



2019-2020 FINANCIAL AID INSTRUCTIONS

Prior to completing any financial aid applications, please be sure to complete your EMCC admissions application online at www.eastms.edu.

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- Go to the website, www.studentaid.ed.gov, and complete the process for a FSA ID for both the student and one parent (if parent financial information is used).
- Go back to the website, www.studentaid.ed.gov, and complete a new FAFSA.
 - a. To attend the fall 2019 term, students must complete the 2019-20 FAFSA which is available October 2018.
 - b. Use 2017 income. During the application process you will be prompted to use the **IRS Data Retrieval Tool**. If you are able to use the tool it will automatically populate the income portion. We encourage you to take advantage of this option as it can greatly expedite overall processing time.
 - c. Be sure to list the school(s) on the FAFSA that the student is interested in attending. EMCC's school code is 002405.
 - d. Continue completing the FAFSA all the way through "submit". Once the FAFSA has been completed and successfully submitted, the student will receive a confirmation number and an email from the government stating the application was successfully submitted.
 - e. To attend the summer 2019 term, you must complete the 2018-19 FAFSA using 2016 income.
- If there are no major errors in the FAFSA (such as not signing the form with a FSA ID or making an error on the social security number, etc.) the school(s) listed on the FAFSA will receive a copy of the completed form within 3-4 days.
- The student will either be awarded or will receive a request for additional documentation in the event he/she is chosen for verification. There is a self-service financial aid portal available on the LEO student portal from our website for your convenience.

MTAG / MESG: Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant / Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant

- Go to the website, www.msfinancialaid.org, and complete the application for state aid.
- There are requirements for this scholarship and the state will verify the student's ACT score, GPA from high school and residency.
- At any point in the application process, they may request documentation such as Mississippi Driver's license, Mississippi tax return, or any number of items to prove the student's eligibility. All information must be submitted and the file completed prior to the deadline of September 15, 2019 to be eligible for the award.

EMCC Scholarships – **you must apply online at eastms.edu** by the posted deadline dates.

Tuition Assistance Scholarship:

- Must be a graduate of an accredited high school and live in one of the six counties served by EMCC (Clay, Kemper, Lauderdale, Lowndes, Noxubee, and Oktibbeha) or Calhoun County (recently added).
- Must complete the applications for FAFSA, MTAG/MESG, and other EMCC Scholarships.
- Must complete the Tuition Guarantee Scholarship application online at www.eastms.edu.
- Must enroll at EMCC as a full-time student (at least 15 semester hours) the first term following graduation from high school to be eligible. Summer terms are not counted for this purpose.
- Failure to maintain full-time enrollment (15 semester hours per term) with a 2.50 GPA results in cancellation of the scholarship. Calhoun County recipients are required to maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better.
- Tuition Assistance is awarded toward tuition after any gift aid, such as Pell Grant, MTAG, MESG, HELP or other EMCC scholarships. If gift aid from other sources is equal to or greater than the cost of tuition, Tuition Assistance Scholarship funds will not be awarded. The amount of scholarships will vary based on each county's participation in the Tuition Assistance Program.
- **Deadline for application: Aug 1 for the Fall Semester, January 2 for the Spring Semester**

ACT Scholarships:

- Opportunity, Achievement, and Excellence Scholarships are the various names of ACT based scholarships available to freshmen.
- Awarded based on the ACT composite score that is on file at EMCC by the application deadline date.
- Awarded up to four semesters as long as the student remains full-time (15 or more semester hours per term) and maintains a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or 3.0, depending upon the scholarship.
- Amounts range in value from \$700 to \$3,500 per semester based on the ACT composite score.
- Although not ACT based, confirmed Valedictorian and Salutatorian high school graduates are eligible for \$500 per semester in addition to ACT scholarships.
- **Deadline for application: August 1 for the Fall Semester, January 2 for the Spring Semester.**

Departmental Scholarships:

- Awarded based on a holistic review of academic merit, leadership, program, or community service experience.
- Awarded for various academic and career technical programs.
- Amounts range in value from \$250 to \$500 per semester.
- **Deadline for application: August 1**

Activity Scholarships:

- These are competition scholarships awarded to qualified students who have special skills, talents or abilities.
- Most will require auditions, interviews or the submission of material for selection.
- Scholarship amounts and deadlines vary.