

AIMS HIGHER

Scholarship Program

www.mecc.edu/aims

The AIMS Higher
Scholarship Program
has enabled thousands of
Southwest Virginia students
to attend college
tuition free



Who is Eligible?

Graduating high school students in Lee, Scott, Wise, and Dickenson Counties and the City of Norton who are Virginia residents are eligible for the scholarship program. To qualify, students must achieve a grade of at least a "C" or better in each of the approved high school courses, maintain a 95% school attendance rate (no more than 36 absences) throughout high school, have no out of school suspensions, and complete 20 hours of certified community service over a four-year period. All requirements (coursework and community service) must be satisfied by the date of the student's high school graduation.

Required high school courses include:

- **Four credits of English**
- **Four credits of Mathematics** (Algebra I plus three additional higher mathematics)
- **Three credits of lab science** (biology, chemistry, physics, earth science)
- **Three credits of social studies** (history, government, geography, economics)
- **Two credits of a single foreign language** or **two technical courses** in the same track
- **One computer-related course**

AIMS Scholars enrolled at MECC must meet certain requirements to remain eligible.

- **Must be enrolled in the Fall Semester immediately following high school graduation and maintain enrollment each Fall/Spring semester**
- **Maintain a 2.25 cumulative AND 2.25 semester GPA**
- **Complete the FAFSA and all required paperwork each year by April 15**

How Do Students Apply?

MECC AIMS Higher Scholarship applications are available each year beginning in February at www.mecc.edu/scholarships. Applications must be submitted prior to April 15. Applicants must also complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov by April 15.



**Mountain Empire
Community College**

The AIMS Scholarship is a last dollar tuition scholarship. All other aid (with the exception of external scholarship awards) are utilized first. AIMS does NOT cover books. The AIMS Scholarship will cover up to three years (72 credits) or completion of the first Associate's degree. AIMS only covers courses required for program completion.