need-based grant)*

For Federal aid – October 2018 through May/June 2020

For MD State Scholarships - by **March 1, 2019** – **Final Deadline!**  
*Some MD State Scholarships have a separate application & deadline*

For College Grants – January 15, 2019? **Ask the college!**  
*HCC Need-based Grant – Priority Deadline of March 1, 2019!*

## **College Scholarship Applications** - **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.

# A little Financial Aid “To-Do” Chart

	<i>College 1</i>	<i>College 2</i>	<i>College 3</i>	<i>College 4</i>	<i>College 5</i>
Does the college use the FAFSA to award need-based grant aid?					
<b>What is the college’s FAFSA deadline?</b>					
Does the college have a Scholarship Application?					
What is the URL for the Scholarship Application?					
What is the deadline for the Scholarship Application?					
<i>College Board’s Profile Required?</i>					
<i>Deadline for Profile?</i>					

# FAFSA checklist

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.**



# After Filing the FAFSA

- 1. You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR), which shows:**
  - Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
  - If you are federally selected for verification OR have “failed” any federal database matches, either of which will require you to submit additional information to the college, so they can verify or correct your data.
- 2. The schools that you list on the FAFSA will receive the information electronically.**
- 3. Financial Aid Offices will process your application AFTER your file is COMPLETE!**
  - If you need to submit additional documents to verify the data you submitted on the FAFSA, the college will notify you.
  - **The student MUST check his/her email account!!!!**
  - Respond in a timely manner to all information requests, or it will delay the process.
  - You will receive notification of your financial aid eligibility after your file has been reviewed and verified.

- 4. MD State Scholarships must be accepted on MDCAPS within two weeks of being offered.**

**They will send an email notification to the email listed on the FAFSA.**



**Check in March/April!**

- 5. This application process can take up to three months at some colleges.  
So apply early!**

# Compare financial aid awards between schools

## Determine the cost to you for each college you are interested in!

- Your total costs and your financial aid awards will differ from college to college. You must compare to determine the “***net cost***” of each school.

## Tools for “comparison shopping”:

- Most schools use the ***financial aid shopping sheet*** to notify students of their costs and awards.
- The ***college score card*** at [collegescorecard.ed.gov](http://collegescorecard.ed.gov)
- The ***net price calculator*** will also help you compare costs. You will find a link to this at each college’s website.

# Cost Comparison Example

	College A	College B
<b>Annual Cost</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>Grant &amp; Scholarship Aid</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Net Cost To You!</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**\*Estimate the cost of each college as either what the college will bill you for (ie. Tuition & Fees, Dorms & Dining), or estimate full costs including estimated expenses such as books and supplies, transportation costs, and incidentals/personal.**

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

# Other Ways to Pay for College

- **Earn college credit before going to college!**
  - Take college courses while in high school (HCC's Early College, 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

- 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



# 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)

- [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov)

- **Maryland State Scholarship Administration**

- [www.mhecstate.md.us](http://www.mhecstate.md.us)



Thank you!

Questions?

