

2026-2027 Guaranteed Access Grant

The Delegate Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access (GA) Grant is a need-based grant that provides financial assistance to eligible Maryland undergraduate students enrolled at Maryland colleges and universities.

Award

The amount of the Guaranteed Access Grant equals up to 100% of a student's calculated adjusted financial need for the student's first 2 academic years of enrollment, and adjusts based on completed credits in the following years.

Students may be eligible to receive up to \$18,000 annually for 4 years

How to Apply

- Complete and file the **2026-2027** Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or MHEC One-App (for eligible undocumented students) by **March 1, 2026** listing at least one Maryland college or university
- Create and activate an Maryland College Aid Processing System (MDCAPS) account
- Submit any requested documents (if required) by **August 1, 2026**

Eligibility

- File the FAFSA or MHEC One-App by March 1;
- Be eligible for in-state tuition in Maryland
- Demonstrate financial need and meet specific income requirements (see to right);
- Be accepted for admission and plan to enroll in a regular undergraduate program at an eligible Maryland institution as a full-time degree-seeking student;
- Have completed high school or obtained a GED with a passing score of 145 per module;
- Begin college within 6 years of completing high school or obtaining a GED;
- Be under the age of 26 at time of first receiving the GA;
- Submit any requested documentation by the published deadlines.

- File the FAFSA or MHEC One-App by March 1 each year;
- Be eligible for in-state tuition in Maryland
- Demonstrate financial need and meet specific renewal income requirements (see to right);
- Continue enrollment in a regular undergraduate program at an eligible Maryland institution as a full-time degree-seeking student;
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP);
- Meet the credit completion requirements beginning in the third year of receiving the award;
- Submit any requested documentation by the published deadlines.

2026-2027 GA Grant Income Limits

Family Size	130% of 2024 Federal Poverty Level (Initial)	150% of 2024 Federal Poverty Level (Renewal)
1	\$18,954	\$21,870
2	\$25,636	\$29,580
3	\$32,318	\$37,290
4	\$39,000	\$45,000
5	\$45,682	\$52,710
6	\$52,364	\$60,420
7	\$59,046	\$68,130
8	\$65,728	\$75,840
For each add'l person, add	\$6,682	\$7,710

Visit
<https://mhec.maryland.gov/>
to learn more about the
Guaranteed Access Grant

This document is informational only; it is not intended as legal advice and does not have the force of law. All awarding is contingent on the availability of funds as determined by the approved State budget allocation.