

HOWARD P. RAWLINGS GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT

Student Information and Instructions

Academic Year 2009-2010

Theresa Lowe – (410) 260-4555
 tlowe@mhec.state.md.us



Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access Grant: The Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access (GA) Grant provides an award from the State of Maryland which, when combined with the Federal Pell Grant and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), will help cover the cost of full-time study at a Maryland college or university. The amount of the award varies up to \$14,300 annually and can be used at any public or private college or university in Maryland. 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 \$19,000, whichever is less.

Eligibility: To be eligible for this grant, you must:

- o Be a senior in high school, or provide written documentation explaining why you were unable to attend college within 1 year of graduating from high school;
- o Be under 22 years old at the time of receiving the first award;
- o You and your parent(s) must be Maryland residents;
- o Complete a college preparatory program;
- o Have a minimum, cumulative, unweighted 2.5 grade point average (GPA) from your high school, grades 9 through the first semester of your senior year;
- o Enroll at a Maryland college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate (at least 12 credit hours each semester; audited classes cannot be used to reach minimum number of required credits); and,
- o Have a total family annual income that qualifies for the GA Grant.

Total Family Income: Total family income includes all income (taxed and untaxed) for your parent(s) and yourself that is reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This income includes: parent and student earned income (W-2 form); and child support. The income limits for academic year 2009-2010 are:

Family Size	Total Family Income (not to exceed)	Family Size	Total Family Income (not to exceed)
1	\$13,520	5	\$32,240
2	18,200	6	36,920
3	22,880	7	41,600
4	27,560	8	46,280

For each additional family member add: \$4,680

Application Process:

- o Complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov, or the paper form and mail it to the federal processor, preferably by **March 1**.
- o Complete the attached GA Grant application and mail it to the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) by **March 1** for priority consideration.
- o The guidance counselor at your high school must attach to your GA Grant application an official high school transcript reporting grades earned through the first semester of your senior year.
- o Applications submitted after March 1 will also be considered based on the availability of funds.

Mail completed application and official transcript to: Maryland Higher Education Commission
 Office of Student Financial Assistance
 Attention: Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed
 Access Grant Program
 839 Bestgate Road, Suite 400
 Annapolis, MD 21401-3013

HOWARD P. RAWLINGS GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT

Application
Academic Year 2009-2010

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Section A - Student Information: (Please print carefully)

1. Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____ Date of birth: ____/____/____
2. Last name: _____ First name: _____ MI: _____
3. Permanent mailing address: _____ County of residence: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____
E-mail address: _____ Home phone: (____) _____
4. Maryland college or university at which you plan to enroll: _____
5. Do you plan to live: on campus off campus with parents or other family member?
6. Have you filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)? Yes No

Please Note: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) **AND** a Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access (GA) Grant application must be filed to be considered for this award. For priority consideration, complete the FAFSA **on or before** March 1, 2009, and mail the GA Grant application to the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) at the address listed below. GA Grant applications filed after March 1 will be considered only as long as funds remain available in the program.

7. Name of high school: _____ Graduation date: ____/____/____
Month Year
High school address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

NOTE: If you graduated prior to the current year, please attach a letter indicating why you did not enroll in college directly after high school.

Section B - Drug Free Statement:

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

Student's Signature

Date

Section C - High School Certification (to be completed by guidance counselor):

1. Student named above has earned at least a minimum, cumulative, unweighted 2.5 GPA. Yes No
2. Student named above will complete a college preparatory program. Yes No
3. Student's high school transcript is attached Yes No

Date

Counselor name (please print)

Counselor's Signature

(____)_____
Telephone number

High school name

High school code

Please mail immediately to:

**Maryland Higher Education Commission
Office of Student Financial Assistance
Attention: Howard P. Rawlings
Guaranteed Access Grant Program
839 Bestgate Road, Suite 400
Annapolis, MD 21401-3013**

NOTE: All awards are subject to the availability of funds.