



**2017 - 2018 Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community
Revitalization Commission Scholarship Application**

Application Deadline: July 31, 2017

The purpose of the Virginia Community College Tobacco Scholarship Program is to provide tuition assistance to certain persons who are now or were formerly associated with the tobacco industry. This scholarship program is designed as a **“last dollar”** program after all other tuition aid has been exhausted. All awards are subject to available funding and **initial awards will be made for fall only and then reevaluated for spring** based on available funds. *Funds for summer enrollment will only be available for students who are enrolled in programs that require summer attendance (Example: Respiratory Care, LPN, Electricity).*

Eligibility is limited to residents of the Virginia tobacco region* who were either:

- a tobacco grower, producer, or quota owner in Virginia at any time from 1998 to 2004 according to USDA Farm Service Agency records, or the spouse, child (natural or adopted), step-child, grandchild, step-grandchild, son-in-law, daughter in-law, or direct descendent thereof, or
- a former employee of the tobacco processing industry in Virginia as evidenced by pay stubs issued by such employer or W2's for the appropriate year verifying employment.

**a resident of the Virginia tobacco region is defined as a person who is a domiciliary resident of Virginia under Code of Virginia §23-7.4 and presents documents showing the applicant's name and physical address within the region (as defined by the Commission). Acceptable documents shall be at the discretion of the scholarship administrator.*

In order to apply/qualify for Virginia Tobacco Scholarship funds, students must:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (2017-2018 FAFSA) and provide all necessary documentation to the Financial Aid Office. (www.fafsa.gov)
- Complete all portions of the 2017-2018 Tobacco Scholarship Application.
- Provide proof of eligibility by supplying:
 - o A copy of your family's FSA 156EZ Form and /or Notice of Acreage Bases, Yields, Allotments, and/or Quotas which verifies burley tobacco
 - o A statement defining your familial relationship to the quota holder/grower
- Meet the requirements of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as defined in the MECC college catalog.
- Be enrolled in an approved program of study and all courses eligible for that program (pass FACA--financial aid course audit).
- Not received a prior associate degree or a bachelor's degree.
- Maintain a 2.25 GPA for each semester and a cumulative GPA of 2.25.

Definitions

- A Family member is defined as spouse, child (natural or adopted), step child, grandchild, step-grandchild, son/daughter in-law of a former tobacco quota owner/producer.
- Tobacco quota owner/producer is defined as a Virginia resident who is listed by the local Virginia Farm Service Agency (FSA) or who can provide documentation of being a quota owner/producer activity at any time during the indemnification period **(1998 - 2004)**.
- Virginia resident is defined as a person who has lived in Virginia for the last twelve months and has no ties with any other state including driver's license, state tax returns, voter registration, or auto registration. *Exception: If the student is a Virginia resident and the tobacco quota is located in Virginia, the quota owner/producer may be non-Virginia resident.*

The Farm Service Agency can provide the Form 156EZ Notice of Acreage Bases, Yields, Allotments, and/or Quotas. See below for contact information.

Russell/Wise/Dickenson County
140 Highland Drive
Lebanon, VA 24266
(276) 889-4650

Lee County
AG Service Center, HWY 58W
Jonesville, VA 24263
(276) 346-1531

Scott County
369 Gate Way Plaza Ste101
Gate City, VA 24251-3811
(276) 386-3951

