WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLARSHIP?

There are two pathways for eligibility for the Presidents’ Scholarship. The first is through high school class ranking (top 15% of the class at the end of the 6th, 7th, OR 8th semesters). Students qualifying through high school ranking must graduate from a North Central Association (NCA) accredited high school in Maricopa County. Those who graduate from NCA accredited high schools within Maricopa County whose class standings fall below the top 15% may qualify through Placement Test Scores (Students must take all three placement tests and score appropriately on all portions). This option also applies to students who complete secondary educational programs in Maricopa County not accredited by NCA (home school, charter, and private schools). GED graduates are eligible for the Presidents’ Scholarship by placement test scores only if the GED is completed before the individual’s 19th birthday.

Our Honors Program application states:

Students submitting the Presidents’ Scholarship application must meet all of the following requirements to receive the scholarship:

• Graduate from a North Central Association (NCA) accredited Maricopa County high school* within two academic semesters preceding this application.
• Verify rank in the top 15 percent of his/her NCA-accredited Maricopa County high school class in the sixth, seventh, or eighth semester AND, at the time of application, have either tested into at least ENG 101 (with a minimum WritePlacer score of 5), MAT 120, and CRE 101, or have successfully completed, at an MCCCD college, the requisite course work for placement into at least ENG 101, MAT 120, and CRE 101.

*Alternatively, students who complete secondary education programs or are home schooled in Maricopa County may qualify via placement test scores. To qualify, students must achieve the following scores on the Maricopa Community College placement test:
  • English: WritePlacer score of 6 or higher,
  • Reading: Exemption from CRE101, AND
  • Math: Placement in MAT120 or higher

WHY JOIN CGCC’s HONORS PROGRAM AS A PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLAR?

The Honors Program at Chandler-Gilbert Community College (CGCC) is an opportunity for academically motivated students to participate in challenging and rewarding educational experiences. The purpose of the Honors Program is to foster greater depth of thought in reading, writing, and discussion with faculty and guest lecturers that will better prepare Honors students to complete degrees and to begin their careers.

Honors students at Chandler-Gilbert Community College form a community of bright, energetic and caring students who are committed to their classes, to the Honors Program, and to the college.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLARSHIP?

An application can be retrieved from the following website:
http://www.cgc.maricopa.edu/honors under the link Forms and Applications or call our office at 480.732.7252 and we can mail one to you. Also, various high school counselors in the area have applications that representatives from CGCC have mailed or dropped off during high school visits. There is no application fee or interview to apply to the Honors Program!

DOES THE PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLARSHIP COVER BOOKS?

No. There is no book stipend built into the scholarship. The value of the Presidents' Scholarship is the in-county tuition for 15 credits plus the $15.00 registration fee. If a student’s total fees are less than the scholarship, the balance is cashed out to the student and may be used for books.
HOW/WHEN DO I GET MY MONEY?
The money is received after our office verifies that all of your requirements are in place – complete application, eligibility, final high school transcripts are received, enrollment in an Honors course, and attendance at Honors Orientation. Usually, Presidents’ scholarships are released after the start of the next semester, or anytime during the semester as long as all requirements are met. If you have a remaining balance for fees, the Honors Program money will be applied toward that balance when it is authorized. If you have no balance, a check will be sent to your mailing address.

CAN A STUDENT RECEIVE THE PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLARSHIP AND THE FEE WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP AT THE SAME TIME?
No. After a Presidents’ Scholar completes his/her fourth semester successfully, he/she can thereafter receive the Honors Program Fee Waiver, as long as she/he still maintains the eligibility requirements.

IF I AM RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLARSHIP AND I NEED TO TAKE A SEMESTER OR TWO OFF, CAN I?
Presidents’ Scholars, who are in good standing after completion of at least one semester of coursework at a Maricopa Community College, may apply for the deferment of their Presidents’ Scholarship for the purpose of taking part in activities that would interrupt their required continuous enrollment at the Maricopa Community Colleges. A deferment may be granted for a maximum of two years. Exceptions to this will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

MUST I NOTIFY THE HONORS PROGRAM IF I CHANGE MY ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, OR EMAIL ADDRESS?
Yes. Notify the Honors Program immediately if you move, or change your phone number or email address (even if you change your address during the summer months). You can email the Honors Program at: www.honors@egcmail.maricopa.edu or by calling 480.732.7252. The Honors Program cannot keep in touch with you if we don't know where you are. Please keep your mailing address current in MyMaricopa. Students must also use the email address assigned by the college as their official Honors Email in the Honors Blackboard Course. Communication about program/announcements, etc. will be sent through email.

CAN DUAL-ENROLLMENT CLASSES I TAKE IN HIGH SCHOOL AFFECT MY SCHOLARSHIP?
Yes. That Grade Point Average (GPA) will be calculated into your cumulative GPA each semester. If you fall between 3.0 and 3.24, you will be placed on Probation for one semester (this is the only semester a student may be placed on Probation). Unfortunately, if you fall below 3.0, you will lose your scholarship.

DO I HAVE TO BE ACCEPTED INTO THE HONORS PROGRAM TO TAKE HONORS CLASSES?
DO I HAVE TO TAKE AN HONORS CLASS EVERY SEMESTER?
Yes. Each semester that you participate in the Honors Program, you must take at least one 3 credit Honors course. Please note that in order to graduate with Honors from the Honor Program, students must complete 15 credits of Honor Courses and complete a minimum of 10 hours of Service Learning during your time at CGCC. The Service Learning requirement can be achieved by choosing the Service Learning option for one of your honor projects or if you complete service learning through any of your other classes. The service learning hours must be on record with the CGCC Office of Service-Learning.

I AM CURRENTLY AN HONORS STUDENT IN MY COLLEGE/HIGH SCHOOL. DOES THAT STATUS GUARANTEE ADMISSION INTO THE HONORS PROGRAM?
Not necessarily. See “Who is Eligible to Receive the Presidents’ Scholarship” for requirements.

ARE HONORS COURSES WEIGHTED?
No. Unlike high school, college courses (including Honors courses) are not weighted.

WHAT IF I DECIDE TO DISCONTINUE MY PARTICIPATION IN THE HONORS PROGRAM? DO I LOSE MY CREDITS?
No. If you should decide to leave the Honors Program you would not lose any of your credits earned while you were taking Honors courses. Those credits would still appear on your transcript and count as fulfilling General Education requirements. Before deciding to withdrawal from the Honors Program, we ask you to talk to one of the coordinators first because frequently a student has misinformation or a problem we can solve. We are here for you – so use us! Naturally, we hope that you will choose to stay. At the same time, you can become ineligible for the Honors Program if your grades fall below the required minimum GPA of 3.25 or fail to maintain fulltime status or fail to complete an honors contract/project on time according to program policies.

ARE OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE?
Additional scholarships are available for eligible students, such as: Chancellor’s scholarship (tuition for a full academic year plus a cash amount for books); Foundation ($1,000; usually divided between 2 students); All AZ/USA Today and the ASU/Maricopa Alliance.

For additional information regarding other scholarships, you should contact the Financial Aid Office.