



## Returning Women Students Scholarships Common Application Instructions

The goal of the Returning Women Students Scholarships is to support undergraduate students aged 25 and older in the completion of a first bachelor's degree so they can advance their careers after graduation. In addition to financial support through three different scholarships, the Returning Women Students Scholarships Program also offers a peer mentor program and various other support services and resources. Before completing this application for the 2015-2016 academic year, please make sure to review the scholarship criteria that are common for all three scholarships. Please also be mindful of the specific criteria required for each individual scholarship and include the additional information as necessary. The boxes below can also serve as a checklist for you prior to submitting your application packet.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2015**

### Eligibility Requirements for All Scholarships:

- Must be a UMBC student, aged 25 or older, pursuing a *first* bachelor's degree
- Must have completed at least 60 credits
- Must be in good academic standing and have a GPA of at least 2.5
- Must be enrolled or planning to enroll part-time or full-time at UMBC during the academic year
- Must complete an online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at the U. S. Department of Education's secure Web site, <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. In step 6 of the FAFSA, list UMBC
- Must include a transcript. See details in "required attachments" section below
- The essay portion of the application must be typed and satisfy all eligibility requirements to be considered

### Individual Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

#### **Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarship & The UMBC Scholarship for Mature Students:**

- Applicant must show financial need
- For more information visit the Charlotte W. Newcombe website to learn more about the history and purpose of the scholarship: [http://www.newcombefoundation.org/scholarship\\_mws.html](http://www.newcombefoundation.org/scholarship_mws.html)
- Award amounts can vary anywhere between \$500-\$5000 based on individual need and merit for the academic year*

#### **Notes on Recipient Selection:**

*This is signature scholarship for the Women's Center's Returning Women Students Scholarship Program and each year a cohort of approximately 10-12 Newcombe scholars are selected. Eligible scholars are selected based on three overall components: (1) financial need, (2) other extenuating life situations that create additional need, and (3) clarity of educational and career goals. Scholarships are only available for the fall and spring semesters.*

#### **AEGON Scholarship:**

- Applicant must show financial need
- Applicant must demonstrate family responsibilities in their essay
- Award amounts can vary anywhere between \$1000-\$4000 for the academic year; 2-4 students are awarded. Scholarships are only available for the fall and spring semesters.*

#### **The Richard & Roselyn Bryson Neville Memorial Fund for Returning Women Scholarship:**

- Applicant must be U.S. citizen
- Award amounts can vary anywhere between \$250-\$1000 for the academic year; 1-3 students are awarded. Scholarships are only available for the fall and spring semesters.*

## **REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS For All Scholarship Applications:**

- Please provide your most-up-to-date college transcript. It may be official or unofficial. If you are a recent transfer to UMBC, please also include a transcript from your former institution.
- Please provide a brief statement that addresses why you chose to return to school, what you are studying and your goals related to your education, and your intended career goal(s) after graduation. *(700 words maximum)*
- Please identify any barriers or challenges that you have faced or are facing in pursuing your degree and describe how admission into the Returning Women Students Scholarship Program will help you in overcoming these barriers or challenges. *(350 words maximum)*  
*\*You may include item 2 and item 3 in one essay if preferred\**
- (OPTIONAL ATTACHMENT)** If you are applying to the Newcombe or AEGON scholarships and are experiencing unusual personal or family hardship that would not be highlighted in your FAFSA application or has not otherwise been documented through this application process, please also include that information in your application packet. Be prepared to provide documentation to support your statement (e.g. medical bills, child care expenses, etc.) if requested by the scholarship committee. *(250 words maximum)*

## **Scholars Program Requirement for All Scholarships Awardees:**

1. If you are selected as a scholarship recipient, you will be required to sign the Women's Center Scholarship Agreement Form and any other additional forms required by the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship before receiving the award.
2. Recipients will be required to write a thank you letter to the scholarship foundation describing how this award will impact their educational and career goals. Additional details will be included in the award letter. Failure to honor this requirement may result in forfeiture of the award.
3. Recipients will be required to write a short biography to be used for grant purposes. Additional instructions will be provided at a later date.
4. Students must agree to comply with the program requirements outlined in the Women's Center Scholarship Agreement Form. These requirements include:
  - a. Meeting one-on-one with a professional staff member at the Women's Center at least once a semester
  - b. Participating in the Returning Women Scholars Mentoring Program. Program requirements include:
    - i. Attending a 3-hour orientation prior to the fall semester and one other Returning Women Forum event throughout the fall semester; a spring orientation and 1 other meeting will be required in the spring.
    - ii. Meeting with your mentoring peer at least once a month

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**Return your application using one of the following methods:**

<b><i>MAIL</i></b>	<b><i>Email</i></b>	<b><i>IN-PERSON</i></b>
The Women's Center Attn: Returning Women Students Scholarships UMBC The Commons 004 1000 Hilltop Circle Baltimore, MD 21250	<a href="mailto:womens.center@umbc.edu">womens.center@umbc.edu</a> <i>(send scanned copy in PDF format as 1 complete document)</i>	The Women's Center The Commons 004 <i>(Located on the ground floor, next to the Yum Shoppe)</i>

*All applicants will be notified by the Office of Financial Aid over the summer whether or not they received an award.  
All applicants will also receive follow-up information from the Women's Center.*

***For additional questions or concerns, please contact the Women's Center  
410-455-2714 or [womens.center@umbc.edu](mailto:womens.center@umbc.edu)***

### **Returning Women Students Scholarship Information Drop-In Sessions:**

Want to hear more about a specific scholarship or want more details about the program requirements?  
Join us for an information session to get all your questions answered!

***Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm or Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-4:45pm***

Information sessions will be located in the Women's Center. This is a casual opportunity to ask questions.  
A brief overview will start the session before the rest of the time is opened up for questions. You may drop in and go as needed.

## Returning Women Students Scholarships Common Application

**Please check the boxes for each scholarship for which you are applying. Applicants will be considered for a particular scholarship only if the eligibility requirements are met (see page one of the application).**

Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarship & The UMBC Scholarship for Mature Students	AEGON Scholarship	The Richard & Roselyn Bryson Neville Memorial Fund for Returning Women Scholarship

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

*(Please Type or Print Neatly)*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **UMBC Student ID:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                      First Name                      Middle Initial                      *(ID consists of 6 letters/numbers)*

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone/cell phone :** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Gender:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your anticipated enrollment status for the 2015-2016 academic year:**

Number of Credits per Academic Term	Fall 2015	Spring 2016
6-11		
12 or more		

**Major/Program of Study:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Anticipated graduation date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Credits currently earned:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cumulative GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list all grants, loans, or other forms of aid that you have applied for, or intended to apply for, for the 2014-2015 academic year (e.g. Pell Grant, Stafford Loan, UMBC scholarships, Delegate scholarships, etc.):**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount you currently owe on all of your loans (e.g. school, car, house):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have any dependents you are financially responsible for?** \_\_\_\_\_

*If so, please include their names and ages:*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Include all required attachments with this page when submitting your application.**

*Keep the instructions pages of this application as a checklist for yourself and for your own records.*

*By signing below, I certify that I meet the criteria for the scholarships that I am applying for and I agree to adhere to the program requirements:*

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_