

## Maryland College Application Campaign ( MCAC)

- A state-wide effort to increase post-secondary education admission for high school seniors, providing access through the dissemination of ideas, development of practices, and technical assistance.
- The MCAC provides guidance with the tuition waiver for unaccompanied homeless youths and foster care youths, and other ways to pay for school.
- Provides support to high school seniors, particularly first-generation students, students from low-income circumstances, unaccompanied homeless youth, foster care youth, students with disabilities, students enrolled in the juvenile education system, and homeschool students to pursue post-secondary opportunities.
- Provides assistance to high school seniors with the post-secondary application process and families with the FAFSA completion and submission process.
- Support seniors and families with post-secondary options and scholarship searches.

**PREPARING FUTURE GRADUATES!**



### Maryland College Application Campaign (MCAC)

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YouTube

#MDcollegestrong

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[www.marylandpublicschools.org/mdcac](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/mdcac)

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## WHAT IS THE MCAC?

- The Maryland College Application Campaign (MCAC) is part of the American College Application Campaign (ACAC) sponsored by the ACT Center for Equity in Learning.
- It is a partnership with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and College Goal Maryland (CGMD).
- The MCAC is part of the national effort to ensure each participating high school senior submits at least **one** postsecondary application.



## WHY MCAC?

- Focuses on first-generation college students, low-income students, and others underrepresented in higher education.
- Unaccompanied Youth, Foster Care Youths, Students with Disabilities, Students in the Juvenile Education System, and students receiving Home School Instruction.
- Remove barriers that often prevent students from pursuing post-secondary opportunities.
- Combines postsecondary application and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) processes .
- Assists high school seniors with decisions to identify postsecondary opportunities that are a “good fit” academically, financially, and educationally.
- Provide support to parents with procedures for applying and paying for post-secondary opportunities.
- State-wide and nation-wide celebration for high school seniors and school participation!

## FOCUSING ON **FAFSA** & PAYING FOR SCHOOL

- Each participating site **must** host or participate in a FAFSA Completion Event.
- The MHEC and CGMD provide resources and support for:
  - ◇ **FAFSA Completion and Submission**
  - ◇ **FAFSA Completion Events**
  - ◇ **Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID**
  - ◇ **Community College Scholarships and other scholarships opportunities**
  - ◇ **Grants**
  - ◇ **FAFSA Completion Initiative**
- High schools, school systems, and certain entities may participate in the **FAFSA Completion Initiative (FCI)**. For more information contact MHEC at [fafsa.mhec@maryland.gov](mailto:fafsa.mhec@maryland.gov) or the MCAC State Coordinator.
- Schools are encouraged to work with the community college and university partners such as local community colleges admission and financial aid representatives, business leaders, the faith-based community, and the PTA. representatives, and other community



***I DID IT, I APPLIED!***