Maryland Higher Education Commission
Office of Student Financial Assistance
6 N. Liberty Street, Ground Suite
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 767-3300; (800) 974-0203
TTY for the Deaf - (800) 735-2258
www.mhec.maryland.gov

## HOWARD P. RAWLINGS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

Conditions of Award Academic Year 2022-2023

## **Eligibility Requirements:**

- O You must be a Maryland resident or be eligible for in-state tuition. If you are a dependent student, your parents must also be Maryland residents.
- O You must enroll each semester as a full-time (12+ credits per semester) degree-seeking undergraduate student at an eligible postsecondary institution in Maryland.
  - Educational Assistance Grant awards may be used at an institution out-of-state only if the award recipient is a
    deaf or hearing-impaired student and the institution makes special provisions for deaf and hearing-impaired
    students that are not available at Maryland institutions.
- o Audited courses cannot be used to reach the minimum credit hours required for full-time status.
- O You must maintain the satisfactory academic progress standards of your institution.
- O You must not be in default on a Federal Title IV student loan.
- O This award is based on financial need. Your need is based upon the cost of the institution you attend and your housing status. If you change institutions or your housing status, your award may be increased, decreased, or canceled. Awards are subject to the availability of funds.
- O You must accept your award within the allotted timeframe or your award will be canceled.
- O You may be required to verify the information you reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Maryland State Financial Aid Application (MSFAA). If so, you will be notified by email.
- O The total dollar amount of **all state scholarship awards** may not exceed your cost of attendance, as determined by your school's financial aid office, or \$29,600, whichever is less.
- o If you fail to meet any of these eligibility requirements, your award will be canceled.

**Drug Free Pledge:** As a condition of receiving a Maryland State scholarship or grant, you pledge to remain drug free for the full term of the award. Unlawful use of drugs and alcohol may endanger your enrollment in a Maryland college, as well as your Maryland financial aid award.

**Overawards:** Please be aware that if the institution you are attending notifies OSFA that you are receiving other financial assistance that causes you to exceed your financial need for the award, or exceed the cost of attendance at the institution (e.g., private scholarships; Veteran's Benefits; athletic scholarships), your State financial aid may be reduced or canceled.

## **Renewing Your Award:**

- O Your award will be renewed for up to 3 years of undergraduate study if you:
  - o complete and file the FAFSA/MSFAA by March 1, each year;
  - o demonstrate financial need each year; and
  - o maintain the satisfactory academic progress standards of your institution each year.

In addition, students who have received the award for at least two years are required to complete 30 credits in order to have their EA award reinstated for the full amount.

Therefore, students who complete 24-29 credits beginning with their 2nd year, their award will be prorated and students must complete a minimum of 24 credits, beginning in their 2nd year and thereafter for the EA award to be reinstated

**Payment to Your Institution:** At the beginning of each semester, your institution will be asked to certify that you met the requirements of the award. When the institution completes the certification and returns it to OSFA, your award will be processed for payment. **Payment to the institution will be made approximately four weeks after the institution completes the certification.** Contact your institution's financial aid office if you have questions about the payment status of your award.