



Moraine Valley Foundation Scholarships

Current Moraine Valley students may apply for Foundation scholarships online. Scholarships are available for full and part-time students. If you have a student ID number, you can apply for scholarships.

The scholarship year is broken into three application windows:

- 1) **GENERAL APPLICATION WINDOW:** This application period marks the start of a new scholarship application year. This window typically begins Feb. 1 and runs through March 31 of each year. **For the fall 2020/spring 2021 academic year, due to COVID19, the scholarship window is June 30, 2020.** Students may submit their application at any time between these dates. More than 160 scholarships are available during this application period for use during the following academic year (Fall/Spring semesters). Scholarships range from \$250 to \$5,000 and are able to be used starting in the fall semester and the following spring semester. The scholarship amount that a recipient is awarded is divided in half with half awarded in the fall and the other half in the spring. Scholarship recipients are notified in late April and May by email in their MVCC student email box.
- 2) **SPRING SEMESTER APPLICATION WINDOW:** The application period begins December 1 semester and ends the first day of classes. About 20-30 scholarships are offered at this time ranging from \$500-\$1000 and are open to all students with or without a FAFSA. Scholarship recipients are notified via email in their student MVCC email box within the first two weeks of classes.
- 3) **FALL SEMESTER APPLICATION WINDOW:** The application period begins July 1 and ends the first day of classes. About 20-30 scholarships are offered at this time ranging from \$500-\$1000 and are open to all students with or without a FAFSA. Scholarship recipients are notified via email in their student MVCC email box within the first two weeks of classes.

How to apply for Moraine Valley Foundation Scholarships

- 1) You must be currently enrolled as a student at Moraine Valley Community College and have a student ID number.
- 2) Go to the Moraine Valley Web page at morainevalley.edu
- 3) Click on the tab that says Cost and Aid
- 4) Click on Scholarships – follow the instructions to start or edit your application which will be on this site: <https://morainevalley.academicworks.com> When you get to that site you will see a long list of scholarships available. Don't worry about deciding which one to apply to because you complete ONE application and the computer decides which scholarships you qualify for and automatically applies you to those scholarships. Even if no scholarships are listed you can still apply so that your application is in the system when the next application period begins.
- 5) While there, click on the blue sign-on button in the upper right corner. Your student information will be filtered into your application once you sign-on.

- 6) There you will find a lot of different questions. Each question applies to a particular scholarship. Simply answer the list of questions and the scholarship program will auto-match you to available scholarships that you are qualified. One application is all you need to do to see if you qualify for all available scholarships.
- 7) If there are additional scholarships you may be eligible, you could receive an email directing you back into the system to answer additional question.
- 8) Scholarship winners are notified by email, so keep a close watch on your MVCC student email box. If you get an email saying you will receive a scholarship. In the email message will be a link that takes you to a web page where you may accept or decline your scholarship. You are given a specific number of days to accept the scholarship so, be sure to read the email carefully and do everything it says as soon as possible.
- 9) Scholarship recipients must sign an agreement that has unique requirements based on the scholarship terms. Since all scholarships are from donations, all recipients must attend a scholarship information session and write a thank you letter to the people or organization who donated the money for the scholarship. Recipients must also attend the annual scholarship reception in late August.

Some things to keep in mind when applying for a scholarship:

- Make sure you set aside about an hour to complete your application, however if you do not finish it you can go back to it as long as it is before the deadline. It is saved as a draft until you complete your application.
- The essay is the most important part of the application. Please write about your detailed personal story expressing why you feel you need and deserve a scholarship. If you feel comfortable, share your personal story about any struggles, challenges or difficulties you may face or have experienced in your pursuit of your college dreams. You may also share any outstanding accomplishments that are not listed in other areas of your application. You have 300 to 500 words to tell your story, so use them all, and write clearly and carefully. Ask someone to read it before submitting it.
- Each year, starting Feb. 1, you must re-submit your application. You may edit or change your application at any time by logging back into the application site. There will be reminders all over campus telling you to apply for scholarships when it is time to re-submit your application.
- Scholarships are available to students with and without FAFSAs. However, there are many more scholarships available to those who have completed a FAFSA so it is to your advantage to do so. There is a link on the scholarship page for more information on FAFSA.
- In most cases, only one scholarship is awarded per student per scholarship year so that more students may be assisted. However if you receive a scholarship under \$1,000 your name will stay in the scholarship pool until you've surpassed \$1,000. Scholarships go as high as \$5,000.
- There are a few non-Foundation scholarships offered on campus, so keep an eye on bulletin boards, video screens and the Glacier (student newspaper) for details. The scholarship web page also lists current outside scholarships that we are aware. Many other scholarships are also available through the local community, the state and nationally but these cannot be applied to through the Foundation. Visit the scholarship web page on the Moraine Valley site as we try to post scholarships outside of the Foundation that are currently available.

**For more information contact Patti Friend in the Foundation Office at 708-974-5551
or email her at friendp5@morainevalley.edu**