

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND**

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 12

**Resolution No. 79-2016**

Introduced by: The President of the Council at the request of the County Executive

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE  
WICOMICO COUNTY ECONOMIC IMPACT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, Wicomico County believes that educating young people is tantamount to a prosperous future for our County; and

WHEREAS, many students experience difficulty in financing their college education because of the high costs associated with post secondary education; and

WHEREAS, Wor-Wic Community College wishes to increase its graduation rates and to provide opportunities for qualified students to attend college full time without financial barriers; and

WHEREAS, Wicomico County desires to establish an Economic Impact Scholarship Program for high school graduates and/or those students recognized as graduates in Wicomico County by the Wicomico County Board of Education who wish to attend Wor-Wic Community College; and

WHEREAS, the County Council and County Executive desire to memorialize the terms of the Economic Impact Scholarship Program as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland that the Economic Impact Scholarship Program, attached as Exhibit A, is hereby approved.

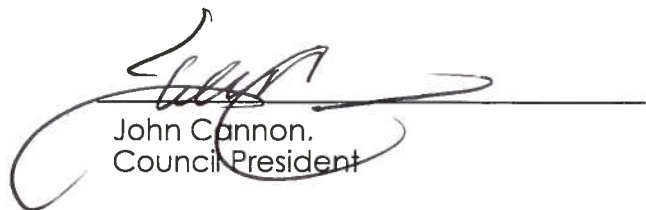
Done at Salisbury, Maryland, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2016.

ATTEST:

COUNTY COUNCIL OF  
WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND



Matthew E. Creamer,  
Council Administrator



John Cannon,  
Council President

CERTIFICATION

This Resolution was Adopted , Adopted with Amendments , Failed , Withdrawn  by the County Council on June 21, 2016.

Certified by   
Matthew E. Creamer, Council Administrator

## EXHIBIT A

### Eligibility Criteria

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

- (a) been a resident of Wicomico County for at least the past two years;
- (b) attended a public, private or home school in Wicomico County for at least the past two years (Wicomico residents who attended Delmar High School are also eligible);
- (c) have an average household income of \$75,000 or less as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);
- (d) completed all high school graduation requirements;
- (e) applied for admission into a degree or certificate program at Wor-Wic;
- (f) completed the application process for all federal, state and institutional financial aid, and a Wicomico County economic impact scholarship application, by June 1;
- (g) ensured that their final official high school transcript has been received by Wor-Wic's admissions office by July 31;
- (h) registered for 12 or more credit hours (or fewer only if required in a specific academic program) at Wor-Wic in the fall term immediately after graduating from high school; and
- (i) Attended a scholarship orientation session before their entry semester.

*First-Year Deadline Extension – The scholarship and financial aid deadline of June 1 will be extended to July 29<sup>th</sup> 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 in writing 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. Awards are made on a first-come, first-serve basis.*

*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 both 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. The student would only be eligible to remain in the program for four continuous semesters, or until they complete one associate degree, whichever comes first. 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 the 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 24 credit hours in their first year 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 after completion of 24 credits in the first year, and reimbursement is subject to available funding.

*Community Foundation Information* – The funding provided for the Wicomico County economic impact scholarship program will be provided from the Designated Scholarship Fund. In the event no funds or insufficient funds are appropriated or budgeted or are otherwise not available in any fiscal year for payments due under this program, Wicomico County will immediately notify Wor-Wic Community College of such occurrence and the economic impact scholarship program shall terminate on the last day of the fiscal year for which appropriations were received without penalty or expense to Wicomico County, except as to the portions of payments herein agreed upon for which funds shall have been appropriated and budgeted or are otherwise available. If funding is unavailable from Wicomico County, Wor-Wic is not obligated to make scholarship awards for students that have completed application and eligibility requirements.

#### 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 are not required to attend classes during the summer, unless summer classes are required as part of their specific academic program requirements. Students may enroll in summer classes if they have not successfully completed 24 credit hours in the fall and spring terms in order to attempt to maintain eligibility. 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 after each semester to determine eligibility for future semesters. 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.

#### Annual Review

The Economic Scholarship Program shall be reviewed annually by Wor-Wic’s vice president for enrollment management and student services, who shall present an annual report to the Wicomico County

Council by September 30<sup>th</sup> each year and make recommendations on whether or not to modify the program for the next fiscal year based on the new data or technical information.