



St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce
and
Business, Education, and Community Alliance (BECA)
44200 Airport Road, Suite B, California, MD 20619
301-737-3001
<http://www.smcchamber.com/>
beca@xecu.net



COMBINED BECA / CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2006 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

IMPORTANT NOTE

Two St. Mary's County organizations, Business, Education, and Community Alliance (BECA), and the Chamber of Commerce, have worked together on their scholarship application processes to make it easier for high school graduates qualified for both to apply for these scholarships. For example, both applications are submitted to the same location and are due on the same date. Application information required by both scholarships such as official high school transcripts, recommendation letters, etc., need only be submitted once.

Please note however that not all applicants will qualify for both scholarships.

Interested applicants should study each scholarship's eligibility requirements closely (attached hereto). If you are only eligible for one, please check accordingly and follow the instructions for that particular scholarship. If you qualify for both you are strongly encouraged to apply for both scholarships and complete the required information for each one.

1. SCHOLARSHIP(S) FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING:

_____ BECA Scholarship

_____ St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

2. PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: _____ SSN: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Birth Date: _____

High School: _____

3. NAME & ADDRESS OF SCHOOL YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR OR SCHOOLS TO WHICH YOU HAVE APPLIED:

4. PLANNED MAJOR or AREA OF STUDY: _____

5. ATTACH A ONE-PAGE ESSAY (double-spaced, 12pt font, 1" margins) IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION(S) INDICATED ON EACH SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SHEET (attached hereto).
6. ATTACH AN OFFICIAL COPY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT.
7. COMPLETE REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS AS SPECIFIED FOR EACH SCHOLARSHIP (attached hereto):
8. SIGNATURES:

We certify that the above information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the applicant understands and will comply with the terms set forth by the Scholarship Awards Committees.

_____	_____
Signature of Applicant	Date

_____	_____
Signature of Parent or Guardian	Date

9. SUBMIT ALL COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGES TO:

2006 Scholarship
St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce
4200 Airport Road, Suite B
California, MD 20619

ALL COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGES MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2006.

* Late applications will not be accepted



ST. MARY'S COUNTY BUSINESS, EDUCATION,
AND COMMUNITY ALLIANCE (BECA)
c/o St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce
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2006 BECA Scholarship Guidelines

Scope of Scholarship:

BECA's goal is to award at least one scholarship to a student from each St. Mary's County High School, however funding levels and quality of applications will dictate whether this goal may be met or exceeded. Scholarships will be awarded to students based on a combination of factors including a minimum GPA of 2.5 (see *Passport* requirements), essay, and financial need.

Who may apply:

Eligible applicants include any 2006 St. Mary's County high school graduate who has received at least five (5) *Passports to the Future* during his/her high school tenure (or achieved equivalent academic, attendance, and citizenship requirements as determined by his/her high school), and plans to enroll in an accredited college, university, community college, technical or trade school in the 2006-2007 academic year. Eligible students must complete scholarship application documentation as described below. Children of BECA representatives are not eligible to apply for this scholarship. The completed application packet must include:

- Combined Scholarship Application form (attached) including signatures of applicant and parent or guardian
- One-page Essay addressing:

Why I have chosen to pursue a career in the field of ____ (specify) ____, and how my educational experience has prepared me for a future in that field?

- Official copy of High School transcript
- Letter(s) of recommendation
- Family Financial Information form (attached)
- Copy of the Student Aid Report (SAR), received after completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), if available
- College acceptance letters, if available

Completed application packets will be evaluated by the BECA Scholarship Awards Committee. Selected finalists will be called in to be interviewed by the committee. Those selected for interviews will be asked to bring and discuss their *Senior Class Portfolios*, or equivalent documentation.

Application Due Date - all applications must be received by: Friday, April 7, 2006 at the address specified in the Combined Application Form.

* Late applications will not be accepted

Finalist Interview Date: Saturday, April 22, 2006

* Awards will only be made to candidates who have been interviewed

FAMILY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Father's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Father's 2005 Annual Income before taxes: \$ _____

Mother's 2005 Annual Income before taxes: \$ _____

Applicant's 2005 Annual Income before taxes: \$ _____

All other taxable or non-taxable 2005 income not included above (including Social Security/Disability, interest, dividends, child support, etc.):

SOURCE: _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

GROSS FAMILY INCOME (total of above): \$ _____

Number of Dependents (excluding mother and father): _____

Number in Household attending college in 2006-2007 year: _____

2005 Medical & Dental expenses not paid by insurance: \$ _____

Emergency expenses (Flood damage, etc.): \$ _____

Check one: own ___ rent ___ Monthly mortgage/rent: \$ _____

Value of banking accounts/investments (CDs, stocks, bonds, savings/checking, etc.)

SOURCE: _____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

Any unusual circumstances? PLEASE EXPLAIN: _____

Note: Information disclosed remains confidential and will be used solely for the purposes of determining student eligibility for scholarship. In determining eligibility, applicants may be asked to provide copies of U.S. Income Tax returns.

OTHER FINANCIAL AID: Indicate below all federal or state financial aid and all other scholarships or financial aid that you are receiving:

NAME	AMOUNT
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce

2005/2006 Scholarship Guidelines

DESCRIPTION

The St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce is a proactive community partner in the promotion of educational opportunities for career fields important to the employment and economic needs of St. Mary's County. This scholarship program is specifically designated for students pursuing selected career fields that will contribute to St. Mary's County's future economic well-being, and accordingly, the successful candidate must demonstrate the intent to return to the St. Mary's County workforce.

The Chamber's goal is to annually award a scholarship to students seeking careers in certain technical fields offered at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center. The successful candidate must have attended the Forrest Center and must be able to produce a *Standard Certificate* verifying *completion in one of the eligible technical fields of study*. The eligible fields of study are listed on *Attachment A* to this application form, and may vary from year to year. Each scholarship will be awarded for the initial sum of \$1000. Upon request from a scholarship recipient, each scholarship awarded is subject to annual renewal, at the sole discretion of the Chamber's Board of Directors, for additional one-year awards, not to exceed a total of 4 years.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include any 2006 St. Mary's County high school graduate who:

- A. has achieved a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5;
- B. has successfully completed the 2 year program at the Forrest Center, *as evidenced by a Dr Forrest Center Standard Certificate*, in any of the eligible career fields listed on Attachment A to this application; and
- C. plans to enroll in an accredited college, university, community college, technical or trade school in the 2006-2007 academic year.

CHILDREN OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP.

APPLICATION

The completed application packet must include:

- A. Completed Combined Scholarship Application Form **(together with all attachments)**
- B. One-page essay on the following topic:

"Why I believe my pursuit of a career in the field of _____ will enable me to return to the St. Mary's County workforce and to contribute to the future and continued economic well-being of St. Mary's County"

- C. Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a Dr. Forrest Center teacher
- D. Copy of Standard Certificate from Dr. Forrest Center
- E. Letter(s) of acceptance from a continuing education institution, if available

Application deadline and mailing address are as set forth on the Combined Application Form

SELECTION

Application packages will be evaluated by the Scholarship Award Committee and scholarships will be awarded based on a consideration of a combination of factors including satisfaction of minimum application requirements, GPA, essay content, extra-curricular activities, attainment of personal goals and interview performance.

Once application packages are evaluated by the Committee, selected finalists will be contacted on or before April 17, 2006, to arrange an interview with the Committee. The Committee will endeavor to

schedule interviews during the week of April 24, 2006. The interview is mandatory for scholarship award. If selected for an interview, candidates will be required to bring and discuss their *Senior Class Portfolio*, or equivalent documentation.

Interviewed finalists will be notified of scholarship award on or before April 28, 2006.

EXHIBIT A
FORREST TECHNOLOGY CENTER
ELIGIBLE CAREER FIELDS

Allied Health
Anatomy & Physiology
Auto Refinishing and Repair
Auto Technology
Aviation
Carpentry
Computer Aided Drafting
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Diesel Tech
Electronics
Graphic Arts
Horticulture
Individual Products & Services
Masonry
Plumbing/HVAC
Residential Wiring
Sheet Metal
Video Productions
Welding