

How to Apply for the BMCC Foundation Scholarship

Thank you for your interest in the BMCC Foundation Scholarship Application. The awards are based on need as well as merit. Scholarships awards range from \$500.00 to \$3,000.00 per academic year.

Applying is easy. Follow these steps to be considered for more than 65 scholarship opportunities.

- General Scholarships: All BMCC students are eligible
- Program-Specific Scholarships: These are awarded based on enrollment or participation in a certain program or extra-curricular activity at BMCC.
- High School Graduate Scholarships: These are available to BMCC students who have just graduated or are about to graduate from high school.

Complete the Application

The application must be typed. It is a word document. If you need assistance with the document check in with your high school counselor or Aspire volunteer. If you are a current student check in with Student Services and ask for help. Trouble working on your essays? Click on Essay Help on the Foundation webpage. Submit your application electronically to bmccfoundation@bluecc.edu

Complete the FAFSA or ORSAA

Complete the FAFSA or ORSSA as soon after October 1st as possible. In you are an international student or not eligible to complete either document, submit a budget of your education needs and what funds you will be receiving. If this is unknown consult Financial Aid or your student counselors. If you are a senior in high school and a resident of Oregon complete the Oregon Promise Grant Application.

Writing a scholarship essay

Question 1) Tell the reader of your application about yourself, your interests and your short and long term educational/career goals. Who are you and what do you hope to achieve at BMCC? This describes your career and academic plan. No plan yet? The first few years of college may lead to you to what you want to do or peak an interest that you did not have in high school.

Question 2) Have your essay reflect what you have learned from your challenges or how you appreciate the good things in your life. Almost everyone has overcome obstacles in pursuit of education. Your story may be inspirational or circumstances that you could not predict. An example is "I had the desire to work on tractor engines since I was a young child." This could translate to a career as a Diesel Tech. Use details and specific examples. Tell your story. This should help show what motivates you toward your goal.

Limit each question to 175-300 words.

Activity-Volunteer-Work History Sheet

Giving back: State the activity that you are going to talk about. Outline a few things you have learned by providing this service. What groups, organizations are you affiliated with. Include officer, leadership or member roles. If you are working several jobs and raising a family, state that on your work history.

Letters of Recommendation

Include two current letters of recommendation written within the past calendar year. Letters from faculty, employers, clergy, leaders, etc. should be written on letterhead. If you submit a personal reference, please have the person recommending you add their address and phone number. Carefully choose the individuals recommending you.

How will my application be scored?

The application will be scored by multiple people. These scores are averaged and normalized to 100. Reviewers want to see a thorough and thoughtful application that is complete and demonstrates who you are.

Your Financial challenges	20 points
Career Goals and Ed Plan	25 points
Activity Chart-Assisting with family	15 points
Letters of Recommendation	10 points
EFC-Need	15 points
GPA	<u>15 points</u>
Total:	100 points

It is important to thank the donors for your scholarship. You may deliver your letters of thanks to the Foundation office. If you know your donor personally drop it in the mail. Thank the people that write your recommendation letters. The scholarship winners are strongly encouraged to attend the Foundation scholarship reception, date to be announced. It is rewarding to give back to those that contributed to your education.

The Foundation is always grateful for the assistance of student help with Foundation activities. Contact the BMCC Foundation office for a list of events if you would like to volunteer.