



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID
Office of the Director

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October 1, 2013

Dave Bromwell
Cambridge-South Dorchester High School
2475 Cambridge Bypass
Cambridge, MD 21613

Dear Dave Bromwell,

Many academically qualified students do not apply to college for financial reasons. Here, at the University of Maryland College Park, we are committed to make college accessible for students with high financial need. Two opportunities are through our school's Maryland Pathways program and the State of Maryland's Guaranteed Access Grant.

The Maryland Pathways program offers grant funds to cover tuition, fees, room, board and books. Qualifying students are asked to participate in Federal Work-Study to earn money to help pay for personal and incidental expenses. The Pathways program provides an affordable and a debt free education to students who otherwise would not be able to attend college.

To qualify, a student must be dependent, a Maryland Resident student and eligible for the Auto-Zero EFC calculation on the FAFSA. In general, Auto-Zero EFC families have adjusted gross incomes of \$24,000 or less and file the 1040A or 1040EZ tax return. Many qualifying families receive assistance from Welfare, Supplemental Security Income or qualify for free or reduced price school lunches.

Students with high need may also qualify for the State of Maryland's Guaranteed Access Grant (GA Grant). To qualify for the GA Grant, a student must specifically apply. The 2014-2015 GA application is available on the Maryland Higher Education Commission website, www.mhec.state.md.us. Students must apply during their senior year in high school. If they fail to do so, they cannot be considered for the GA Grant in subsequent years.

You and your counseling staff are a critical piece of the financial aid operation. Please help us provide college access to high need students by guiding them toward the resources and opportunities such as the Maryland Pathways program and State Grant programs. Enclosed is a brochure for your review. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-314-8279 or via email at sbauder@umd.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SJB'.

Sarah J. Bauder
Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Services Operations/Financial Aid