



Montana Community Foundation Scholarship

Frequently Asked Questions

Application Process:

- **How do I apply for a scholarship from Montana Community Foundation (MCF)?**
 - Visit [The MCF Scholarship Page](#) and click on the "Apply for a scholarship." Create an account and take the eligibility quiz. We suggest you look through the scholarship directory to see which scholarship you are eligible for.
- **Can I submit a paper application?**
 - No. We only accept electronic applications through our online application.
- **What if I can't remember the password to my account?**
 - You can go to the [MCF Scholarship application page](#) and select the "forgot my password" link. Make sure you are using the correct email.
- **When is the application deadline?**
 - All applications are due on March 31, 2024.
- **I missed the deadline. Can I still submit an application?**
 - Generally, no. We may consider requests for extensions on a case-by-case basis. Please contact us at scholarships@mtcf.org.
- **Do I have to take the Eligibility Quiz?**
 - Yes. In order to access the scholarship(s) you qualify for, you must complete the eligibility quiz
- **Can I retake the Eligibility Quiz?**
 - Yes. Please send an email scholarships@mtcf.org to reset your quiz.
- **I took the Eligibility Quiz and did not get the scholarship I thought I qualified for. What can I do?**
 - ❖ Send an email to scholarships@mtcf.org to reset your quiz and/or discuss eligibility requirements.

Criteria & Application Requirements:

- **How many scholarships can I apply for?**
 - You can apply for as many scholarships as you qualify for, based on the individual scholarship criteria.
- **Can my scholarship be combined with other scholarships?**
 - MCF does not prohibit you from receiving multiple scholarships. However, every institution has its own policy on this matter. You should consult your institution's financial aid office for more

information.

- **How do I know if my college/university/school is accredited?**

- Click a link below that includes the state where the school you plan to attend is located. Search for your school to see if it is accredited. Please search carefully as the name in the directory may be slightly different than what you may know it as.
 - ❖ [Northwest Commissions on Colleges](#) (Includes: Alaska, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington).
 - ❖ [Higher Learning Commissions](#) (Includes: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming).
 - ❖ [New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commissions on Institutions of Higher Education \(CIHE\) & Technical and Career Institutions \(CTCI\)](#) (Includes: Connecticut, Maine Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Overseas).
 - ❖ [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges](#) (Includes: Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Extraterritorial).
 - ❖ [Western Association of Schools & Colleges \(WASC\) Senior College and University Commission](#) (Includes States: California, Hawaii, and the Pacific).
 - ❖ [Middle States Commission on Higher Education \(MSCHE\)](#) (Includes: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands).

- **Do I have to submit an official transcript?**

- No. We accept copies and official copies of transcripts.
 - ❖ For high school transcripts, please make sure your grade level and ranking status are listed.
 - ❖ For Renewal students, a copy of your transcript printed from your school portal is acceptable, please make sure your name and accumulative GPA is shown.

- **I am a Renewal Award Recipient. Do I have to be full-time or part-time?**

- Please refer to your scholarship renewal criteria for details on criteria for renewing your scholarship.

- **Can I submit paper letters of recommendation?**

- No, an email request will be emailed to the recommender through the online application process. If the application does not require a letter of recommendation, one is not needed.

- **Can I still receive the scholarship if I attend a school outside of Montana?**

- This depends on the criteria for each individual scholarship. For example, the T. Eugene Young Montana's Promise Scholarship gives preference to those applicants attending a university/college in Montana.

- **Do I have to be a full-time student?**

- Each scholarship is different.

Scholarship Award Process:

- **How will I be notified if I do or don't receive a scholarship award?**

- If you are awarded a scholarship, a letter and certificate will be mailed to your home address or will be presented to you at your school by your school counselor or by one of our staff.
- An email from our online portal will inform you if you did not receive a scholarship award.

- **Will you contact my parent(s) with award information?**

- You as the applicant should be the principle point of contact for your MCF Application account, not your parent(s). We always contact the student before contacting the parent(s), and we expect the student to follow through with any additional information needed.

- **Is the scholarship award paid directly to me?**

- No. the award is paid to the school you will be attending. You will need to submit your School Information & Acceptance Follow-up that has been assigned to you through your online application portal. Please see your award letter for instructions.

- **Is my award paid all at once?**

- The entire scholarship award is sent to your post-secondary school. It is standard for the financial aid office of your school to split the award between semesters or quarters (50% Fall semester and 50% Spring semester). Please check with your financial aid office to see what their policy is.

- **When is my scholarship award paid to the school?**

- For new students, a check will be mailed on at the end of July each year.
- Renewal scholarship recipients are paid on the in August.

- **Can my scholarship be transferred to another school?**

- Yes. You will need to notify MCF. Please contact us at 406- 443-8313 or scholarships@mtcf.org, instructions will be provided of the refund and payout process. It is your responsibility to notify MCF not your parent(s).

- **Can I defer my scholarship award to a later date?**

- No. MCF is not accepting deferral requests.

- **Can I reapply for the scholarship?**

- This depends on the scholarship. Each MCF scholarship has its own specific criteria, it will be stated as reapply or renewal, if either is not listed it is a one-time payout.
- **What is the difference between Reapply and One-Time?**
 - **Reapply** – the applicant can reapply for the scholarship up to 3 times from the first award. Please note, some scholarships state one must wait one year after being awarded.
 - **One-Time** – This scholarship is paid one-time only. You cannot reapply.
- **What is the difference between Traditional and Non-Traditional**
 - **Traditional** – students who often defined as students who have entered college after High School
 - **Non-Traditional** – Nontraditional status is based on the presence of one or more of seven possible nontraditional characteristics. These characteristics include older than typical age, part-time attendance, being independent of parents, working full time while enrolled, having dependents, being a single parent, and being a recipient of a GED or high school completion certificate.

Still have questions? Please contact us at scholarships@mtcf.org.