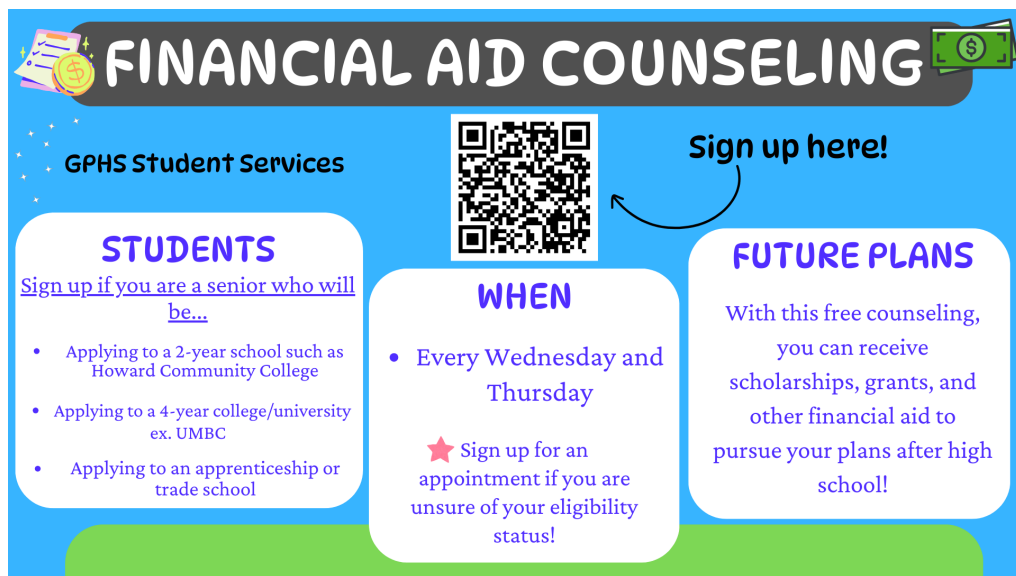


Financial Aid Support

GPHS STUDENT SERVICES:

FINANCIAL AID NEWSLETTER

Stay up-to-date with financial aid information !



A colorful graphic for financial aid counseling. At the top, it says "FINANCIAL AID COUNSELING" in large white letters on a dark blue background, flanked by icons of a wallet and a stack of money. Below this, on a light blue background, are three white rounded rectangular boxes. The left box is titled "STUDENTS" and lists eligibility criteria. The middle box is titled "WHEN" and lists the schedule. The right box is titled "FUTURE PLANS" and describes the benefits. A QR code is positioned in the center, with an arrow pointing to it from the text "Sign up here!" on the right. The text "GPHS Student Services" is in the top left corner of the graphic.

GPHS Student Services

FINANCIAL AID COUNSELING

STUDENTS
Sign up if you are a senior who will be...

- Applying to a 2-year school such as Howard Community College
- Applying to a 4-year college/university ex. UMBC
- Applying to an apprenticeship or trade school

WHEN

- Every Wednesday and Thursday

★ Sign up for an appointment if you are unsure of your eligibility status!

FUTURE PLANS

With this free counseling, you can receive scholarships, grants, and other financial aid to pursue your plans after high school!

Sign up here!

[Maryland Education Opportunity Center](#)

Date: Rolling Sessions - sign up using the link below

Financial Aid Information Session

Join MEOC as they provide an overview on the financial aid process as well as share demonstrations on how to complete the FAFSA

Eligible Participants:

- Maryland residents nineteen (19) years of age or older
- High School Seniors
- Individuals interested in pursuing education beyond high school levels
- Individuals interested in pursuing GED

Time: 7pm - 8pm

Recommended Grades: 11, 12

[Website HERE](#)

Tuition Waiver Brochure

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has released an updated brochure summarizing the tuition waiver for students experiencing homelessness and those in foster care. Share this resource with your high school counselors, students, and families. A contact list of higher education homeless/foster liaisons is available at [this link](#).

College Aid Pro

Financial Aid 101: How Financial Aid & Scholarships Work

Join College Aid Pro to learn how to avoid the costly mistakes that burden many families with unnecessary college expenses each year. They'll explain the importance of completing the FAFSA, regardless of your perceived eligibility for financial aid as well as how to maximize financial aid.

This program is presented by an outside organization specifically for HCPSS families.

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Recommended Grades: 9-12

2025 Recordings

1. Recording CollegeAid Pro - [Mastering FAFSA/CSS Profile](#)

Resources:

1. [Federal Student Aid](#)
2. [HCPSS Scholarship List](#)

Scholarships

GPHS STUDENT SERVICES:

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[AKA Scholarship](#)

Deadline: **November 24, 2025 at 11:59pm**

Eligibility Requirements

- All applicants must be permanent residents of Howard County.
- Current high school senior
- Seeking to begin their undergraduate studies in the fall of 2026
- Minimum GPA requirement is 2.50 on a 4.0 GPA scale.
- The applicant must demonstrate strong leadership skills and commitment to scholastic endeavors.

Scholarship award: \$1,000

[Ronald W. Reagan Leadership Program \(RLP\)](#)

Deadline: **Oct 31, 2025**



Eureka College is a small liberal arts college in central Illinois.

Each year, Eureka College offers multiple four-year full-tuition scholarships to students through the RLP. The RLP, in addition to the full-tuition scholarship, offers students international travel experiences, fully funded internship and mentorship experiences, leadership training, and professional networking. I have attached a flyer with more information.

- Students who have earned a cumulative 3.30 weighted or unweighted GPA at the time of application are eligible.
- We are seeking applicants who are preparing to graduate in spring 2026 and to enroll in college for the fall 2026 semester.

Interested students can apply by completing the following steps:

- Reviewing our website at rlp.eureka.edu.
- [Submitting their application to Eureka College](#). The application is free and can be completed quickly. Students should submit unofficial transcripts showing grades through the end of junior year. Submission of this application will automatically begin the application process for the Reagan Leadership Program.

Once a student's application has been received and transcripts have been reviewed, the RLP Director will reach out to the student with a link to RSVP for one of our two scholarship competitions this fall.

We will host an on-campus scholarship competition on **Saturday, November 8** as well as a virtual scholarship competition via Zoom on **Saturday, November 15**. Students from Maryland would be eligible to compete in the virtual scholarship competition or, if preferred, to join us on campus.

Both competitions include interviews, opportunities to meet with current program faculty and students, and a group leadership exercise. The competition, in conjunction with a brief leadership reflection submitted in advance of the competition (but after the application and RSVP), will be used to select finalists for the scholarship. Finalists will be invited to complete virtual interviews with the selection committee in early December.

[Tiffani Monique Johnson Art Scholarship](#)

Deadline: December 31, 2025

Applications are now open for the Tiffani Monique Johnson Art Scholarship, created in memory of Tiffani Monique Johnson, a talented artist, mentor, and advocate for creativity and self-expression. This scholarship celebrates her legacy by supporting young artists who demonstrate exceptional talent, creativity, and dedication in the visual arts.

This year, three scholarships valued at \$1,000 each will be awarded to deserving high school seniors or current college students pursuing studies in the visual arts. Students must apply to be considered.

Scholarship Details

- Awards: Three scholarships at \$1,000 each

- Eligibility: High school seniors or current college students pursuing visual arts (painting, sculpture, photography, graphic design, nails, etc.)
 - GPA Requirement: Minimum 3.0
 - Portfolio: At least five original art pieces
 - Personal Statement: 500–1,000 words about artistic journey, inspiration, and aspirations
 - Recommendations: Two letters from art teachers, mentors, or professionals
 - Deadline: December 31, 2025
 - Apply online: www.loveyoumoreinc.com/scholarships
 - Gala Date: Saturday, March 28, 2026
-

Howard County Arts Council

Deadline: January 22, 2026

The Howard County Arts Council is pleased to offer scholarships for students who would like to pursue a degree in the arts. This year, HoCo Arts will award scholarship funds to students entering college in the 2026-2027 academic year. Scholarships must be used for enrollment in an accredited college program for a degree in the arts. Awards may be used for tuition and fees only. Applications will be reviewed by the Arts Council's Scholarship Panel. Review criteria will include artistic merit, demonstrated knowledge of an artistic discipline, commitment to a career in the arts, and a demonstrated track record of success in an academic setting. Applicants will be notified of their application status in March 2026.

Application deadline: January 22, 2026. To register and apply online, please visit <http://hcac.gosmart.org>

Any questions can be directed to the Howard County Arts Council by calling (410) 313-2787 or emailing me at grantsandprojects@hocoarts.org.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation Inc.

Deadline: April 15, 2026

The focus of the AKA Educational Advancement Foundation is to provide high school seniors access to financial support based on academic merit or financial need. Many local chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. provide the counter-support of financial aid to entering college freshmen students.

- Using the link above, students should first make a scholarship profile.
- Complete your online application including required documents.
 - [Start Here](#) to begin your process!

Phone Number: 773 947 0026

Email: akaeaf@akaeaf.net

All scholarships will open in January

If you are applying for a Financial Assistance Scholarship, please fill out the Financial Needs Analysis form.

If you are applying for a Thrive (Gap) Scholarship, please include a copy of your Award Letter from a Financial Aid Office confirming the gap.

This scholarship will not exceed \$1,000.

[American Legion - National Oratorical Contest](#)

The American Legion's 2026 Oratorical Contest Scholarship Program beginning in September and concluding in May will hold post-level contests in early 2026. The contest for Legion Posts 156 in Ellicott City and post 300 in Columbia will be held on January 10, 2026 from 12:30pm to 3:00pm at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in Ellicott City. Dates and times TBA.

Contest winners will receive a scholarship award at each post, district, and state level:

1st Place: \$25,000

2nd Place: \$22,500

3rd Place: \$20,000

A student who qualifies in the National Oratorical Contest first round receives a scholarship of \$2,000. A contestant who advances past the first round will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship.

For more information, please contact: Americanism@legion.org or the website below:
<https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/oratorical-contest/about-the-oratorical-contest>

What you will do:

- Deliver a speech from memory
 - 8-10 minute original oration without notes and
 - 3-5 minute extemporaneous oration on one of four selected topics (topics are available on the contest website)

Helpful experience:

- Debate team, forensics club, class leadership, or public speaking
- Open to all students

HCPSS Scholarship List

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Please click the link below to view financial aid and scholarship opportunities promoted by HCPSS!

[HCPSS Financial Aid and Scholarship Database 2025-2026](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x_LExl3cM3hMa6jYG9a-fSk7P4O023sPLluT9ZIYqEk/edit?tab=t.0)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x_LExl3cM3hMa6jYG9a-fSk7P4O023sPLluT9ZIYqEk/edit?tab=t.0