

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 scholars community and various other support services and resources for scholarship recipients.

Before completing this application for the 2016-2017 academic year, please 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 are intended to serve as a checklist for you prior to submitting your application packet.

We highly encourage applicants to attend an information session before submitting their application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2016

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, 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

Please note: Scholarships are only available for the fall and spring semesters.

Individual Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

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

- Must show financial need
- Must explain extenuating life situations that create additional need in their essay
- Must clearly identify their educational and career goals in their essay

Notes on Recipient Selection: *This is the 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. Award amounts can vary anywhere between \$500-\$5,000 based on individual need and merit for the academic year.*

For more information visit the Charlotte W. Newcombe website to learn more about the history and purpose of the scholarship: www.newcombefoundation.org/scholarship_mws.html

AEGON Scholarship:

- Must show financial need
- Must demonstrate family responsibilities in their essay

Award amounts can vary anywhere between \$1,000-\$3,000 for the academic year; 2-4 students are awarded.

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

- Must be U.S. citizen

Award amounts can vary anywhere between \$250-\$1,000 for the academic year; 1-3 students are awarded.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS for All Scholarship Applications:

- ❑ Most recent college transcript (unofficial transcripts are acceptable). If you are a recent transfer to UMBC, please also include a transcript from your former institution.
- ❑ A brief essay 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)**
- ❑ A brief essay identifying 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 combine item 2 and item 3 into 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, you may also include a brief summary of that information with your application. Please 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)*
- ❑ **Do not** staple application materials. Electronic applications must be submitted as **one** complete PDF document.
Please note: If you choose to include any details related to sexual violence or childhood sexual abuse in your essays, the scholarship committee is obligated to follow University and USM protocol. Details about reporting and campus resources related to sexual misconduct can be found at: vav.umbc.edu/report

Scholars Program Requirements for All Scholarship Awardees:

1. If 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. Awardees must also comply with the Returning Women Scholars Program requirements outlined in the Women’s Center Scholarship Agreement Form. The requirements can also be found at womenscenter.umbc.edu/scholarships. Please review requirements before submitting your application.
Failure to honor these requirements may result in forfeiture of the award.

APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2016

Return your application using one of the following methods:

<i>MAIL</i>	<i>EMAIL</i>	<i>IN-PERSON</i>
The Women’s Center UMBC The Commons 004 1000 Hilltop Circle Baltimore, MD 21250	womens.center@umbc.edu <i>(send scanned copy in PDF format as 1 complete document; multiple attachments will not be accepted)</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***

Returning Women Students Scholarship Information Drop-In Sessions:

*Want to hear more about a specific scholarship or get more details about program requirements?
Want to make sure you stand out as an applicant by avoiding errors on your submitting application?*

**Join us for an information session to get all your questions answered and get submission tips and hints!
Tuesday, February 9th from 4-4:45pm OR Wednesday, March 9th from 12-12:45pm**

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 for details).

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)

Full Address: _____

Street
City
State
Zip

E-mail Address: _____ **Telephone/cell phone:** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Age:** _____ **Gender:** _____

Your anticipated enrollment status for the 2016-2017 academic year:

Number of Credits per Academic Term	Fall 2016	Spring 2017
6-11		
12 or more		

Major/Program of Study: _____

Anticipated graduation date *(include month and year):* _____

Credits currently earned: _____ **Cumulative GPA:** _____

Campus Location (circle one): Baltimore Campus **OR** Shady Grove Campus

Please list all grants, loans, or other forms of aid that you have applied for, or intended to apply for, for the 2016-2017 academic year *(e.g. Pell Grant, Stafford Loan, UMBC scholarships, Delegate scholarships, etc.):*

Do you have any dependents you are financially responsible for (circle one): YES or NO

If yes, please include their names and ages:

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

Attach papers using a paperclip (please no staples).

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:** _____