

Proposed Wicomico County Economic Impact Scholarship
At Wor-Wic Community College
Feb. 2, 2016

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship, students must have:

- (a) been a resident of Wicomico County for at least the past two years;
- (b) attended a public or private high school in Wicomico County for at least the past two years (Wicomico residents who attended Delmar High School are also eligible);
- (c) completed all high school graduation requirements;
- (d) applied for admission into a degree or certificate program at Wor-Wic;
- (e) completed the application process for all federal, state and institutional financial aid, and a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship application, by June 1; and
- (f) ensured that their final official high school transcripts have been received by Wor-Wic's admissions office by July 31; and
- (g) registered for 12 or more credit hours (or fewer only if required by their specific academic program) at Wor-Wic in the fall term immediately after graduating from high school.

First-Year Deadline Extension -- The scholarship and financial aid deadline of June 1 could be extended in the first year of the program to give students more time to complete the application process.

Adult Education Program Graduates -- Students who have completed an adult education program, such as the general education development (GED) program or the national external diploma program (NEDP), are eligible for a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship if they complete all application requirements and enroll at Wor-Wic within one year after obtaining their Maryland high school diploma. These students must have been residents of Wicomico County for two or more years prior to completing their adult education program.

No Felony Convictions -- Students with felony convictions are not eligible. All applicants must attest in writing that they have not been convicted of a felony. A student (or his or her representative) must notify Wor-Wic's financial aid office if the student is convicted of a felony after enrollment. Failure to report a felony conviction obligates the student to repay any scholarship funds granted under this program and could be cause for dismissal from the college.

Last-Dollar Funding -- Students must accept all financial aid awards offered, except loans, in order to be eligible for a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship. Funding only covers tuition and fees that remain after all financial aid awards, except loans, have been applied to the student's account.

One-Time Exemption -- A high school graduate who met all eligibility requirements, including earning at least a 2.0 GPA with 12 or more credit hours in the fall and spring terms immediately after graduating from high school, but did not apply for the scholarship before June 1 of the year they graduated from high school, can apply by June 1 of the following year. Students who attended another college or university immediately after graduating from high school, however, are not eligible.

Dual Enrollment Reimbursement -- Students who meet all of the requirements for a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship are eligible for reimbursement of tuition and fees paid for dual enrollment courses at Wor-Wic while they were juniors or seniors in high school. To be eligible for reimbursement, a student must successfully earn a 2.0 GPA with at least 12 credit hours in their first term at Wor-Wic. Reimbursement is limited to direct expenditures for tuition and fees that were not covered by outside sources. Reimbursement is applied to the student's account at the college in the term following successful completion of his or her first term at Wor-Wic.

Maintaining Eligibility

In order to continue receiving Wicomico County economic impact scholarship funding, students must maintain satisfactory academic progress and earn at least 24 credit hours per academic year. Students must maintain continuous full-time enrollment in both the fall and spring terms of each academic year unless they are granted an exception by Wor-Wic's vice president for enrollment management and student services. Students must enroll in summer classes if they have not successfully completed 24 credit hours in the fall and spring terms. Students are not required to attend classes during the summer, unless summer classes are required as part of their specific academic program, but they can choose to do so to accelerate degree completion, increase their GPA or satisfy academic program requirements. Payment of tuition and fees for summer classes taken when it is optional for the student is subject to available funding from Wicomico County.

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0. Each student's cumulative grade point average is verified immediately after the end of summer classes each year to determine eligibility for the upcoming academic year. Under extreme circumstances, exceptions can be granted by Wor-Wic's vice president for enrollment management and student services. Students are not eligible for a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship for any courses they choose to repeat.

Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and apply for all financial aid by June 1 of each year. This is required even if the student did not qualify for aid in the prior year. Failure to apply by the June 1 deadline could result in the student becoming ineligible for a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship.

Students who maintain eligibility can participate in the scholarship program for up to six continuous fall and spring terms, not including summer classes, or until they complete the requirements for one associate degree, whichever occurs first.

