



MHEC
Creating a state of achievement

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Ian D. MacFarlane
Chairperson

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph. D.
Secretary

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Bill Ferguson
President
Senate of Maryland
H-107 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Maryland Higher Education Commission –
Scholarship/Grant End of Year Fiscal Reports
MSAR #10051, #9665, #9450, #9473, and #9425

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

In accordance with Sections 18-301, 18-603, 18-604, 18-708, and 18-2901 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Maryland Higher Education Commission is required to provide an annual report that includes an accounting of all financial receipts and expenditures on each scholarship/grant fund. This report combines all of the required scholarship/grant reports into one single document and provides annual expenditures and number of recipients' data for the following programs:

1. Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grant Program (#10051),
2. Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship (#9665),
3. Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship Program (#9450),
4. Maryland First Scholarship (#9473), and
5. Howard P. Rawlings Program of Educational Excellence Awards (#9425).

In FY 2019, the expenditures and total number of recipients for each scholarship/grant program was as follows:

Program	Expenditures	Number of Recipients
Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grant Program	\$ 995,750	316
Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship	\$ 673,256	131
Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship Program	\$ 115,131	34
Maryland First Scholarship (unfunded)	\$ 0	0
Howard P. Rawlings Program of Educational Excellence Awards	\$ 80,230,421	25,296

Overview of Scholarship/Grant Programs:

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) is an office within the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) responsible for the administration of a variety of state-funded financial assistance programs. These programs are designed to improve access to higher education for needy students; to encourage students to major in areas of economic need to the State, such as teaching and nursing; to provide loan repayment assistance to Maryland residents working in select fields; and to encourage Maryland's brightest students to attend college in the State. Maryland students use the assistance from these programs at community colleges, independent colleges and universities, private career schools, and the State's public four-year colleges and universities.

1. Workforce Shortage Assistance Grant Program

The purpose of the Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grant Program is to assist in meeting the State's need for well-trained and highly skilled workers in shortage areas. Students who perform well academically and agree to use their training in eligible programs as members of Maryland's workforce may qualify for scholarship assistance.

2. Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship

The Veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq Conflict (VAIC) Scholarship is a state-funded program that provides financial assistance to United States armed forces personnel who served in the Afghanistan or Iraq Conflicts, as well as to their sons, daughters, or spouses who are currently high school seniors and enroll in eligible accredited Maryland postsecondary institutions.

3. Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship

Program

The Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship Program encourages members of the fire-fighting, ambulance, and rescue organizations serving Maryland communities to pursue credit courses that lead to degrees in fire service technology, emergency medical technology, fire service management, or public safety administration with a minor or concentration in fire service technology or fire service management.

4. Maryland First Scholarship

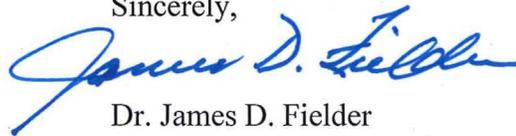
The Maryland First Scholarship provides financial assistance to select Maryland residents attending accredited Maryland postsecondary institutions. This scholarship is awarded to first-generation students whose parents have not earned a degree from an institution of higher education. In fiscal year (FY) 2019, the scholarship was unfunded and no awards were granted.

5. Howard P. Rawlings Program of Educational Excellence Awards

The purpose of the Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Program of Educational Excellence Awards is to provide need-based scholarship assistance. The State's students with the greatest financial need will be guaranteed access to postsecondary education in Maryland through Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access (GA) Grants. Low and middle-income students will be awarded financial assistance through Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Educational Assistance (EA) Grants. Students who miss the March 1 deadline but still have demonstrated need are awarded financial assistance through the Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Campus Based Educational Assistance Grant Award.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Mr. Lee Towers, Legislative Liaison at 410-767-3059, or lee.towers@maryland.gov

Sincerely,



Dr. James D. Fielder
Secretary