

Senator Bill Ferguson's 2026-2027 Scholarship Application

Please read the following guidelines prior to filling out the application to ensure that you qualify. Once you have completed the application, please mail or email it with the rest of the required materials.

Who may apply:

- You and your parent or legal guardian (if you are a dependent student) must be Maryland residents living in the 46th legislative district. **Scholarships will not be granted to students outside of the 46th District.** If you need to verify your residence in the 46th District, please visit <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District> or call (410) 946-5200.
- Current high school seniors, full-time or part-time degree seeking undergraduate and graduate students, and students attending private career schools. Audited courses cannot be used to reach the minimum credit hours required for full-time or part-time status.
- You may use this scholarship at an out-of-state school if your major is not available at a Maryland school, or if you require special accommodations not offered at a Maryland school. Office of Student Financial Assistance (OFSA) must verify that your major is unique. **More information can be found at www.mhec.maryland.gov**
 - Further questions regarding “unique” majors should be directed to the Maryland Higher Education Commission at **410-767-3300** or **uniquemajor.mhec@maryland.gov**.

How to apply: Complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in addition to Senator Bill Ferguson's Scholarship Application. If you are a qualifying child of undocumented immigrants and are eligible for in state tuition, you may apply using the Maryland State Financial Aid Application (MSFAA) in addition to Senator Bill Ferguson's Scholarship Application. More information about the MSFAA can be found at <https://mhec.maryland.gov/> .

When to apply: Complete and file the **FAFSA or MSFAA by the Maryland deadline of March 1, 2026.** Include a copy of your FAFSA Submission Summary (FAFSA) or verification of a completed MSFAA with your completed application, which must be **submitted to our office by midnight on May 1, 2026.**

Awards Granted: Criteria for selection are based on academic achievement, financial need, and commitment to higher education. The minimum annual award is \$500, and the maximum award is \$2,500. Most scholarship awards are granted for four years for full time college students (or eight years for part-time students), without the need to reapply (see below). You may hold the Senatorial Scholarship along with all State awards. The total dollar amount of all State awards may not exceed your cost of attendance as determined by your school's financial aid office or \$19,000, whichever is less. Funds may not be available to award all eligible students.

Renewing an Award: If you have received a renewable award from Senator Bill Ferguson during a previous academic year, your award will be renewed automatically as long as you maintain satisfactory academic progress at the college you attend. Full-time students may receive a Senatorial Scholarship for a total of four years. Part-time students may receive a Senatorial Scholarship for a total of eight years.

Mail Completed Applications to:

Senator Bill Ferguson
State House
100 State Circle, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Or

Email Completed Applications to:

bill.ferguson@senate.maryland.gov

Personal Information

Check one: **New Application (never received Senatorial Scholarship)**
 Renewal Application for previous award

Check one: **First time college freshman**
 First time graduate student
 Currently enrolled college student
 Currently enrolled graduate student
 Returning college student (not currently enrolled)
 Returning graduate student (not currently enrolled)

Name:

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY):

Social Security Number (XXX-XX-XXXX):

Permanent Address:

City, State, Zip:

Preferred Telephone (XXX-XXX-XXXX):

Preferred Email:

Current School and Grade/Year:

Cumulative GPA (4.0 Scale):

Class Rank (if available):

Anticipated Graduation Date (MM/DD/YYYY):

SAT - Date Taken (MM/DD/YYYY): **Verbal Score:** **Math Score:** **Writing Score:**

First-time college applicants OR Returning college applicants not currently enrolled...ONLY

Name(s) of Maryland Colleges/University where you have applied:

Of these schools, where have you been accepted?

Date of College Acceptance (MM/DD/YYYY):

Where do you plan to attend?

What will your status be during the 2026-2027 academic year? (check one)

- Full time (12+ credits)**
- ¾ time (9-11 credits)**
- Half time (6-8 credits)**

Currently enrolled Undergraduate and Graduate Students ONLY

Where are you currently attending school?

What is your status? (check one)

- Full time (12+ credits)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ time (9-11 credits)
- Half time (6-8 credits)

Student Aid Index (SAI) located on FAFSA Submission Summary \$

Are any of your immediate family members also applying for Senator Ferguson's scholarship this year?

- No
- Yes

If yes, please list their names:

Please list the other financial aid that you expect to receive

Have you submitted your FAFSA or MSFAA for the 2026-2027 academic year?

- Yes
- NO***

***Submission of your FAFSA or MSFAA is required for your scholarship application to be considered.

Submit a copy of your full FAFSA Submission Summary to verify your submission of your FAFSA or a confirmation of your completed MSFAA.

Please refer to: studentaid.gov or Call 1-800-4-FED-AID for assistance.

Please complete the following short answers on a separate page

Short Answer: Answer each of the following in paragraph form (no more than 250 words each.)

- a. Why do you want to attend college?
- b. What fields are you interested in and why?
- c. What personal attribute will you- or do you already- bring to your college?

Additional Requirements:

1. A copy of your full **FAFSA Submission Summary** verifying submission of your FAFSA application or confirmation of your completed MSFAA.
2. Signed checklist
3. Unofficial transcript

Optional:

1. You may include a brief statement explaining your financial situation and any other special financial circumstances.
2. Brief resume of your relevant extracurricular and volunteer activities.
3. You may include up to two letters of recommendation.

Checklist

The following items are REQUIRED.

Check each box upon completion of the associated task and sign below. Please submit this checklist along with your complete application packet.

- Completed Application
- Short answer response
- Unofficial transcript
- Complete copy of FAFSA Submission Summary
- This checklist with signatures (both student and guardian, if applicable)

I verify that the information provided here is accurate and I am a resident of the 46th Legislative District. I am aware that incomplete applications and applications received after the May 1, 2026 deadline will not be considered.

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18)

Date

DEADLINE MAY 1, 2026