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Chapter: Student Affairs

Modification No. 002

Subject: **Student Financial Aid**

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- I. It is the philosophy of the Board of Trustees that no student should be restricted from the privilege of attending Montgomery College because of limited financial resources. The student financial aid program at Montgomery College has been developed to act on this philosophy.
- II. The College will determine student eligibility, disburse funds in a fair and equitable manner, and administer the funds in a manner that provides for accountability.
- III. The financial aid funds, unless otherwise specified by the sponsoring agency, will be awarded on a financial need basis. The determination of financial need recognizes that parents and students are expected to contribute to educational expenses according to their means.
- IV. The president is authorized and directed to establish procedures to implement this policy.

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Board Approval: July 16, 1984; March 21, 2016.

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- I. Students seeking financial aid should complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid by March 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the academic year for which aid is requested.
- II. Once all the necessary forms and data have been received, the Office of Student Financial Aid will determine the student's eligibility for the available resources. According to established guidelines the resources are awarded and communicated to the student. The resources are awarded in a combination which will best meet the student's financial need and/or request based on eligibility and available funds.

The resources consist of one or more of the following:

- A. Loans
  - B. Grants
  - C. Scholarships
  - D. Employment
- III. The Office of Student Financial Aid is responsible for the development and maintenance of consumer information. The consumer information details procedures regarding financial aid opportunities and processes. This information is located on the College web page and in hard copy from any campus financial aid office and other appropriate offices. The Office of Student Financial Aid will also develop procedures to maintain records of scholarship donors and recipients, as well as financial aid sources and recipients and other records as required by law and good management.
  - IV. The director of Student financial aid develops office policy and procedures relevant to the administration of student financial aid at the College that ensure compliance with all federal and Maryland state laws and regulations.
    - A. The director is advised by student affairs and administrators in the development of financial aid forms and processes, including the campus directors of student financial aid, the campus deans of student affairs, the director of access, the director of enrollment services, and the College Enrollment Management Team. They will advise the director of concerns expressed by members of the College community about matters related to student financial aid.
    - B. The Professional Judgment committee consists of the three campus directors of student financial aid.

The Professional Judgment committee shall hear all student appeals as they are offered when student financial aid decisions are appealed through the procedures outlined in the Montgomery College Student Financial Aid consumer information. Students may appeal the subcommittee's recommendations to the director of student financial aid.

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Administrative Approval: July 16, 1984; April 1, 2003; March 23, 2016.