

FREE COLLEGE - HOW IT WORKS

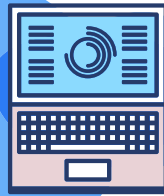
1



HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

(or equivalent) from 2022, 2023, 2024, or 2025

2



APPLY

online at www.smccME.edu/apply and be accepted to SMCC

3



FILE THE FAFSA

online at studentaid.gov/FAFSA

PLEASE NOTE:

- If you **aren't eligible** to file the FAFSA or can't complete it for any reason, **you must** contact the SMCC Financial Aid Office.
- If awarded through your FAFSA, you will need to **accept** all federal and state grants and scholarships. The Free College Scholarship will cover remaining tuition and fees.

4



ENROLL

in an certificate or associate degree program during the following timeframes:

2022 grads

No later than Fall 2024, Spring 2025, or Summer 2025

2023 grads

No later than Fall 2025, Spring 2026, or Summer 2026

2024 grads

No later than Fall 2026, Spring 2027, or Summer 2027

2025 grads

No later than Fall 2027, Spring 2028, or Summer 2028

5



LIVE IN MAINE

at the time of enrollment and while enrolled (home, rental, residence hall)

6



COMPLETE YOUR CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE

You can access the scholarship for up to 200% of the program completion time. (i.e. if your program completion time is 2-years, you can take up to 4-years to complete it).

This means **part-time enrollment** is an option!

PLEASE NOTE:

- **You cannot** earn more than one associate degree under the Free College Scholarship.
- **You can** use the Free College Scholarship to get two one-year certificates or a certificate and an associate degree in the **following scenarios:**
 1. If the two certificates are stackable. (for example, Heating certificate, Plumbing certificate)
 2. If the certificate leads to the associate degree (for example, Automotive Chassis certificate)
 3. If the two certificates are directly related. (for example, Construction Technology certificate and Electrician Technology certificate)

WANT TO LEARN MORE?



or visit www.smccME.edu/freecollege

THE FREE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



COVERS:

Tuition & mandatory fees for up to 200% of program completion time



DOES NOT COVER:

Books • Supplies • Transportation • Housing
Food • Other Non-Mandatory Fees