

## Journalism President's Scholarship Policy

### Description and Eligibility

The Journalism President's Scholarship is an undergraduate merit scholarship offered to a group of selected students admitted to the Journalism program for up to a maximum of eight (8) consecutive semesters. Students must remain in compliance with scholarship policies, as outlined in this document, and with the University of Maryland Code of Academic Integrity. The student must register for a minimum of 12 credits per semester, maintain a minimum 3.20 cumulative grade point average (GPA), and successfully complete 30 credits per academic year. The scholarship will be rescinded if the student's primary major is no longer Journalism. The Journalism President's Scholarship cannot be replaced with the President's scholarship if the student is no longer majoring in Journalism. *Please note: the student should average 15 credits per semester over the Fall/Spring semesters to meet the 30 credit requirement.* In addition, the scholarship funds are designated for Fall and Spring terms and cannot be used for other semesters or terms without prior approval and often with restrictions. The scholarship may only be applied towards a student's undergraduate degree.

### Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement

The student must maintain a minimum 3.20 cumulative GPA. The GPA used for this review is not rounded. Therefore, a 3.199 does not equal a 3.20 cumulative GPA. The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) will review the cumulative GPA at the conclusion of each Fall and Spring semester. In the event the student fails to maintain a 3.20 cumulative GPA, the student will have one probationary semester to raise his/her GPA. After the probationary semester, if the student's cumulative GPA is again below a 3.20, the scholarship will be canceled for any future semesters. The student may take courses on campus during the winter and summer terms to bring up his/her cumulative GPA but the cost of winter and summer courses are not covered by the scholarship. If the scholarship was canceled and the student subsequently raises his/her GPA to a 3.20 or higher, the student may submit a request for reinstatement of the scholarship. **Please note: the student is given only one probationary semester for the duration of his/her scholarship eligibility.**

### Annual Credit Completion Requirement

The student must successfully complete 30 credits per academic year. For the purposes of this policy, successful completion of a course is defined as any course in which a grade of +/- A, B, C, D, S, or P is received. *Please note: although a student may retake courses under the university's repeat policy, credits earned for a repeated course may only be counted once toward the annual 30 credit requirement.* Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and other pre-college credits are not counted towards the 30 credit requirement. Audited and

waitlisted courses do not count toward the credit completion requirement. The student may take courses on or off-campus during the winter and summer terms to make up any necessary credits, but the cost of these courses is not covered by the scholarship. In the event the student fails to successfully complete 30 credits each academic year, the scholarship will be canceled for any future semesters. *Please note: there is no probationary term for failure to successfully complete 30 credits per academic year.*

### **Cost of Attendance**

The 2019-2020 cost of attendance for Maryland resident and non-residents is broken down as follows:

<b>Cost Description</b>	<b>Resident Amount</b>	<b>Non-Resident Amount</b>
Tuition	\$8,824	\$34,936
Standard Mandatory Fees	\$1,954	\$1,954
Room On-Campus	\$7,754	\$7,754
Board On-Campus	\$5,120	\$5,120
Book Allowance	\$1,250	\$1,250
Personal Expense On-Campus	\$1,144	\$1,144
Transportation Expense On-Campus	\$1,378	\$1,378
<b>Total Cost of Attendance</b>	<b>\$27,424</b>	<b>\$53,536</b>

### **Receipt of More Than One Award**

Students may receive only one of the following scholarships, Banneker/Key, Transfer Academic Excellence, Maryland Transfer, President's or Dean's. These scholarships may not be combined with one another. They can, however, be combined with other grants and scholarships.

The student must report all aid he/she expects to receive including but not limited to: employer tuition benefits, Resident Assistant benefits, UM tuition waivers, and private scholarships. The total of all aid a student receives cannot exceed the Cost of Attendance as outlined above. Should a student receive funds in excess of the Cost of Attendance, as determined by OSFA, his/her Journalism President's Scholarship will be reduced. A Journalism President's scholar who also serves as a Resident Assistant (RA) will receive a reduced Journalism President's Scholarship as

the room and board charges will be offset from his/her Cost of Attendance. *Please note: OSFA reserves the right to reduce a student's Journalism President's scholarship at any time if it is discovered that he/she received additional funding in excess of the Cost of Attendance.*

## **Journalism President's Scholarship Award Amount**

The maximum annual amount offered under the Journalism President's Scholarship shall not exceed \$5,000. The Journalism President's Scholarship is a merit award and may be reduced by the amount of other merit funds received such that students do not financially benefit by receiving more merit funding in total than the University of Maryland Cost of Attendance as outlined above.

## **Administration of Funds**

Refunds will not be available until the student has registered for a minimum of 12 credits (waitlisted courses do not count) and all University charges incurred on his/her student account have been paid. Every effort will be made to have refunds available during the first week of classes, however the student should make alternate arrangements to purchase books or pay rent if necessary.

Each academic year, OSFA will notify the student of the type(s) of scholarships he/she is receiving, and the amount disbursed from each fund. For information regarding availability of refunds, please refer to the current Schedule of Classes, or refer to the OSFA web site at [www.financialaid.umd.edu](http://www.financialaid.umd.edu).

## **Withdrawals**

A student who fully withdraws and receives a refund for tuition, mandatory fees, room, or board may have his/her scholarship adjusted during the semester of the withdrawal. A student who partially withdraws (drops a class with a W) will not receive a scholarship adjustment during the semester of the partial withdrawal as long as he/she has attempted full-time status. *Please note: to maintain scholarship eligibility, the student that partially or fully withdraws from the Fall/Spring semester(s) is still required to successfully complete 30 credits per academic year.*

## **Non-Standard Programs**

If a student plans to participate in a University-sponsored Study Abroad Program, Co-op, or any other non-standard academic program, he/she must obtain prior approval from his/her program advisor and submit that approval to OSFA. With prior approval, he/she may receive the Journalism President's Scholarship during the University-sponsored Study Abroad Program. For approved Co-op programs, the student may defer receipt of the Journalism President's Scholarship. Please be advised that if for any reason the student does not comply with program requirements, the scholarship may be canceled.

## **FAFSA**

OSFA strongly recommends the student complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) if he/she has not already done so. The FAFSA may be completed online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

## **Tax Liability**

Scholarship and grant awards that a student receives for tuition and University-wide mandatory fees are tax-free. Scholarship money that a student receives for books, supplies, equipment, and other fees may be tax free if they are required of all students in the course. Scholarship money received for room and board *is* considered taxable income. This is a general statement of the tax rules. The student's own tax liability may vary depending on his/her personal situation. Please refer to the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Publication 970, or consult tax or legal counsel for additional information. Publication 970 can be found on the IRS web site at <http://www.irs.gov>. A student can download a copy of his/her IRS 1098-T form from the Bursar's Office website each year after January 1.

## **Contact Information**

Please direct any financial aid questions or concerns to:

Office of Student Financial Aid  
0102 Lee Building  
7809 Regents Drive  
College Park, MD 20742  
(301) 314-8377  
[sfa-scholarships@umd.edu](mailto:sfa-scholarships@umd.edu)

## **Helpful resources:**

2019-2020 Registration Guide:  
[http://registrar.umd.edu/reg\\_guide\\_2019-20.pdf](http://registrar.umd.edu/reg_guide_2019-20.pdf)

2019-2020 Undergraduate Catalog:  
<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/>

University of Maryland Code of Academic Integrity:  
<http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii100a.html>

University of Maryland Repeat Policy:  
<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/>