



# Pathways to Fund Education for Adult Learners

March 15, 2024

MODERATED BY

**Michelle Radley and Nikki Vachon**  
**College Access Counselors**

- Wanda Theobald, SNAP Employment & Training
- Patricia Dushuttle, SNAP Employment & Training
- Teri Mann, Maine Educational Opportunity Center
- Victoria Manocchia, Eastern Maine Development Corp.
- Carol Savoy, HOPE Program, DHHS
- Jackie Shannon, Maine Community Foundation





# Maine SNAP Employment & Training

# & Training

More  
Than a Job.

SNAP Employment & Training programs connect SNAP participants to employment opportunities, job training, transportation, childcare and more.

Maine SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) also helps with tuition assistance and Job Retention. Call (207) 624-4196 or email [OFI.SNAPET@maine.gov](mailto:OFI.SNAPET@maine.gov).





# Maine SNAP Employment & Training



Inspiring hope and change in the lives of SNAP participants through SNAP Employment & Training programs.

## Maine SNAP Employment and Training Program

- SNAP E&T is a USDA funded employment and training program for SNAP recipients- and available in all states.
- In Maine SNAP E&T is administered by Maine DHHS Office for Family Independence.
- Maine SNAP E&T helps participants get job training and education so they can find and keep good paying jobs.
- Maine SNAP E&T is available at no cost to participants and helps with training, tuition, transportation, and other supports.
- You may be eligible for SNAP E&T if you:
  - Receive federal SNAP Benefits,
  - Are age 16 or older,
  - Are not receiving TANF cash assistance, and
  - Are willing and able to work upon completion.

\*This agency is an equal opportunity provider and employer\*



# Maine SNAP Employment & Training

**Find out how Maine SNAP E&T can help you today!**

## **Services:**

- Job search training and coaching
- Vocational training and tuition (adult education, certificate and degree programs)
- Work experiences like on-the-job training, apprenticeships, Job retention supports
- Help with transportation or childcare costs to get to training
- Tools, equipment, uniforms and books for training and work

## **How to sign up:**

- Contact a SNAP E&T service provider near you, or
- Call (207) 624-4196 or email [OFI.SNAPET@maine.gov](mailto:OFI.SNAPET@maine.gov).

## **Maine SNAP E&T services are available statewide!**

Maine SNAP E&T providers can help with tuition for community colleges and other post-secondary educational institutions statewide.

## **Visit the Maine SNAP E&T website for more information:**

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofii/programs-services/food-supplement/fset>





# Maine SNAP Employment & Training



## SNAP E&T Providers in Maine

**Competitive Skills Scholarship Program**  
Maine Department of Labor,  
<https://www.mainecareercenter.gov/cssp.shtml>

**Family Futures Downeast**  
Washington County/Calais  
7 Ames Way, Machias/Calais 207-255-0983  
<https://familyfuturesdowneast.org/contact/>

**Goodwill NNE - Augusta, Bangor, Belfast, Lewiston, Portland, York County**  
207-400-5853 <https://goodwillnne.org/jobs/job-connection/>

**Start Up Downeast**  
Washington County/Calais  
330 North Street, Suite 1, Calais 207-259-0041 <http://www.startupdowneast.org>

**Statewide Learning Program Goodwill NNE** 207-400-5853  
<https://goodwillnne.org/jobs/job-connection/>

**Strengthen Lewiston/Auburn (LA)**  
415 Lisbon Street, Suite 100, Lewiston  
207-783-2249 x1204 [www.strengthenla.org](http://www.strengthenla.org)



## I WANT TO FURTHER MY EDUCATION WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

### MEOC Advisors

Dori L. Leadbetter  
[dori.lynn@maine.edu](mailto:dori.lynn@maine.edu)  
Cell: 207-356-2096

Kate Walsh  
[kevit@maine.edu](mailto:kevit@maine.edu)  
Cell: 207-949-6501 cell

Randi Paine, MEOC Advisor  
[randi.paine@maine.edu](mailto:randi.paine@maine.edu)  
Cell: 207-356-3485

Christy Le - MEOC Advisor  
[christy.j.le@maine.edu](mailto:christy.j.le@maine.edu)  
Cell: 207-740-1569

Melissa Ivey, MEOC Advisor  
[melissa.ivey@maine.edu](mailto:melissa.ivey@maine.edu)  
Cell: 207-299-7927

Suzanne Graves-Hall  
[suzanne.graveshall@maine.edu](mailto:suzanne.graveshall@maine.edu)  
Cell: 207-944-0390

### Assistance with

- Admissions Application
- Filing the FAFSA
- College Planning & Transferring
- Referral to Campus-based TRIO Programs
- Referral to Training Programs & Scholarship Opportunities
- Career Planning & Exploration



Apply to MEOC  
NOW!

### College & Training

- I'm not sure if college is for me.
- What college programs are available in my area?
- How do I pay for it?
- I have defaulted loans!
- I'm not sure I am ready.
- I have so many questions and need help.
- I am...
  - a laid-Off or under-employed worker
  - a veteran or Military connected
  - an individual impacted by the justice system
  - a New Mainer



## WORKFORCE

As the statewide leader in workforce development, our direct services support and sustain business and workforce growth. At EMDC, our Workforce Team offers individualized services and training to people and employers, helping them identify goals and create a plan for their future. We provide support each step of the way, including in follow up. By working with employers and education partners to create training tailored to Maine's growing industries, we keep our workforce in Maine and help local businesses build a skilled workforce.

Our workforce services are provided to people and businesses in Androscoggin, Franklin, Hancock, Kennebec, Oxford, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset and Washington Counties through partnerships with the [Central Western Maine Workforce Development Board](#) and [Northeastern Workforce Development Board](#).

### HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

#### People Pursuing Education/Careers

If you're looking to get back into the workplace, further your education, or change career paths, we can help you find meaningful employment at no cost to you. Contact us: [Workforce@emdc.org](mailto:Workforce@emdc.org).

#### Businesses Investing In Workforce

Invest in your business and employees by working with EMDC to hire, train, and retain a skilled workforce. We help you find the right fit through On-the-Job Training and Work Experience programs. Contact us: [Workforce@emdc.org](mailto:Workforce@emdc.org).



EMDC is a proud partner of the American Job Center Network

WORKFORCE
Workshops & Trainings
Career Counseling & Support Services
Education & Training

CONTACT US
Business Lending <a href="mailto:lending@emdc.org">lending@emdc.org</a>
Business Services <a href="mailto:business@emdc.org">business@emdc.org</a>
Community Initiatives <a href="mailto:community@emdc.org">community@emdc.org</a>
Workforce Development <a href="mailto:workforce@emdc.org">workforce@emdc.org</a>

[EMDC.org/workforce](https://emdc.org/workforce)





# HOPE

## 101



# What is the HOPE Program?

Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment

- **An education assistance program administered by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence**
- **Provides financial support to qualified parenting students for costs related to training and education programs beyond high school**
- **Supplies student navigators to help students stay in school and complete programs of study**



Maine Department of Health and  
Human Services

# Goals of HOPE



**Improve parents' access to quality education**



**Promote educational success by providing financial resources and navigator support**



**Increase economic prosperity through the attainment of credentials of value**



**Open and expand career pathways that build family well-being and fill Maine's workforce needs**

# Guiding Principles of HOPE

## Education is a Marathon

By providing parenting students with access to support services, we can assist them in getting to the finish line.

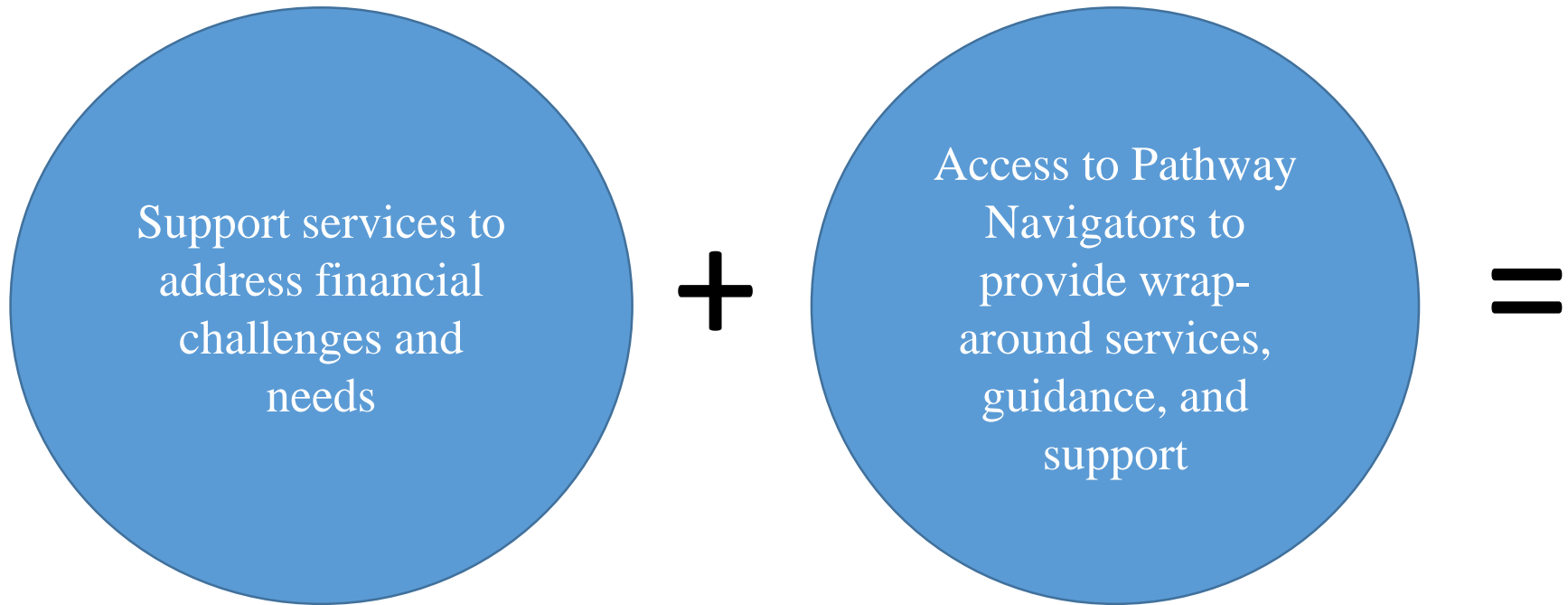


Maine Department of Health and  
Human Services

# Guiding Principles of HOPE

- Address education-related financial challenges faced by parenting students
- Offer higher education navigators to help parents address matters that get in the way of completing higher education

# Core Components



## Persistence and Completion

# Who Does HOPE Serve?

## Non-Financial Guidelines

HOPE is a statewide program that can serve up to 800 students at one time.

Participants must be:

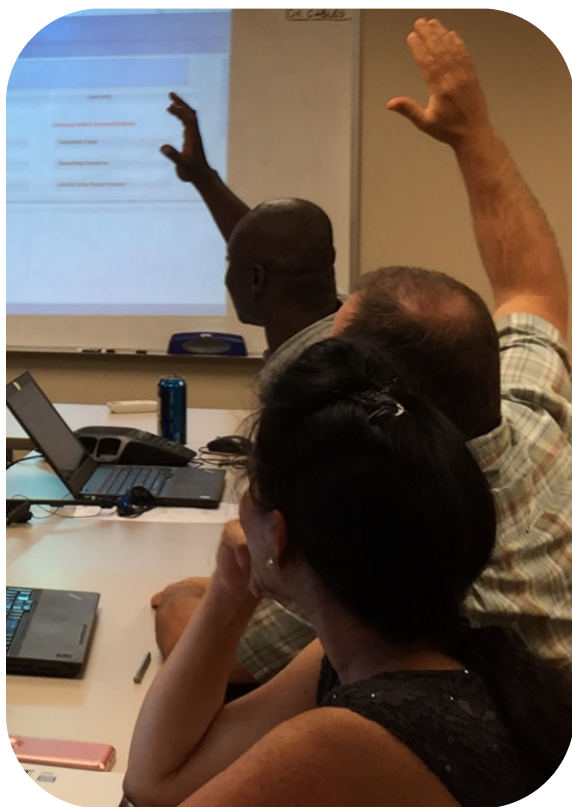
- Maine resident ages 16-64
- U.S. citizen or qualifying non-citizen
- Higher education student – either accepted to or enrolled in an eligible program
- Lacking a marketable bachelor's degree



# Who Does HOPE Serve?

## Financial Guidelines

To be eligible for HOPE, all the following apply:



- Income at or below 225% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Applicant assets at or below \$10,000
- Income of minor children, child support, and alimony is excluded from income calculation

Maine Department of Health and  
Human Services



# Questions to Ask

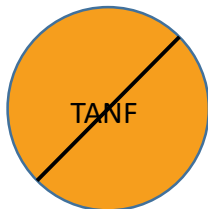
## If a Student:



Is caring for a child under 18



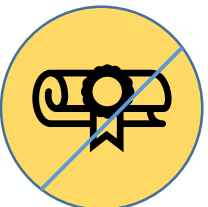
Has income that falls at or below 225% of the Federal Poverty Level



Is not receiving monthly TANF benefit



Is attending or accepted into a training or education program beyond high school



Does not have a bachelor's degree



**HOPE may be an option!**

# Pathway Navigators

Navigators are:

- Campus-based
- Statewide
- Free and voluntary services offered to students



Maine Department of Health and  
Human Services

# Supports That HOPE Can Offer

Child  
Care

Transportation



Books,  
Supplies,  
Tools and  
Equipment

Vehicle  
Related  
Expenses  
Inspection  
Registration  
Repair  
Insurance

Corrective  
Eyewear

Tuition  
and  
Fees

Technology  
and  
Software

Internet



Dental

Other  
Supports

# Relationships, Partnerships, and Collaborations



Maine Department of Health  
and Human Services

# How to Apply



1. Online application at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofc/programs-services/hope>
2. Paper application at a local DHHS office
3. Applicants currently participating in another DHHS-OFI program can start their application over the phone

**Email:** [hope.dhhs@maine.gov](mailto:hope.dhhs@maine.gov)

**Fax:** (207) 287-3455

**Mail:** HOPE Program  
DHHS-OFI  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

# Questions or Comments?



Maine Department of Health and  
Human Services



# Maine

Community Foundation

## Scholarships

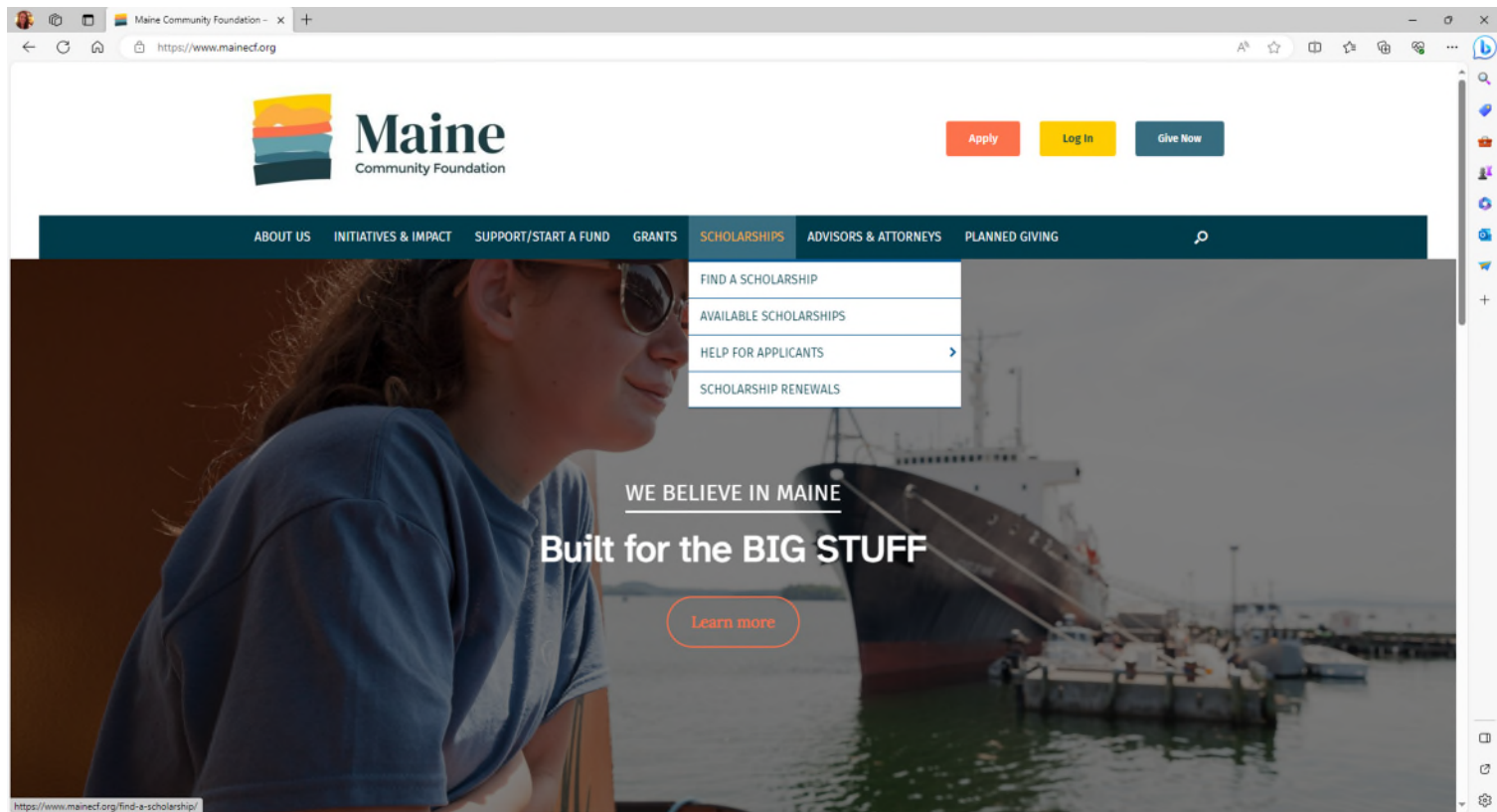
03/15/24

Jackie Shannon  
Scholarship Manager

BUILT FOR THE BIG STUFF


# How to Apply:

- [www.mainecef.org](https://www.mainecef.org)





Available Scholarships - Maine +  
https://www.maine.org/find-a-scholarship/available-scholarships/



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[Scholarships](#) [Available Scholarships](#)

### Scholarships by Type

- For Adult Learners
- Aspirational, Non-traditional, & Camp
- Graduate Education
- Private High School

### Scholarships by Region

- Available Statewide
- Androscoggin County
- Aroostook County
- Cumberland County
- Franklin County
- Hancock County
- Kennebec County
- Knox County
- Lincoln County
- Oxford County
- Penobscot County
- Piscataquis County
- Sagadahoc County

### Special Scholarships

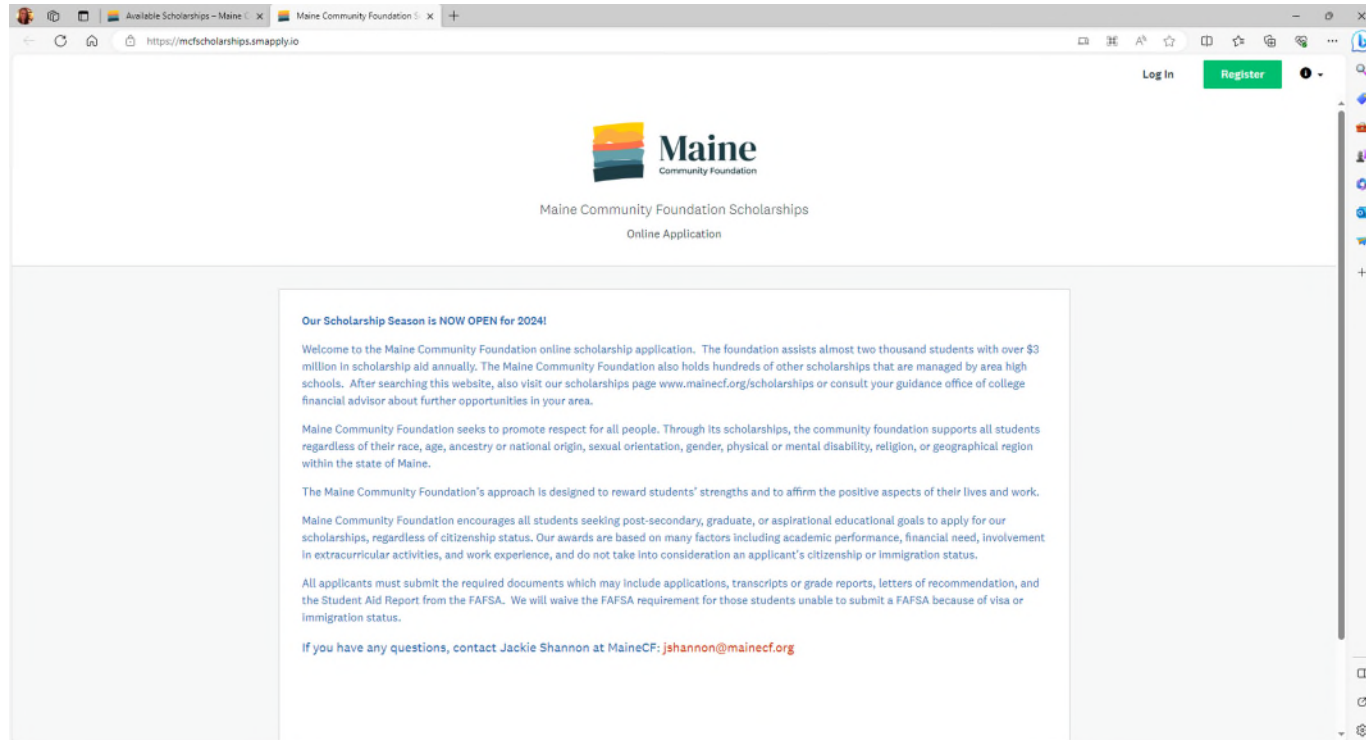
- David Moses Bridges Scholarship
- Guy P. Gannett Journalism Scholarship
- Keepers Preservation Education Fund
- Maine Policy Scholars
- Parsons Family Scholarship for LGBTQ+ Youth and Allies

[Apply Online!](#)

<https://mcfcscholarships.smapply.io>



# Maine Community Foundation Scholarships (smapply.io)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://mcf-scholarships.smapply.io>. The page features the Maine Community Foundation logo at the top center, with the text "Maine Community Foundation Scholarships" and "Online Application" below it. In the top right corner, there are "Log In" and "Register" buttons. The main content area contains the following text:

**Our Scholarship Season is NOW OPEN for 2024!**

Welcome to the Maine Community Foundation online scholarship application. The foundation assists almost two thousand students with over \$3 million in scholarship aid annually. The Maine Community Foundation also holds hundreds of other scholarships that are managed by area high schools. After searching this website, also visit our scholarships page [www.maineCF.org/scholarships](http://www.maineCF.org/scholarships) or consult your guidance office of college financial advisor about further opportunities in your area.

Maine Community Foundation seeks to promote respect for all people. Through its scholarships, the community foundation supports all students regardless of their race, age, ancestry or national origin, sexual orientation, gender, physical or mental disability, religion, or geographical region within the state of Maine.

The Maine Community Foundation's approach is designed to reward students' strengths and to affirm the positive aspects of their lives and work. Maine Community Foundation encourages all students seeking post-secondary, graduate, or aspirational educational goals to apply for our scholarships, regardless of citizenship status. Our awards are based on many factors including academic performance, financial need, involvement in extracurricular activities, and work experience, and do not take into consideration an applicant's citizenship or immigration status.

All applicants must submit the required documents which may include applications, transcripts or grade reports, letters of recommendation, and the Student Aid Report from the FAFSA. We will waive the FAFSA requirement for those students unable to submit a FAFSA because of visa or immigration status.

If you have any questions, contact Jackie Shannon at MaineCF: [jshannon@mainecf.org](mailto:jshannon@mainecf.org)

# SurveyMonkey Apply

- <https://mcf-scholarships.smapply.io/>
- Create an account or log in with the account you have already created.
- You **MUST** complete the Eligibility Quiz – you can alter your eligibility as needed. It is not set in stone.
- Click on Programs on the top banner to see what scholarships pop up for you.
- You must fill out a separate application for each scholarship you want to apply for.

# Questions? Contact us!

Jackie Shannon  
Scholarship Manager  
jshannon@mainecf.org  
(207) 412-2004

Brittani Peasley  
Scholarship Associate  
bpeasley@mainecf.org  
(207) 412-2027



Questions?



Thank you for joining us today!

Find more FREE resources and information at  
[FAMEmaine.com/education](https://FAMEmaine.com/education).

Follow Us:



Contact Us: [Education@FAMEmaine.com](mailto:Education@FAMEmaine.com)

PH: 207-623-3263 or 800-228-3734

TTY: 207-626-2717