Cecil County Public Schools
2019-2020

A Guide to Financial Aid for Post Secondary Education
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Introduction

A college education is one of the biggest and most important financial investments that a family will make. Financial aid can play a significant role in helping families to afford higher education. Keep in mind there are many sources of financial aid, including scholarships, grants, work-study programs, and loans. This guide will provide students and parents with resources to help determine the type of financial aid that best suits their personal circumstances. Don’t forget the human resources that are available to you; namely, your high school counselor and the financial aid staff at the colleges you are considering. Good luck with your search.

Financial Aid Guide
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Dear Students and Parents:

This booklet contains important information about financial aid for post high school education planning. School counselors can assist you in making decisions and working through the processes associated with career goals.

As the cost of higher education continues to increase, you may find it necessary to seek assistance to fund your higher education goals. The financial aid information contained in this guide will be helpful as you consider funding options.

I wish you all the best in the successful pursuit of your aspirations. Please do not hesitate to contact your high school counselor and teachers for additional assistance. Again, I am hopeful that you will find this year’s Guide to Financial Aid useful and informative.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Lawson, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools
Q & A
Answers to Most Commonly Asked Questions About Financial Aid

Q. What is Financial Aid?
A. Financial aid falls into two broad categories. Merit-based aid is given to students based on their academic achievement or special talents. Need-based aid is given to students based on their financial need.

Q. What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?
A. Grants and Scholarships, also called gift aid, are awards that you don’t have to pay back. Grants are usually based on need, while scholarships are usually based on academic achievements, athletic ability, or special talents. Loans may be acquired by either parents and/or students and will need to be paid back over time. Work-Study may or may not be need-based. This program allows a student to work part-time on campus to help pay for school expenses.

Q. Who Gives Financial Aid?
A. Federal Government - The federal government provides most of the student financial aid; the PELL Grant, Supplement Educational Opportunity Grant, Perkins and Stafford Loans, and Federal Work-Study are examples. These programs are need-based.
State of Maryland - The state has grant programs and Senatorial/House of Delegate scholarships based on need and merit.
Post-Secondary Institutions - Colleges and technical schools offer scholarships, grants, work-study, and loans; some are merit-based while others are need-based.
Private Programs - Many private organizations provide aid to students; additionally, employers, labor unions, and professional associations sponsor programs. Community and service organizations such as the Jaycees, Lions and Rotary Clubs, church groups, veterans’ organizations, and businesses are also good sources of aid. These programs can be need-based or merit-based. This booklet has a listing of some of these programs.

Q. Who Should Apply for Financial Aid?
A. All students interested in financial assistance for their education should apply. Both need and merit-based scholarships may require that you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Q. When do I apply for Financial Aid?
A. Many scholarships are available throughout high school, however, each scholarship has its own deadline and eligibility. The FAFSA may be completed beginning October 1 of the senior year.
Q. How do I Apply for Financial Aid?
A. The FAFSA is the basic form used to apply for financial aid (www.fafsa.ed.gov). You must complete the FAFSA to apply for federal, state, and college financial aid. Many private scholarship programs also require the FAFSA. Many grants and scholarships from the state of Maryland have separate applications and deadlines. The deadline for filing the FAFSA in Maryland is March 1. Some colleges have earlier deadlines, so the sooner you file after October 1 of your senior year, the better. Many colleges also require that you complete supplemental financial aid applications, such as the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, found at https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile. Check with the colleges for their specific requirements.

Q. Where and When Can I Get a FAFSA?
A. FAFSA forms will be available for seniors October 1 online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. To apply electronically or to find out more about federal student aid, visit the Department of Education's website at www.studentaid.ed.gov.

Q. How Can I Get Help Completing the FAFSA?
A. Every high school in the county hosts a financial aid meeting in late spring or early fall. The keynote speaker, who is usually a financial aid officer from a local college, goes through the FAFSA step-by-step and answers parents’ questions. The Cecil College Financial Aid Office and the Financial Aid Office at the colleges to which you are applying are resources for those who need additional help.

Q. How is My Financial Need Determined?
A. Your financial need is determined by following this formula:

\[
\text{Financial Need} = \frac{\text{Cost of Education}}{\text{What your family can pay (EFC)}}
\]

The Cost of Education includes tuition, room, board, books, and other related expenses. What your family can pay is called your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). Your completed FAFSA is used to calculate your EFC.

Remember the March 1 FAFSA deadline to qualify for Maryland's financial aid programs!
The Ambitious Junior’s Pre-College Planning Calendar

Fall

- Review the test-taking tips and sample questions in the PSAT student bulletin.
- Attend college fairs.
- Attend the Cecil County Public Schools College and Career Fair (First Wednesday in October)
- Take the PSAT.
- Sign up for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) at your school.
- Do a college search and discuss the results with your counselor. All CCPS students can utilize Naviance (www.naviance.com) for this purpose.

Winter

- Review PSAT results with your counselor and discuss their impact on your college choices.
- Ask your counselor whether you should take the ACT or the SAT.
- Register for spring tests (SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and/or ACT).
- Make a list of high interest schools to visit during the spring.
- Make sure your senior year academic schedule is as challenging as possible.
- See your counselor regarding Boys State/Girls State.
Spring

- Prepare a list of questions for your spring college visitations.
- If you are interested in military academies, begin filling out preliminary interest forms.
- Visit as many colleges as possible: take a campus tour, sit in on a class, and eat in the dining hall.
- Participate in the SAT School Day test administration.
- Share your college visitation impressions with your counselor.
- Revise your high interest college list.
- If applicable, print out the transcript release form from the website for prospective college student athletes, and turn in to your guidance office.
- Talk to your counselor about all available resources for financial aid.
- Take appropriate SAT/ACT test.
- Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, and/or others who can strengthen your application.

Summer

- Take appropriate SAT/ACT test.
- Pursue volunteer opportunities, employment, or internships for the summer. See your Service Learning Building Coordinator or go to www.volunteermatch.org.
- Make college visits part of your family’s summer travel plans.
- Use financial aid websites to begin accessing scholarship applications.
Senior Year
Pre-College Calendar & Checklist

September

☐ Meet with your school counselor to discuss college plans and find out about financial aid opportunities.
☐ Get organized. Keep a personal calendar of important dates and deadlines. Organize your important college information in folders.
☐ Ask your counselor to help you with a college search on the computer if you’re uncertain about college choices (i.e., Naviance www.naviance.com).
☐ Check your colleges’ testing requirements. Sign up for the fall SAT, ACT, and/or SAT Subject Tests.
☐ Access applications and financial aid materials online.
☐ Student should apply for their own Student Federal Aid (FSA) ID. (https://fsaid.ed.gov/)
☐ Parent/Guardian should apply for their own FSA ID, which is required to complete the on-line FAFSA.
☐ Be sure to have your parents attend the financial aid meeting at your high school. Additional assistance may be obtained through the Financial Aid Office at Cecil College.

October

☐ Attend the Cecil County Public Schools’ College & Career Fair.
☐ Meet with selected college representatives at your high school.
☐ Begin filling out college applications. Compose a personal statement and activity résumé.
☐ Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, and/or others who can strengthen your application.
☐ Discuss college application essays with your English/Language Arts teacher or school counselor.
☐ Visit as many of your top choice colleges as possible. Make appointments for interviews and campus tours. Ask permission to sit in on some classes.
☐ Complete and submit your college application. “Priority” and “early decision” deadlines may be as early as October.
☐ Take the SAT and/or ACT.
☐ Sign up for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) at your school.
October - continued

- Access the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (www.fafsa.ed.gov). All colleges require a completed FAFSA to determine your eligibility for financial aid.
- Check to see if your colleges also require the PROFILE form for financial aid. The application is available online at https://profileonline.collegeboard.com.
- Be sure to have your parents attend the financial aid meeting at your high school. Additional assistance may be obtained through the Financial Aid Office at Cecil College.
- Complete your FAFSA, beginning October 1, as soon as possible. (Remember, keep copies of all forms you submit!) Check with your college(s) for specific deadline dates.
- Helpful hint: Utilizing the IRS retrieval tool when completing the FAFSA will help expedite submitting your tax returns to colleges if needed.

* Talk to your counselor about the pros and cons of “early decision.”

November

- Complete and submit all college applications with a November deadline.
- Keep informed of scholarship opportunities posted in the Guidance Office.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT if necessary.
- Take the SAT Subject Tests if required by your colleges.
- Keep working on your college applications. Check on deadlines.
- Stay focused on your high school classes. Colleges will want a transcript that includes your first semester grades.
- Create MD CAPS account (see pg. 9 for details).

December

- Complete and submit all college applications.*
- Make sure an official high school transcript (request from your Guidance office) is included with your application.

* Many colleges have December application deadlines for merit-based scholarships.

January

- Give any mid-year report forms to your counselor so that your first semester grades can be sent to your colleges.
February

☐ Continue checking for scholarship opportunities posted in the Guidance Office.
☐ Check to see if your mid-year reports have been sent to the schools to which you have applied.
☐ Rank your final list of colleges. You should receive acknowledgements from the colleges to which you have applied.
☐ Check with those schools that have not contacted you.
☐ Make sure your FAFSA has been submitted. Maryland’s deadline for the FAFSA is March 1. Some schools may have earlier deadlines. Check with each institution for specific dates.

March

☐ Keep your high school counselor informed when you receive acceptance or denial letters/notifications from colleges.
☐ Check your Student Aid Report (SAR) for accuracy and report any errors. Request duplicate SARs if you have not decided which college you will attend.
☐ Contact each admissions and financial aid office to make sure your application is complete.
☐ Check on local scholarships posted in the Guidance Office.

April

☐ Expect a financial aid award letter* from the colleges that have accepted your application. If you have not received any information, contact the financial aid office of that college.
☐ Compare the financial aid awards that you receive.
☐ Talk to the financial aid officer at your first choice college if the financial aid offer does not meet your needs.
☐ Decide which college you will attend and send in a deposit before the deadline.
☐ Notify the other schools that you will not be attending.
☐ Sign and return the financial aid award letters.
☐ Check on local scholarships posted in the Guidance Office.

*A listing of all types and amounts of financial aid for which you are eligible at the college.
May

- Tell your school counselor which college you will be attending and request that a copy of your final transcript be sent there.
- Notify your school counselor of all awarded financial aid including scholarships.
- Share your plans with those people who have written letters of recommendation and thank them for their support.
- Pursue volunteer opportunities, employment, or internships for the summer.
- Check for any late scholarship applications.
- Request that a final transcript be sent to NCAA Eligibility Center.

Senior year is both a fun and stressful time. From the stress of trying to get into your dream colleges, to trying to figure out how you are going to afford the tuition that comes with that dream. Thankfully, there are scholarships and CCPS gives you a great deal of help with that. Scholarships most of the time are looked at as a waste of time and stress. Many say that it is not worth it or that it is something that can be put off for later. Scholarships, however, are a great way to help yourself accomplish your dreams. My advice is to start early, use the book you are given, and stay on top of both new scholarships coming in and due dates. When applying for scholarships and trying to get the most bang for your buck, it is important to stay organized and use all the opportunities at your fingertips, because you can accomplish so much if you just try.

Krystina Coyle
Bohemia Manor
High School
Class of 2019

This scholarship booklet helped me to find scholarships that I didn’t know existed. I was able to read the criteria to determine which scholarships I was eligible for, and I could easily get the applications online or in the Guidance Office. Take the time to read the whole booklet and the description for each scholarship. You never know which ones will apply to you. Pay attention to the deadlines to make sure that you don’t miss any opportunities. I am very thankful for the scholarships I earned, and they will greatly help me to further my education.

Jackson Sopa
Rising Sun High School
Class of 2019
Important Financial Aid Information Specific to Maryland

Maryland College Aid Processing System (MD CAPS) is MHEC's new comprehensive financial aid system that allows MD to process state scholarship applications and allocate funds more efficiently using today's technology. It replaces the old Student Inquiry system. To use MD CAPS, you must first create a Student Login Profile and then click the activation link in the message sent to your e-mail account. To create a profile, go to https://mdcaps.mhec.state.md.us; then create a student login.

Seniors: Make sure to log on to MD CAPS at least once every couple of weeks once you complete your FAFSA in order to see if you have qualified for any Maryland only scholarships. You must log in to MD CAPS and accept your awards in a timely manner or you will not be able to receive them. Refer to the website for additional information.

Helpful Websites to Aid in Your College Journey

Every high school in the Cecil County Public School system has Internet access making it possible for all students to obtain the most up-to-date information about financial aid sources. Remember to also check the websites of any colleges you are considering since these sites often have links to other financial aid information or scholarship databases.

These websites help students plan their careers, search for schools, apply for admission, and apply for financial aid.

Check out some of the features:
- College search
- Scholarship search
- Career assessment tools
- College and financial aid applications

Check out......

www.naviance.com

Big Future
https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org
FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION
  College Board - www.collegeboard.org
  Financial Aid Search through the Web - www.fastweb.com
  GoodCall Scholarship Search - www.goodcall.com
  Maryland Higher Education Commission - www.mhec.state.md.us
  Peterson's Education Center - www.petersons.com
  Princeton Review - www.princetonreview.com
  Sallie Mae - www.salliemae.com
  The Financial Aid Information page - www.finaid.org
  Unigo - www.unigo.com

MILITARY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE
  The American Legion - www.legion.org
  City-Year - www.cityyear.org
  The Corporation for National & Community Service -
  www.nationalservice.gov
  Today's Military - www.todaysmilitary.com

COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT ATHLETES
  National Junior College Athletic Association - www.njcaa.org

INFORMATION ON SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS
  Protect Yourself from Scholarship Scams -
  www.finaid.org/scholarships/scams.phtml
Scholarships, Grants, and Awards
It’s true! Numerous scholarships are made available every year; so many, in fact, there is no way for any Guidance Office to maintain a current and complete file. Even the sample listings included here may already contain inaccurate information because changes occur so frequently. Therefore, interested applicants should carefully review current scholarship notices to ascertain the correct award amounts, eligibility criteria, and deadlines.

Remember to check your school’s Guidance Office for more extensive scholarship publications that are devoted entirely to private endowment sources. Even more help can be found on the Internet! Just by exploring the websites, students might discover a “gold mine” of scholarship information.

Scholarship Application Tips

1. The student, not the parent, should do the application!
2. Photocopy the application. Fill in the copy first.
3. If online, download and print the application. Fill in the copy first.
4. Read over the entire application before responding to the requested information.
5. Type or print in blue or black ink for all responses unless instructed otherwise.
6. Recheck the completed application to make sure all the information and signatures are included.
7. Ask a responsible person to proofread the final version.
8. Keep copies of everything!
College Board Opportunity Scholarships

The College Board Opportunity Scholarships guide you through the college planning process and offer you a chance to earn money for each action you complete.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Build Your College List: $500</td>
<td>Get started by exploring colleges you’re interested in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Practice for the SAT: $1,000</td>
<td>Use Official SAT® Practice on Khan Academy to get ready for the test day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Improve Your Score: $2,000</td>
<td>Show how practice pays off by improving your SAT score.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Strengthen Your College List: $500</td>
<td>Make sure your college list has a mix of safety, match, and reach schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Complete the FAFASA: $1,000</td>
<td>Fill out the free government form to apply for financial aid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Apply to Colleges: $1,000</td>
<td>Apply to the schools you want to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Complete your Journey:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$40,000</strong></td>
<td>Complete all six scholarship steps to be eligible for a $40,000 scholarship.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information and to learn about your scholarship eligibility visit: cb.org/opportunity.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Scholarships</th>
<th>The Actions</th>
<th>Action Window</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Build your College list:</strong> $500</td>
<td>Build a college list on BigFuture™</td>
<td>Junior Year: December-June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Practice for the SAT:</strong> $1,000</td>
<td>Use Official SAT® Practice on Khan Academy to get ready for the test day.</td>
<td>Junior Year and Fall Senior Year: December-October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Improve Your Score:</strong> $2,000</td>
<td>Improve their SAT score.</td>
<td>Spring Junior Year through Winter Senior Year: April-January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Strengthen Your College List:</strong> $500</td>
<td>Strengthen their college list with a mix of safety, match, and reach schools.</td>
<td>Summer and Fall Senior Year: July-October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Complete the FAFSA:</strong> $1,000</td>
<td>Fill out the FAFSA form to apply for financial aid.</td>
<td>Fall and Winter Senior Year: October-February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. Apply to Colleges:</strong> $1,000</td>
<td>Apply to schools they want to attend.</td>
<td>Fall and Winter Senior Year: October-February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Complete your Journey:</strong> $40,000</td>
<td>Complete all six scholarship steps.</td>
<td>Final Drawing: March of Senior Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

AED Superstore College Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: College bound high school senior. Essay required.
DEADLINE: May 31 and Nov. 30 CONTACT: aedsuperstore.com/scholarship.html

AES Engineers Scholarship
AWARD: $300
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Essay required.
DEADLINE: October 6 CONTACT: www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm

American Chemical Society Scholarship
AWARD: Varies; up to $5,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior of African-American, Hispanic, or American Indian heritage with minimum 3.0 GPA; planning to study the chemical sciences.
DEADLINE: March 1 CONTACT: www.acs.org/scholars
1-800-227-5558 x6250

AXA Achievement Scholarship
AWARD: Up to $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Well-rounded; determined to succeed; respect for self, family & community.
DEADLINE: December 14 CONTACT: https://us.axa.com/axa-foundation/AXA-achievement-scholarship.html

Ayn Rand Essay Contests
AWARD: Various awards ranging from $50 to $10,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students write 600-1,600 word essay related to Ayn Rand’s The Atlas Shrugged, The Fountainhead, or The Anthem.
DEADLINE: April 25 CONTACT: www.aynrand.org/contests

BestMattressReviews.com Sleep Scholarships
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Current high school students pursuing a degree at an accredited U.S. post secondary institution. Essay required. Minimum of a 3.0 GPA.
DEADLINE: May 19 CONTACT: https://www.bestmattress-brand.org/scholarship/

Burger King Scholars Program
AWARD: $1,000-$50,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5; plans to attend an accredited two-year or four-year college or technical school.
DEADLINE: December 15 CONTACT: www.blancelmorefoundation.org/who-we-are/burger-king-scholars-program/

Carson Scholars Fund Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students in grades 4-11 may apply; 3.75 unweighted GPA; outstanding humanitarian qualities.
DEADLINE: January CONTACT: www.carsonsscholars.org/scholarships
Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, Inc.
AWARD: Numerous awards ranging from $4,000 - $20,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: U.S. citizen attending high school full-time and planning to
attend college in the USA; demonstrates character and personal merit; minimum of 3.0 GPA.
DEADLINE: October 31 CONTACT: https://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/ or 1-800-306-2653

Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards
AWARD: $4,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior whose parent, grandparent, or legal guardian is a living
member in good standing of an Elks Lodge; judged on knowledge, charity, community, and
integrity.
DEADLINE: February 1 CONTACT: www.elks.org/scholars/legacy.cfm

Foundation for Rural Service Scholarship
AWARD: Thirty $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Rural youth; 2.0 GPA; interest in working in a rural community
following graduation; 300 word essay required.
DEADLINE: March 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office or https://www.frs.org/
programs/youth-programs/scholarships or Call 703-351-2026

Future Farmers of America Scholarships
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Varies; some require FFA membership.
DEADLINE: Varies CONTACT: https://www.ffa.org/participate/grants-and-
scholarships/local-engagement-programs-scholarships/

Gates Millennium Scholars
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: African-American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific
Islander American, Hispanic American student with a minimum 3.3 GPA; leadership; service;
must qualify for Pell Grant.
DEADLINE: January CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.scholarships.
gmsps.org

Horatio Alger Association Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Perseverance in overcoming a personal obstacle; great financial
need; 2.0 GPA; extracurricular activities.
DEADLINE: October 15 CONTACT: https://scholars.horatioalger.org/
scholarships

Jackie Robinson Foundation
AWARD: Four year scholarship up to $7,500/year
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Graduating minority high school senior.
APPLY: February 1 CONTACT: http://jackierobinson.org/apply
Jack Kent Cooke College Scholarship Program
AWARD: Up to $40,000 per year
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Current senior student intending to enroll in an accredited four-year college beginning in fall 2020; cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above; minimum SAT total of 1200 or ACT composite of 26; demonstrate financial need.
APPLY: November 13, 2019 CONTACT: https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/college-scholarship-program/

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: College-bound child of a Marine; limited income; 300 word essay required.
DEADLINE: March CONTACT: www.mcsf.org

National CO-OP Scholarship
AWARD: $6,000 (renewable)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Attending a WACE partner college or university (Clarkson, Drexel, Johnson & Wales, Merrimack, Rochester Institute of Technology, State University of New York Oswego, University of Cincinnati, University of Toledo, or Wentworth Institute of Technology); essay required; minimum 3.5 GPA.
DEADLINE: February 15 CONTACT: www.co-op.edu

National Organization of Professional Hispanics NRCS Employees (NOPHNRCS) Employment AWARD: Three $1000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students pursuing a degree in Agriculture, Natural Resources, Natural Resources Conservation, or a related field of study; minimum 2.75 GPA.
DEADLINE: May 4 CONTACT: www.nophnrces.org

Navy Reserve Officer Training Corp Scholarship
AWARD: Partial to full tuition and other financial benefits.
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Highly competitive national selection process.
DEADLINE: December 31 CONTACT: www.aroc.navy.mil

Polish Heritage Scholarships
AWARD: Four $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Must be of Polish descent; academic achievement; financial need; school and community involvement.
DEADLINE: Winter CONTACT: www.pha-md.org

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards
AWARD: $1,000 - $5,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Application and volunteer service; overall excellence.
DEADLINE: End of October CONTACT: 1-888-450-8961 or www.spirit.prudential.com

Ron Brown Scholar Program
AWARD: Ten $10,000; which can be renewed for a total of $40,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Academic and leadership excellence; financial need; application with essay required; African-American student.
DEADLINE: November 1 CONTACT: 434-964-1588 or www.robrown.org
SAE Engineering Scholarship Program
AWARD: Several awards by participating colleges ranging from $1,000 - $10,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Seniors or juniors intending to major in engineering or related science; 3.5 GPA and minimum SAT/ACT scores.
DEADLINE: March 15 CONTACT: 724-776-4970
http://students.sae.org/scholarships/freshman/

UCB Family Epilepsy Scholarship
AWARD: Up to $10,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student with epilepsy or living with family member of an epilepsy patient; academic achievement; activities outside school; role model; accepted to college.
DEADLINE: See website CONTACT: www.UCEpilepsyScholarship.com or Call 1-888-275-7928

Voice of Democracy Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000 - $30,000 at local, state, and national levels
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Three to five minute essay required on a designated theme.
DEADLINE: October 31 CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.vfw.org/VOD

Warrior’s Legacy Scholarship Fund
AWARD: $5,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: U.S. Citizen, College bound or currently enrolled college student whose parent/guardian is an active, retired, or volunteer service member of Law Enforcement, the Armed Forces, or First Responders. 500 word essay on designated topic, GPA of at least 3.0.
DEADLINE: May 31 CONTACT: www.federalresources.com/scholarship/

Washington Crossing Foundation
AWARD: $500 to $5,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students completing grade 12 or final high school year who are planning careers in government service.
DEADLINE: January 15 CONTACT: http://gwc.org/AppDownload.html

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Common Market
AWARD: In-state tuition rates at specified out-of-state institutions
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Maryland resident accepted into an approved program of study not offered at a Maryland public college or university; specific application form from Maryland Higher Education Commission.
DEADLINE: July CONTACT: 410-974-2971 or www.sseb.org/academic-common-market or Guidance Office

American Legion Oratorical Contest
AWARD: Seven state awards ($500 - $2,500); national and regional awards ($1,000 - $18,000)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student speech related to the U.S. Constitution with local contests leading to national awards. Students in grades 9-12 are eligible.
DEADLINE: Fall CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.legion.org/scholarships/oratorical
Central Scholarship
AWARD: Up to $10,000 a year and up to $40,000 lifetime
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Maryland residents attending or planning to attend an accredited
Unites States college, university, community college or career school.
DEADLINE: April 3 CONTACT: 410-415-5558
www.central-scholarship.org/scholarships/the-bge-scholars-program/

Charles Riley Fire and Medical Emergency Tuition Reimbursement Program
AWARD: Full tuition
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Current firefighter, ambulance, or rescue squad member;
enrollment in college courses leading to a degree in fire service or emergency medical
technology.
DEADLINE: March 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office or mhec.maryland.gov/
preparing/pages/financialaid/programdescriptions/programfire.aspx

Columbia Bank Diversity Scholarship
AWARD: $1,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student plans to attend a 2-year or 4-year undergrad degree program
majoring in Business, Communications, IT, Finance, or Marketing; must be of diverse ethnic
background, financial need, essay required, three forms of recommendation.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: Angela Bell 410-996-2268

Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program
AWARD: $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students must have a demonstrated commitment to community
service, outstanding qualities in character, integrity and leadership. Must be a high school senior;
reside in a community served by Comcast and/or participating NBCUniversal or Telemundo
markets; plan to enroll in a full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two- or four-year col-
lege or university or vocational-technical college in the United States for the entire 2020-2021
academic year. Minimum GPA 3.0 and demonstrate financial need.
DEADLINE: December 6 CONTACT: www.learnmore.scholarsapply.org/leader
sandachievers

Cynthia E. Morgan Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: First generation college student who will attend a Maryland
college majoring in a medical-related field.
DEADLINE: End of February CONTACT: www.cemsfund.com

Department of Maryland Scholarship, 2019
AWARD: Amounts of $1,500 (1), $1,000 (1), and $500 (9).
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Be a child or a grandchild of a veteran (must show proof of vet-
eran’s time in military discharge or DD-214), be a Maryland resident, not have attained their
20th birthday by January 1, 2019; intend to be a full-time student; application; essay required;
transcript.
DEADLINE: April 8 CONTACT: http://www.legion29.org/index.php?id=8

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Delegate Scholarships
AWARD: Amounts vary and can only be used for Maryland or approved out-of-state institutions.
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student must reside in specific delegate’s area and complete the application process.
DEADLINE: Early March CONTACT: https://mhcc.maryland.gov/preparing/ Pages/FinancialAid/ProgramDescriptions/prog_delegate.aspx

Dwight P. Jacobus Scholarship
AWARD: Ten $1,000 (renewable)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students must be residents of Maryland or the District of Columbia for at least one year preceding the date of the award; accepted as a full-time student; financial need; 2.0 overall GPA; pursuing a career in business education
DEADLINE: March 1 CONTACT: www.asbo.org/content.php?page=awards

Girls Gone Great
AWARD: $3,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Must be a woman living in the state of Maryland between the ages of 17-24 attending a four-year college/university.
DEADLINE: January 1 CONTACT: http://graceerlinescholarship.org/

Libby Frist Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Tobacco-free and has demonstrated a commitment as an anti-smoking advocate.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: www.blog.grampspromisefoundation.org

Maryland Emergency Management Association Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior pursuing a career in emergency management or related field; essay required; community involvement; and references required.
DEADLINE: April 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.mdéma.org

Maryland Farm Bureau Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Applicant must be a full-time student and a member (or a parent must be a member) of the Farm Bureau.
DEADLINE: February 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.mdfarmbureau.com

Maryland JCI Senate Foundation
AWARD: $500 to Maryland senior and consideration for $1,000 national scholarship
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Extra-curricular activities; service; brief essay required; financial need; and recommendation letters.
DEADLINE: January CONTACT: www.usjcisenate.org

Maryland Mensa Scholarship Essay Contest
AWARD: Varying awards from $300 - $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Application with essay required.
DEADLINE: January 15 CONTACT: www.mensaorganization.org/scholarships or call 1-800-66-MENSA
Maryland Multicultural Coalition
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior planning to teach PreK - 12 upon completion of undergrad degree; minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA; financial need-based.
DEADLINE: April 1 CONTACT: MMC/NAME Scholarship Chairperson
410-386-1680 (Debra Misiag)

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.
AWARD: Up to $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Applicants who are judged by local, regional, and state Masonic committees; application; academic and leadership achievements.
DEADLINE: March CONTACT: 410-527-0600

McDaniel College Educator’s Legacy Scholarship
AWARD: $100,000 ($25,000 per year)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Must be a son or daughter of a K - 12 school employees who have served in a school district for four or more years. Must apply to McDaniel College
DEADLINE: Varies CONTACT: www.mcdaniel.edu/undergraduate/admissions/apply/educators-legacy-scholarship

Northrop Grumman Engineering Scholarship
AWARD: $8,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Must be planning to attend a college in an approved engineering program; GPA of 3.3 or higher.

Samsung American Legion Scholarship
AWARD: Ten National Scholars receive $10,000 each (two from each region), Ten National Runners-Up receive $1,000 each (two from each region), Remaining Department Finalists receive $1,250 each guaranteed
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school juniors who attend the current session of either The American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program and are a direct descendant - i.e. child, grandchild, great grandchild, etc. - or a legally adopted child of a wartime U.S. military veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for American Legion membership
DEADLINE: Varies CONTACT: https://www.legion.org/scholarships/samscurg

Senatorial Scholarship
AWARD: Numerous awards in varying amounts
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Recipients must attend an accredited Maryland or approved out-of-state institution; financial need; and merit considerations.
DEADLINE: Varies by legislative district. CONTACT: https://mhec.maryland.gov/preparing/Pages/FinancialAid/ProgramDescriptions/prog_senatorial.aspx

The Credit Union Foundation of MD & DC Scholarship
AWARD: One essay award for $1,000; one video-based award for $1,000; one photo essay award for $1,000.
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Member of Maryland Credit Union.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: www.cufound.org/consumer-resources/college-scholarship/
Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grant Program
AWARD: Up to $4,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student and parent residents of Maryland; student planning to work in specific careers: child care, human services, teaching, nursing, physical and occupational therapy, or public services; attend a Maryland college.
DEADLINE: July 2
CONTACT: www.mhec.state.md.us/Preparing/Pages/FinancialAid/ProgramDescriptions/ProgramWSSAG.aspx

REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union (APGFCU) College Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Current APGFCU member in good standing; minimum 3.0 GPA.
DEADLINE: February 1
CONTACT: www.apgfcu.com

Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association (AFCEA) Aberdeen Chapter - Education Foundation Scholarship
AWARD: $4,000 ($1,000 per year for four years)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Cecil and Harford County student high school senior; planning on entering a STEM related field of study and must stay in the field of study through graduation; cumulative GPA of at least 3.5; SAT 1300+ or ACT 28+.
DEADLINE: January
CONTACT: Jeff Murter 443-866-3567 or e-mail jeffreymurter@gmail.com

Associated Builders and Contractors, Baltimore Metro Chapter
AWARD: $5,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Female high school students planning to pursue construction related fields of study in post high school education.
DEADLINE: May 12
CONTACT: Ally D'Ovidio 410-821-0351

The BGE Scholar's Program
AWARD: Up to $5,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students must be dependents of BGE customers and must be planning to attend an accredited college, university, or career and technical training full-time.
DEADLINE: April 3
CONTACT: 410-415-5538
www.central-scholarship.org/scholarships/the-bge-scholars-program/

Children’s Home Foundation Scholarship
AWARD: Maximum $3,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Financial need; must attend a community college or trade/technical school within 250 miles from home; not for general studies.
DEADLINE: March
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: A completed scholarship, an acceptance letter from the college/university, an official transcript, an essay, letter(s) of recommendation, and a high school counselor report.
DEADLINE: March 1
CONTACT: www.dst-harfordcountyalumnae.org/scholarship
Doris G. Carey Honorary Book Award Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Harford or Cecil County resident; minimum 2.7 GPA; college acceptance; two letters of recommendation; essay required.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: www.akaxideltaomega.com/Scholarship-Information

Edward L. Wallmsley Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $2,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Graduating senior attending regional school; academic performance; school/community activities, especially with the American Legion; application and essay required.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: 410-658-9078 or Charles Thomas 410-642-3976

Francis Scott Key Chapter of ITEA
AWARD: $1,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior pursuing a college degree in math, engineering, or physical sciences; academic achievement; extra-curricular activities; employment in math/science field.
DEADLINE: February CONTACT: www.fskitea.org

Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Harford or Cecil County resident; accepted to an accredited HBCU; minimum 2.7 GPA; essay.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: https://www.akaxideltaomega.com/Scholarship-Information

Howard Wood Memorial
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school seniors residing in Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s or Talbot counties pursuing careers in agriculture, land use planning, alternative energy, or other conservation related fields. Essay required.
DEADLINE: April 15 CONTACT: jbelanger@eslc.org or 410-348-5214

LifeBridge Health/ExpressCare Community Scholarship Program
AWARD: $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school senior who plans to enroll full-time at an accredited two or four-year college, university, or technical school. Essay required.
DEADLINE: Early March CONTACT: www.whywaitintheer.com

Maryland Municipal League, Cecil/Harford Chapter
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student residing in chapter area; good grades; application with essay required.
DEADLINE: March 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Mildred G. Stansbury Memorial Scholarship Award
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Harford or Cecil County resident; minimum 2.7 GPA, college acceptance; essay; two letters of recommendation.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: https://www.akaxideltaomega.com/Scholarship-Information
Sara A. Royle Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $1,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Harford or Cecil County resident; college acceptance; minimum 3.2 GPA; one year of foreign language; essay; two letters of recommendation.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: https://www.akaxideltaomega.com/Scholarship-Information

Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) Chesapeake Post Scholarship
Application
AWARD: $300-$1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students pursuing careers in STEM fields: engineering, architecture, mathematics, technology, computer, or related science (chemistry, biology, physics). Health Sciences are not included.
DEADLINE: March 30 CONTACT: www.same.org/chesapeake

Soroptimist Scholarship-Live Your Dream Award
AWARD: $3000-$10,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Female; demonstrates financial need; two academic, one art, one college-bound.
DEADLINE: November 15 CONTACT: www.soroptimist.org

University of Maryland Harford Memorial Hospital
AWARD: Ten. $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students accepted to a college/university to pursue studies toward a degree in Nursing or an Allied Health Care field. Application, letters of recommendation, minimum 3.0 GPA, and essay required.
DEADLINE: March 15 CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.hcps.org

Women in Defense (WID) Mid Atlantic Chapter Mary Doak Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Scholarship
AWARD: $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students pursuing a degree in a STEM-related field benefiting national security or defense; minimum GPA of 3.25 mid-year of senior year; public college in Maryland, Delaware, or Virginia; resident of Baltimore, Cecil, or Harford County.
DEADLINE: February CONTACT: www.widmidatlantic.org

COUNTY SCHOLARSHIPS

Cecil College Board of Trustees Scholarship
AWARD: Full tuition for four consecutive semesters at CC; one award for a student from each Cecil County High School and CCST.
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school senior with plans to enroll full-time at CC; minimum “B” grade average; financial need and academic achievement.
DEADLINE: Mid-April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil College County Council’s Scholarship
AWARD: Full tuition for four consecutive semesters at CC plus $750 for books; one award for a student from each Cecil County High School and CCST.
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school senior with plans to enroll full-time at CC; minimum “B” grade average; financial need and academic achievement; school nomination.
DEADLINE: Mid-April CONTACT: Guidance Office
Cecil College Foundation Arts and Communications Scholarship
AWARD: Numerous awards; varying amounts
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior planning to attend CC for one of the following fields: Art, Dance, Journalism, Literary Arts, Music Performance Theater, Visual Communications.
DEADLINE: Mid-April CONTACT: must apply online at www.cecil.edu

Cecil College Foundation Scholarships
AWARD: Numerous awards; varying amounts
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school graduate enrolled at CC; must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA; must complete FAFSA form by March 1 (state deadline).
DEADLINE: April 30 CONTACT: must apply online at www.cecil.edu

Cecil County Arts Council Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Enroll in full-time arts degree program; may apply in categories of literary arts, visual arts, or performing arts.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: www.cecilcountyartscouncil.org

Cecil County Branch NAACP Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Good academic standing; plans for full-time enrollment in college; three letters of recommendation; essay required.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Farm Bureau/ Ray Mueller Scholarship
AWARD: Two, $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior planning college study in an agriculture related field; must be the son or daughter of a Farm Bureau member; must be a resident of Cecil County.
DEADLINE: April 20 CONTACT: Patty Pierce - 410-658-2460
135 North Hills Drive, Rising Sun, MD 21911 or www.mdfarmbureau.com/scholarships

Cecil County Farm Bureau/Steve Carson Young Farmers
AWARD: Two, $2,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Senior with farm or 4-H experience; must be the son or daughter of a Farm Bureau member; may pursue any discipline; must be a resident of Cecil County.
DEADLINE: April 20 CONTACT: Patty Pierce - 410-658-2460
135 North Hills Drive, Rising Sun, MD 21911 or www.mdfarmbureau.com/scholarships

Cecil County Public Schools Administrators and Supervisors Association (CCPSASA)
AWARD: Two, $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: CCPS high school graduate pursuing a degree in education; demonstrates strong leadership skills; good character.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Public Schools Susan King Boyle STEM Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: CCPS senior female student pursuing a degree in a STEM related field; academic performance; minimum 3.5 GPA; interest and pursuit in STEM extracurricular activities and community service; essay required.
DEADLINE: March 31 CONTACT: Guidance Office
Cecil County School Employees Federal Credit Union (CCSEFCU) Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: High school senior must be or become a CCSEFCU member; two page typed essay required; minimum GPA 2.5.
DEADLINE: April 1
CONTACT: Guidance Office or www.ccsefcu.org

Conowingo Lions Club Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Must live in Conowingo Elementary School attendance area; financial need; academic record.
DEADLINE: May
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Delta Kappa Gamma (Zeta Chapter) Book Grant
AWARD: $250
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Cecil County high school senior who will be pursuing a degree in education. Application, transcript, and essay are required.
DEADLINE: April 30, 2019
CONTACT: Kim Edler - kedler@ccps.org

Janet Hardy Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Minimum 3.25 GPA; at least one season of soccer during high school years; accepted to a two-year or four-year college; participation in Boy/Girl Scouts suggested.
DEADLINE: April
CONTACT: Guidance Office

John Jones Memorial College Scholarship
AWARD: Two, $1,500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Cecil Soccer will be awarding two, $1,500 scholarship in John’s name to graduating seniors. The awards will be given to applicants who best exemplify the spirit of community service, academic excellence and good sportsmanship.
DEADLINE: April
CONTACT: https://www.cecilsoccer.org/more/john-jones-memorial-college-scholarship/

Lisa Wiegand Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: CCPS Senior planning to attend a public college/university in the state of Maryland; pursuing a degree in teacher education; minimum GPA 3.0; essay required.
DEADLINE: April 1
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Northrup Grumman Missile Defense & Controls STEM Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: GPA 3.0 or higher; planning to attend a two-year or four-year college or university for a STEM related program. One scholarship to be awarded to a student at each CCPS High School, including the School of Technology.
DEADLINE: Mid April
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Women’s Club of Cecil County
AWARD: $300
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Graduating senior with at least a 3.0 GPA; good attendance; financial need; school involvement; application and essay required.
DEADLINE: March 15
CONTACT: Guidance Office
“My best advice would be to apply to everything—even if you don’t think you qualify or will be awarded the scholarship. Also do everything early; it helps to have a goal of completing one scholarship a week.”

The cost of a college education can be a burden for many families. Fortunately, I was able to apply for a number of scholarships to help defray that cost. It isn’t always about applying for the largest reward. Typically, the large scholarships have the most competition. There are a number of smaller scholarships that are more attainable that can add up to a sizable amount. Do not discount those opportunities. Additionally, don’t forget to research scholarship opportunities through the colleges that you are applying. Sometimes college require you to apply by a certain date other than the application deadline to qualify for a specific scholarship. Additionally, you may be required to complete an interview. Ask someone to help you practice and create a mock interview scenario. This will give you an opportunity to practice and avoid being too general in your responses. The more you practice the more confident and professional you will appear.
Senior year can be a stressful time as you are waiting to hear back from the various colleges that you have applied to and you are juggling how you are going to afford college. One thing that I found to ease some of the stress is by applying for scholarships. Scholarships can seem very overwhelming but they are all generally the same. Almost all scholarships require a resume or a list of your achievements and activities you completed while in high school. Many also ask you to write an essay about yourself, your future, and/or your achievements. Finally, they ask for a letter of recommendation from a peer. The worst thing you can do is apply and not get it. By applying for more scholarships, you are more likely to receive one. I highly recommend applying for as many scholarships possible as you are investing in your future.

Like most people my age, the impending debt of higher education scares me. That’s why I took it upon myself to pursue as many scholarships as I could. The first thing I’d like to say is that it is very important to review every single scholarship opportunity you have as a possibility. Don’t let concerns about the other people that might apply cause you to restrict yourself. Unless something explicitly tells you that you can’t apply, at least take the time to submit an application because there’s nothing more certain than not applying. Also, I’d like to say that it is important to apply for anything regardless of the amount. No matter how small a scholarship may seem, the money will help you, and it means that your education is just as important to someone else as it is for you. Every penny counts, so try your hardest to make sure that you’re preparing yourself for college any way that you can.
## College Application Checklist

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<th>Follow-up</th>
<th>College have been received by</th>
<th>Check that all items submitted (FASFA)</th>
<th>Financial Aid</th>
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<td>Test Scores</td>
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<td>Letters of Recommendation</td>
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# Scholarship Application Summary Chart

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<th>Scholarships I plan to apply for:</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Items Requires: ex. transcript, essay, etc.</th>
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Applying for scholarships and financial aid can be a daunting task for many but it can also be quite rewarding. First and foremost, research and utilize all the resources the guidance office provides. Staying organized is half the battle. The financial aid booklet is a great place to start to create a list of potential scholarships, deadlines, and essay prompts. After you have narrowed down the scholarships that you are eligible for, create a calendar that will help you balance your applications and school work. It is essential to make sure you have enough time to thoroughly complete the applications. Many scholarships have similar prompts but be careful about recycling your essays. It is tempting to just change the names but you may need to revise completely to make sure that you have answered the prompt. Ask a trusted friend or adult to read your essay to provide constructive feedback. The key is to be organized and present the best version of yourself. Good luck and don’t be afraid to get started now!

Financial aid and scholarships have been important for me when it comes to securing my future. Since I plan to go to graduate school, college is going to be expensive. Knowing that there is always options before I have to resort to loans has eased the stress that comes with education. Our schools have always given us options for many scholarships that fit everyone’s needs, so there’s really no reason to not use these resources. Always apply! You never know if you’ll get it unless you apply for it. Filling out application after application may seem redundant and not worth it, but the results are always great. No matter what, you are always bound to receive awards for all the hard work you put into your studies and application. Scholarships are something that has made going to college an opportunity for many who would otherwise not be able to afford it, and it’s available for anyone to use.
LOCAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

BOHEMIA MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

Brenda Reynolds Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior who has been active in yearbook, service learning, and/or business education may apply.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Public Schools College & Career Fair Furthering Education Scholarship
AWARD: $600
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior that has been accepted to a two-year, four-year, or technical college; minimum GPA 2.5; essay required.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecilton Lions Club Endowed Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior who plans to attend Cecil College.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Chesapeake City Lions Club Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior with demonstrated financial need.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Eric D. Shertz Memorial Soccer Fund
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: One senior male and one senior female member of the varsity soccer team; minimum 2.5 GPA.
DEADLINE: May CONTACT: Guidance Office

Helen Harris Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior minority student accepted to college full-time.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Moor Family Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior may apply.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Randy Sheaffer Leadership Award
AWARD: $4,000 ($1,000 per year for four years)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS senior; demonstrate leadership skills; and strong personal character.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Upper Bay Ruritan Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any BMHS student who is attending Cecil College may apply.
DEADLINE: March CONTACT: Must apply online at www.cecil.edu
ELKTON HIGH SCHOOL

Andy Sands Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior with demonstrated financial need who plans to study science.
DEADLINE: May CONTACT: Guidance Office

Barbara Edwards Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior with demonstrated financial need who plans to study English/communications.
DEADLINE: Early May CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil College Foundation - EHS Principal’s Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student must enroll in a certificate or degree program at Cecil College by August 15 with 12 credits per semester, and maintain a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for the second half of the scholarship award. Scholarship must be used for two consecutive semesters. Awarded by principal of Elkton High School.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Public Schools College & Career Fair Furthering Education Scholarship
AWARD: $600
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior that has been accepted to a two-year, four-year, or technical college; minimum GPA 2.5; essay required.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Edmund T. Pratt Alumni Scholarships
AWARD: amount may vary
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: EHS seniors with demonstrated financial need; essay required.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Elk Neck Athletic Association
AWARD: $30 Gift certificate to Staples
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: EHS senior with highest GPA who plays at least two interscholastic sports.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Elkton High School Alumni Scholarship
AWARD: Amount varies according to need and merit
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior with financial need and academic achievement; school/community activities and employment; essay required.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Elkton Town Commissioners’ Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior residing within town limits of Elkton; minimum GPA 3.0; good attendance; school and community activities.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Marsha L. Burnett Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior with demonstrated financial need who plans to enter an educational program to work with students with special needs; essay required.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office
As you enter senior year it is all very exciting because you finally made it to the top, but with that comes a lot of new responsibility of preparing for your future. Applying for scholarships is a major part of this because college is not cheap, especially with all of the supplies needed which is normally just handed to you in high school. That is where scholarship money really comes into play. At first, applying to these scholarships is going to be very annoying to fill out and make essays for, but after a while most of the scholarship questions are very similar and you can start to reuse some of your old essays and change them to fit the scholarship descriptions. This is also another reason why you should always save your essays. Always apply for as many scholarships as you can, in the end they will start to add up, even the ones you’re not too sure about, may just surprise you. In the end, the reward is the best part, when you hear your name being called multiple times to receive your award, this is where you see all of your hard work finally paying off. As the end of your high school career is coming to a close, it is also the opening of something new, just sit back, relax, and give your all in everything you do because this is only the beginning.

It's time to sit down and take a breath. You're ready to take the next step of your life but you're going to need a little help on the way. Scholarships are a great way to take the stress out of paying those expensive college bills. I recommend starting early and saving everything you write. Most scholarship essays fit under a few categories like what are your future goals, why do you deserve the scholarship, and what kind of a person you are. Once you write one essay you can use it as an outline for other essays. Also, while writing your essays don't be afraid to showboat a little while still relating to the organization offering the scholarship. The people reading your essays want to know everything that makes you great, unique and deserving of the scholarship along with being a good representation of the organization. Good luck and keep applying; you never know how much it could help.
Rodney Todd Helsel Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior who participates in interscholastic sports as a senior; essay required.
DEADLINE: Early May CONTACT: Guidance Office

NORTH EAST HIGH SCHOOL

Cecil College Foundation - NEHS Principal’s Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student must enroll in a certificate or degree program at Cecil College by August 15 with 12 credits per semester, and maintain a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for the second half of the scholarship award. Scholarship must be used for two consecutive semesters. Awarded selected by principal of North East High School.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Public Schools College & Career Fair Furthering Education Scholarship
AWARD: $600
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any NEHS senior that has been accepted to a two-year, four-year, or technical college; minimum GPA 2.5; essay required.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Donald Preston Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: NEHS college-bound senior who has completed the most community service hours.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Elk Neck Athletic Association Award
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: The NEHS student with the highest WGPA who participates in at least two sports.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Nelson K. Bolender Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any EHS senior pursuing a post-secondary degree in education; essay required.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

North East Chamber of Commerce Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000 to Cecil College
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any NEHS outstanding student majoring in business at Cecil College; honor roll marking period one and two of senior year; 350 word essay required.

North East High School Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Academic excellence or improvement; positive character traits; motivation; good attendance; nominated from NEHS faculty member; 350 word essay required.
DEADLINE: April 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office
The NEHS Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any NEHS senior who has completed at least 11th and 12th grade at NEHS; minimum 2.5 GPA; attend NEHS alumni banquet in June.
DEADLINE: April 1
CONTACT: Guidance Office

PERRYSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Cecil College Foundation - PHS Principal's Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student must enroll in a certificate or degree program at Cecil College by August 15 with 12 credits per semester, and maintain a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for the second half of the scholarship award. Scholarship must be used for two consecutive semesters. Awardee selected by principal of Perryville High School.
DEADLINE: May 1
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Public Schools College & Career Fair Furthering Education Scholarship
AWARD: $600
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior that has been accepted to a two-year, four-year, or technical college; minimum GPA 2.5; essay required.
DEADLINE: May 1
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Harmony Masonic Lodge Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior planning to attend college and demonstrates financial need.
DEADLINE: April
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Janet Hardy Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior with a 3.25 GPA; community service, participation in soccer one year. Drug and Alcohol free.
DEADLINE: April 1
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Kathleen Lanigan Memorial Art Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior with demonstrated excellence in art, academics, and community service.
DEADLINE: Early May
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Perrysville Community Scholarships
AWARD: $11,000 annual fund; awards vary from $100 - $600
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: PHS seniors planning to attend any two-year or four-year school.
DEADLINE: Early May
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Perrysville Lions Club Service Award
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior who has demonstrated outstanding service to school and community.
DEADLINE: May
CONTACT: Guidance Office
Riverfront Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior who has been accepted to a two-year or four-year college and is a Charlestown resident.
DEADLINE: Mid-May CONTACT: Guidance Office

Stephanie Black Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior who is attending Cecil College and demonstrates financial need, perseverance, and desire to help others.
DEADLINE: Early May CONTACT: Guidance Office

Steven Zartler Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior planning to study foreign languages.
DEADLINE: Early April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Todd Haley Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any PHS senior member of the golf team.
DEADLINE: Mid-April CONTACT: Guidance Office

RISING SUN HIGH SCHOOL

American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Scholarships, Post #194
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: RSHS female student with financial need; academic achievement; and leadership.
DEADLINE: April 24 CONTACT: Guidance Office

American Legion Post #194 Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: RSHS seniors with post-secondary plans at any two-year or four-year school; academic achievement; financial need and leadership; application.
DEADLINE: April 24 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil College Foundation - RSHS Principal's Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student must enroll in a certificate or degree program at Cecil College by August 15 with 12 credits per semester, and maintain a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for the second half of the scholarship award. Scholarship must be used for two consecutive semesters. Awardee selected by principal of Rising Sun High School.
DEADLINE: April 24 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil County Public Schools: College & Career Fair Furthering Education Scholarship
AWARD: $600
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS senior that has been accepted to a two-year, four-year, or technical college; minimum GPA 2.5; essay required.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: Guidance Office
David A. LeBrun Live Like LeBrun Award
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Current Rising Sun High School senior who is well-rounded, exemplary student with similar characteristics to David LeBrun.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

David A. LeBrun Math Excellence Award
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Math GPA of 3.25 or higher and a member of the Math League.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

David A. LeBrun Scholar Athlete Award
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Current RSHS senior who participates in at least one sport and has a GPA of 3.25 or higher.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

David Stout Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS senior planning to major or minor in photography.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Dr. Neil Taylor Memorial Award
AWARD: $860
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS student pursuing an education in a medical field.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Future Educator Textbook Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS senior who is pursuing a degree in education; application required.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Harmony Lodge Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS senior planning to attend college and demonstrates financial need.
DEADLINE: April
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Heather Ripley Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $500
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS senior who is pursuing a degree in Human Service preferred and must have a GPA of 3.5. Must submit essay.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Henry A. Shafer Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: NEHS student with a GPA of 3.0 or better; acceptance into a two-year or four-year college/university; demonstration of service in school and community
DEADLINE: May 15
CONTACT: Guidance Office

Karen Mueller Memorial Art Scholarship
AWARD: $1000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: A RSHS senior planning to pursue post secondary art studies in visual arts or art education.
DEADLINE: April 24
CONTACT: Guidance Office
Math Scholars Award
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: College-bound RSHS senior who has demonstrated enthusiasm for mathematics; recipient selected by RSHS math department.
DEADLINE: Selected in May CONTACT: Guidance Office

Rising Sun High School Alumni Association
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Son or daughter of RSHS alumni who has demonstrated academic achievement and leadership.
DEADLINE: April 24 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Rising Sun Lions Club - Dr. R. C. Dodson Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Award varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students in the Rising Sun community; preference given to applicants with plans to major in health care/medical fields.
DEADLINE: April 24 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Ryan Hartnett Soccer Alumni Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and have been a member of the RSHS Varsity Boys or Girls Soccer Team.
DEADLINE: April 24 CONTACT: Guidance Office

Stephanie Black Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any RSHS senior who is attending Cecil College and demonstrates financial need, perseverance, and desire to help others.
DEADLINE: Early May CONTACT: Apply online at www.cecil.edu

The William C. Graham and William J. Graham Endowed Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: RSHS seniors who have been accepted to the University of Maryland at College Park and demonstrates financial need.
DEADLINE: May 1 CONTACT: University of Maryland, Office of Financial Aid

CECIL COUNTY SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY
Allan Stimson Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Varies
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Recipient must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and be enrolled in the Welding & Metals Technology program. Must have plans to further their education after high school in an accredited college or technical school for Welding.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecil College Foundation - CCST Principal’s Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Student must complete a program at CCST with a “B” average, enroll in a certificate or degree program at Cecil College by May 1 with 12 credits per semester, and maintain a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for the second half of the scholarship award. Scholarship must be used for two consecutive semesters. Awardee selected by principal of CCST.
DEADLINE: April CONTACT: Guidance Office
CCST Educational Awards
AWARD: $250
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Graduating student from CCST who is planning to continue their education in their specific program of interest or is in need of help to purchase tools for their intended career path. An application and a recommendation from the CCST instructor is required.
DEADLINE: April            CONTACT: Guidance Office

Cecilton Lions Club/Charities Scholarship
AWARD: $600 per semester/first four consecutive semesters
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Active member in good standing of the Cecilton Lions Club Leo Club of the Cecil County School of Technology annually; essay required, must attend Cecil College.
DEADLINE: April            CONTACT: Guidance Office

Dr. D’Ette W. Devine Teacher Academy of Maryland Scholarship
AWARD: $1,000 a year for four consecutive years
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Graduating student from the Teacher Academy of Maryland program who is planning to continue their education. Recipient must major in education or an education related field.
DEADLINE: April            CONTACT: Guidance Office

Ellston Kiwanis Scholarship
AWARD: $500 per year or two $250 scholarships in memory of Ken Grubb, Grubb Contractors
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Any CCST student continuing education in any construction related field; 2.5 GPA; positive recommendation from school. Renewable for second year.
DEADLINE: April            CONTACT: Guidance Office

Ellston Rotary Club George Benvegno, Sr. Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: Two, $1,000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Graduating student from CCST with a minimum GPA of 2.5. The scholarship is for students who demonstrate leadership and an entrepreneurial spirit. Essay required.
DEADLINE: April            CONTACT: Guidance Office

Kay P. Bailiff Memorial Scholarship
AWARD: $250
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Recipient must have a minimum 2.5 GPA and be enrolled in the Natural Resources program. Scholarship will also be based upon the student’s financial need and their intentions on furthering their education after high school in a Horticulture/Natural Resources program.
DEADLINE: April            CONTACT: Guidance Office

Pureland Supply Vocational and Skilled Trade Scholarship
AWARD: $1000
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Acceptance to an accredited community college, vocational college, technical school, trade school or labor occupations. Completed application, a typed one-page essay, high school transcript or GED, and one letter of recommendation from a non-family member.
DEADLINE: May 1            CONTACT: www.purelandsupply.com/t-scholarship.aspx
Cecil College

More and more high school students are choosing to begin a post-secondary program by attending a local college. Students may complete general coursework requirements at Cecil College before transferring to a four-year college or specialized technical program. Advantages include:

- A variety of programs & degree options.
- Significant savings compared to four-year colleges & universities.
- Accepts some high school CTE completer programs for college credit.
- Small class sizes.
- Individual academic planning.
- AP scores of 4 or 5 may be accepted for college credit.

Cecil College Contacts:

Director of Admissions
410-287-6060, ext. 1871
Amanda Solecki
Director of Financial Aid
410-287-6060, Ext. 210

Michael Jerome
Recruitment Officer
(410) 287-6060, Ext 1905
Ashley Weber
Admissions Counselor
(410) 287-6060, Ext. 1902

LOAN INFORMATION

The Thorn Foundation offers low interest loans to Cecil County students. Loans are administered by the law office of Scott and Scott Attorneys. Contact the law office at 410-398-0611 for an application. Funds are limited, so apply early!
Special Help for Minority Students, Military Families, and Students with Disabilities

Listed are some helpful publications which may be available in guidance offices, libraries, and bookstores:

Financial Aid for African Americans - Gail Ann Schlachter


Financial Aid for Minorities in Engineering and Science - Garrett Park Press


Websites

www.blackexcel.org - Identifies scholarships for minority students.

www.finaid.org/otheraid/minority.phtml - Identifies scholarships for minority students.

Phone Number

1-800-827-1000 - Veteran’s Administration
**Directory of High School Counselors**

Joanna S. Zimmerman  
Coordinator of Guidance Services  
410-996-5455

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Counselors</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bohemia Manor High School</strong></td>
<td>Samantha Alic, Kristen Moore, Wendy Wilcox</td>
<td>410-885-2077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North East High School</strong></td>
<td>Rebecca Clark, Teresa Jones, Jennifer Manna, Robert Miller</td>
<td>410-996-6202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cecil County School of Technology</strong></td>
<td>Jennifer Bird</td>
<td>410-392-8880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perryville High School</strong></td>
<td>James Canty, Jill Cowan, Elizabeth Douglass, Kyle Miller</td>
<td>410-996-6002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elkton High School</strong></td>
<td>Sandra Boms, David Cadd, Beth Kline, Linda Lewis</td>
<td>410-996-5002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rising Sun High School</strong></td>
<td>Steve Gray, Angela Pruss, Doug Wiegand</td>
<td>410-658-9117 or 410-378-2274</td>
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Cecil County Public Schools  
201 Booth Street  
Elkton, MD 21921  
Phone: 410-996-5400  
Fax: 410-996-5454  
[www.ccps.org](http://www.ccps.org)
Stepping Stones to Financial Aid

1. Talk to your counselor
2. Attend College Fair
3. Read Senior Newsletters, E-mails, Listen for announcements
4. Attend High School Financial Aid Night
5. File the FAFSA
6. Continue checking for local scholarships
7. Look for Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA
8. Examine financial aid award letters from your colleges
9. Make your college decision