

# Montcalm Excellence Awards provide financial support for students

By Shelly Springborn

Montcalm Excellence Awards are supporting more scholarships for students at Montcalm Community College.

Under the program, full-time students are eligible for \$1,100 and part-time students are eligible for \$500 annually to help with the cost of tuition and fees. Once awarded, they are renewable for a second year by maintaining good academic standing.

MCC President Stacy H. Young, Ph.D., said Montcalm Excellence Awards aim to strengthen the college's recruitment and retention efforts by providing funding students can count on early in their college decision-making process and for the long haul.

"As we build this program, we are awarding Montcalm Excellence funding three times per year. That means those who apply early will have an answer early," Dr. Young said. "It is critical for students and their families to have a full financial picture early in the year as they consider options for which college to attend."

With \$482,211 in scholarships available through the MCC Foundation for the 2022-2023 academic year, there is strong financial support for students, and Montcalm Excellence Awards are taking that support to a higher level.

"We realize that students and their families need all the help they can get paying for college," Dr. Young said.

Results of a recent economic impact study conducted by an independent firm on behalf of the college showed that MCC influences both the lives of its students and the regional economy through higher education. During the study year, MCC added \$53.7 million in impact to the college's service

## Michigan Achievement Scholarship

Beginning with the class of 2023, high school graduates will be eligible for up to \$2,750 per year at Montcalm Community College through the Michigan Achievement Scholarship Program. Eligibility begins by completing your FAFSA at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) or contact MCC's Financial Aid Office at [finaid@montcalm.edu](mailto:finaid@montcalm.edu) for FAFSA completion assistance.

For more information about the Michigan Achievement Scholarship, visit [montcalm.edu/michigan-achievement-scholarship](https://montcalm.edu/michigan-achievement-scholarship).

area economy. This impact supported 949 regional jobs. Ultimately, one out of every 88 jobs in the MCC service area is supported by the activities of MCC and its students.

"When we consider the immense economic impact MCC has on our local and regional economy, we recognize the critical need to continue to be able to provide high-quality, affordable education to those in the communities we serve," Dr. Young said.

During the past year, MCC changed its scholarship cycles to accept applications year-around and make awards in the fall, winter and spring. Students who did not register for Fall 2022 classes by June 1 forfeited their scholarship and those scholarships were re-awarded to another potential student.

Lisa Lund, Executive Director of the MCC Foundation, said revising the scholarship process aligns with the college's mission of transforming lives through quality education.

"This new process is really helping us help our students," Lund said. "It is helping us ensure that all of the scholarship dollars so generously endowed through the MCC Foundation are used according to the donors' wishes."

"Scholarships are one of the many ways in which the MCC Foundation supports our students as they work to achieve their academic dreams. Through their stewardship of the Foundation's resources, the MCCF Board continues to illustrate their long-term commitment to MCC and its students," Lund added. ■

### For more information

Visit [montcalm.edu/scholarships](https://montcalm.edu/scholarships)