

MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST
EMERGING

Scholars

— GUIDE —

2023-2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Emerging Scholars,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on your remarkable academic achievements. We admire the unwavering dedication and commitment you have exhibited in your pursuit of academic excellence. Your unrelenting drive to attain the utmost from your educational journey as you prepare for a prosperous future is truly commendable.

At MGCCC, we understand that you aspire to excel beyond the horizons of high school, nurturing dreams of a successful and fulfilling career. Allow us to be the catalyst that propels you toward your aspirations. Our students continually strive for excellence beyond the confines of traditional education and are celebrated for their exceptional scholarly feats through a multitude of

extraordinary scholarship opportunities. It is not uncommon for our distinguished scholars to secure full-tuition transfer scholarships, prestigious scholarships for medical school, and coveted research fellowships.

Our foremost priority is to sculpt and mold the terrain of opportunities that pave the way for your resounding success. The Emerging Scholars partnership is a monumental initiative that presents students with enriching learning experiences that transcend the boundaries of traditional classrooms, encompassing scholarships, research endeavors, and invaluable internship prospects during their tenure at Gulf Coast and beyond. It is designed not only to foster academic prowess but also to commemorate the profound synergy between students, their parents, our esteemed K-12 collaborators, and MGCCC.

We extend our deepest gratitude for expressing your interest in Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and the prestigious Emerging Scholars program. We are eagerly anticipating the moment when we can officially welcome you into the Bulldog family, where your journey toward academic excellence and a promising future will truly begin.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary S. Graham'.

Dr. Mary S. Graham

Collaborating to Create Academic Champions

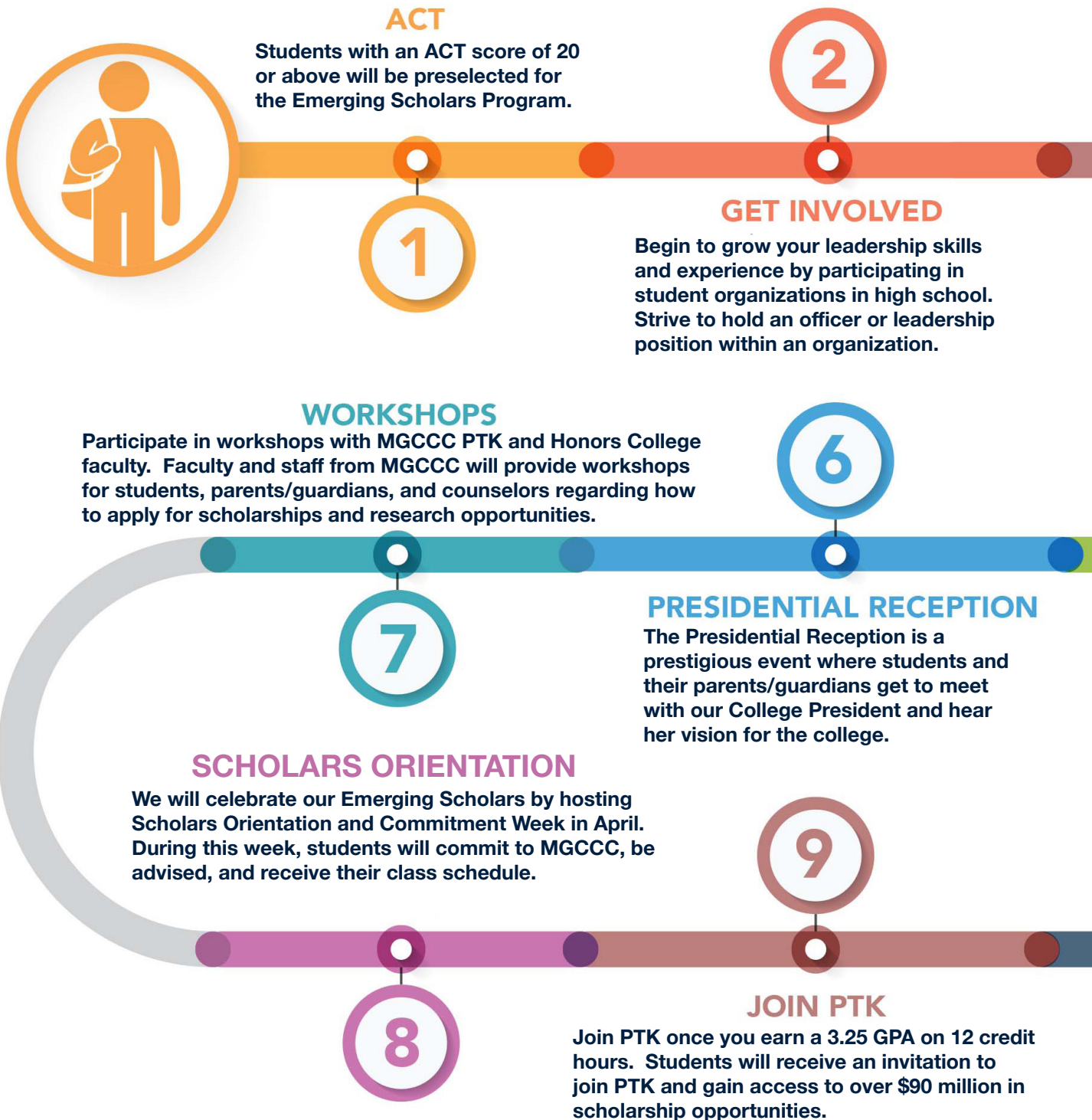
The Emerging Scholars Partnership brings MGCCC Phi Theta Kappa and Honors College advisors together with counselors, principals, parents, students, and teachers from local school districts to prepare high school and college students to reach their full potential, receive scholarships, and become academic champions.

This past spring, MGCCC graduates were awarded almost \$7.3 million in transfer scholarships. These same students also received a variety of scholarships at MGCCC, with most students paying little or no tuition for their two years at Gulf Coast.

The Emerging Scholars program will not only help school districts prepare students for opportunities to succeed through scholarships, but will provide a clearinghouse of scholarships available to students through MGCCC and for transfer after they graduate with an associate degree.



How to become an Emerging Scholar



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Participate in community service activities while in high school. Building your resumé with experience and service opportunities will become beneficial for future scholarship opportunities.

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IN THE BLUE PREVIEW

In the Blue Preview is designed to give parents and high school students an overview of what MGCCC can offer.

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APPLY FOR ADMISSIONS

Apply for admission to MGCCC after September 1, and plan a campus visit. We recommend that you begin the application process as soon as possible. MGCCC has three campus locations and each one offers a unique experience and a variety of programs.

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EMERGE AS A SCHOLAR, RESEARCHER AND UPPERCLASSMAN

Work with MGCCC PTK advisors and Honors College faculty to earn research and transfer scholarship opportunities. MGCCC students earned \$7.3 million last year in transfer scholarships!

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Academic Excellence Scholarships

MGCCC provides Academic and Residential Scholarships for full-time, first-time entering college students with qualifying ACT scores. Students must be residents of Mississippi, meet all admission requirements, and register for at least 15 hours per semester to meet eligibility requirements. To remain eligible, students must maintain the MGCCC Grade Point Average (GPA) listed below:

ACT Composite Score	29 and Above Valedictorian or Salutatorian	25-28	21-24	20
Award Amount <small>(Over two years)</small>	\$7,000	\$4,800	\$3,000	\$1,000
Award Amount <small>(Per semester)</small>	\$1,750	\$1,200	\$750	\$250
MGCCC Grade Point Average	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.5

NOTE: Superscores will not be used to award Academic Excellence Scholarships. Must show proof via official high school transcript. Students with an ACT Composite Score of 29+ or Valedictorian/Salutatorian designation are also eligible for a Residential Scholarship.

Application Process

There are no applications for these scholarships. Visit MGCCC's website for more information.

Leadership Scholarship

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Leadership Scholarship is a full-tuition scholarship open to students who, during their senior year in high school, served as Student Body President, Senior Class President, or achieved Gold Award as a Girl Scout, or Eagle rank as a Boy Scout.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

- Resident of Mississippi
- First-time student entering as a freshman
- Must have served as Student Body President or Senior Class President as a high school senior
OR
- Achieved Gold Award as a Girl Scout or Eagle rank as a Boy Scout.

Application Process

Visit mgccc.edu/leadership-scholarship to submit your scholarship application.

Maintaining Eligibility

- To remain eligible for the scholarship, student must maintain a 2.5 GPA while enrolled in 15 or more credit hours per semester.
- Scholarship is renewable for up to four consecutive semesters, including summer.

For more information, visit mgccc.edu/scholarships

New Century Skills Scholarships

Use your Career and Technical Experience at MGCCC

Did you participate in a two-year career or technical program in high school? You may be eligible to earn a New Century Skills Scholarship at MGCCC!

New Century Skills – Expert and Master Scholar Awards

These scholarships are awarded to Mississippi residents who are “first-time to enter college” freshmen, have a high-school diploma, and have completed a two-year secondary CTE program OR placed first, second, or third in a state or national competition.

	GPA	Award Amount Over Two Years
Expert Scholar	3.0-3.49	\$3,300 \$825 Per Semester
Master Scholar	3.5-4.0	\$6,600 \$1650 Per Semester

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

- High school graduates with overall G.P.A. of 3.0 – 4.0
- First-time student entering as a freshman
- Completed a two-year secondary CTE program OR placed first, second or third in state or national competition *See qualifying organizations at: www.mdek12.org/CTE/SO
- Resident of Mississippi as determined by admission policies

Application Process

Students must meet the eligibility requirements listed above, be admitted to MGCCC, submit a scholarship application, and have their GPA verified in order to qualify for the New Century Skills Scholarship.

Acceptance

New Century Skills Scholarships are not stackable with Academic Excellence Scholarships, but may be stacked with one additional institutional scholarship in all other categories (athletic, performance and service, honors, housing, etc.). Students may enroll in any academic or technical program of their choice.

Maintaining Eligibility

The scholarship is renewable for up to four consecutive semesters.

- Student must be enrolled in and complete a minimum of 15 credit hours each semester.
- Student must maintain a 2.5 cumulative G.P.A. or higher.

For more information, visit mgccc.edu/scholarships

HONORS COLLEGE

Founded at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in 1987, the Honors College offers special courses and activities, along with \$2,000-per-year scholarships, to academically talented students. Nearly 150 students participate in the Honors College at MGCCC's Jackson County, Harrison County, and Perkinston campuses, and the George County Center.

The Honors College calls for students who possess a high intellect and enthusiasm for learning and an excellent potential for growth and development. Participants also share a concern for world issues, like the environment, politics, crises, and ethics. For a select number of students, the program provides academic as well as financial opportunities.

Admission Process

Admission to the Honors Program is based on an ACT score of 25 or better, and either faculty recommendations or class ranking.





Honors College Benefits

Eligible students receive the following:

- \$2,000 per year academic tuition scholarship
- Priority registration
- Seminar/study room
- Sessions with MGCCC's President
- Enhanced opportunities for transfer scholarships
- Honors housing placement (Perkinston Campus only)*

**Admission to the Honors College is not required for an Honors housing placement.*

Maintaining Eligibility

Students must complete seven hours of Honors credit courses per semester and maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2 with no grade lower than a C and an Honors forum.

Apply to the Honors Program

Students who wish to participate in the program must complete an application, attend an interview with an Honors College Director, and meet the appropriate criteria. For more information about criteria and the application process, visit mgccc.edu/honors.

For more information, visit mgccc.edu/honors.

PHI THETA KAPPA



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY



Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society has helped millions of high-achieving college students reach their full potential. Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) recognizes academic success and provides students with opportunities to develop professional and leadership skills, earn scholarships, and explore career paths.

What is Phi Theta Kappa?

PTK is an international scholastic and leadership honor society for two-year colleges. The Gamma Nu chapter at the Perkinson Campus, Omicron Alpha chapter at the Harrison County Campus, Pi Epsilon chapter at the Jackson County Campus, and Beta Tau Eta chapter at the George County Center require a 3.25 GPA on 12 credit hours before being eligible to join.

PTK is designed to encourage and recognize two-year college students for their academic achievements and success. PTK gives students the opportunity to enhance their leadership and service skills while earning thousands of dollars in scholarships. In addition, PTK builds fellowship with other members as well as the advisors.

Why Join PTK at MGCCC?

- Members have a 91 percent student success rate, which is true across all races and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Access to \$246 million in transfer scholarships through its 843 four-year college and university partners.
- Awards specifically for career-bound students, including some field-specific opportunities that cover the cost of certification exam fees.
- Leadership and service experiences that will boost your resumé, making you more competitive for both PTK and non-PTK scholarships.



Learn more about why community college is a smart way to start at www.ccsmart.org.

Scholarships that students at MGCCC are eligible to receive through PTK:

- Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise - \$1,000
- Coca-Cola Academic Team - \$1,000 - \$1,500
- All-USA Academic Team - \$5,000
- Coca-Cola New Century Scholar - up to full tuition
- Coca-Cola New Century Workforce Scholar - \$1,250
- GEICO Pathway to Completion Scholar - \$1,500
- Tennessee Valley Authority Scholar - \$2,250
- Pearson Scholar - \$5,000
- Guistwhite Scholar - \$5,000
- Hites Scholar - \$7,500
- Jack Kent Cooke Scholar - \$40,000

In addition to these scholarships, Mississippi universities offer an average between \$8,000 and \$16,000 in scholarships (over two years) to PTK students.*

*Information adapted from ptk.org and partners

TOP SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



BRELAND GRAVES
Leaders of Promise
Scholar



RIDGE MATHEWS
Jack Kent Cooke
Transfer Scholar
Leaders of Promise
Scholar



EMILY MONTGOMERY
Leaders of Promise
Scholar



**WILLIAM SKY
PAULK**
Leaders of Promise
Scholar



CALEB RAULERSON
Leaders of Promise
Scholar



ANNA TAYLOR
Coca-Cola Academic
Bronze Team Scholar



ANNA VALENZUELA
Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholar
Coca-Cola Academic Gold Team Scholar
Leaders of Promise Scholar



RACHEL VIVIAN
Coca-Cola Academic
Gold Team Scholar

STATE-SUPPORTED SCHOLARSHIPS

Emerging Scholars at MGCCC become eligible for a variety of state-supported teaching, research, and post-graduate opportunities. Students will work with Gulf Coast faculty, staff, and administration to prepare and apply for research fellowships and scholarships.



Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Scholar

- Designed to attract the top performing students to teacher education programs with full scholarships and professional incentives.
- Designed to create a unique “honors college style” learning experience for high-achieving education students and promote collaboration between students and faculty.
- Pays full tuition and fees, a room and board allowance, and up to \$1,000 reimbursement for a laptop.



Mississippi INBRE Research Scholar

- Mississippi IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence.
- The Mississippi INBRE Research Scholars program is an 11-week summer research internship for undergraduate students.
- Mississippi INBRE Research Scholars will receive an award of \$4,500.



Mississippi Rural Physician Scholar

- Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.0 BCPM (biology, chemistry, physics and math) GPA and cumulative GPA in order to apply.
- MRPS seeks candidates with a demonstrated history of volunteerism, excellent time management skills, strong work ethic, leadership skills, and initiative.
- The scholarship awards \$30,000 per year.
- May receive as much as \$120,000 to cover medical school.

Excelerate in STEM Scholarship

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the Excelerate in STEM scholarship program will award up to \$4,500 per academic year to STEM students who demonstrate financial need.

Memorial Hospital at Gulfport Scholarship

The alliance between Memorial Hospital and MGCCC is designed to offer scholarship funding that will provide opportunities for students that enter the health care field and support the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Memorial Hospital at Gulfport Scholarship will award between \$2,500 to \$5,000 per academic year.

Chevron Scholarship

The Chevron Scholarship is available to residents of Jackson, Harrison, Stone, and George counties enrolled in Process Operations Technology, Instrumentation and Controls Technology, Precision Manufacturing and Machining Technology, Welding Technology, or any of the three Mississippi State University Engineering on the Coast programs. Scholarship amounts will be \$1,000 per award, and students can receive a \$500 renewal scholarship if they sustain a 3.0 or higher GPA.

Finish Strong Scholarship

Awarded to sophomores (30+ hours) based on financial need. Scholarships awarded will be \$1,000 per academic year.

Mississippi Power Heritage Scholarship

The Mississippi Power Heritage Scholarship will be awarded to a diverse group of students enrolling or currently enrolled in Apprentice Electric Lineman, Automotive Technology, Electrical Technology, or Process Operations Technology. Scholarships awarded will range from \$500 to \$3,000 per academic year.

GET THE TUITION ASSISTANCE YOU NEED!

APPLY FOR A FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP TODAY!





30 CAREER TECH STUDENTS NAMED METALLICA SCHOLARS



EXCELERATE IN STEM SCHOLARS GATHER AT SUMMIT

MGCCC STUDENTS SELECTED FOR CISCO DREAM TEAM



Clyde Thompson was chosen in December 2022 to provide networking support for the Super Bowl LVII event and broadcast on February 12. He and one other student were selected out of thousands of students to attend the event in Glendale, Arizona.

Thompson is a dual major in Computer Networking and Cybersecurity at the Harrison County Campus.



Diane Lopez-Martell of Gulfport was chosen to be one of only two students among thousands of applicants from across the U.S. to be awarded the honor of serving on the Cisco Dream Team for the 123rd U.S. Open Championship.

She is working on completing her Data Analytics and Computer Programming degrees.



James Walker, a Computer Networking major at the Harrison County Campus, was selected in 2022 for the Cisco Live 2022 Dream Team. He was one of only nine students selected out of thousands from all over the U.S. and Canada.

The team helped provide networking support for the Cisco Live Conference held in Las Vegas in April 2022 with more than 15,000 attendees.

**PHI THETA
KAPPA**

*Emerging
Scholars*
MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

**HONORS
COLLEGE**

*Emerging
Scholars*
MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

**ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE**

*Emerging
Scholars*
MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

**TEACHING
& RESEARCH**

*Emerging
Scholars*
MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

**For more information about Emerging Scholars,
please contact the Office of Recruitment
recruiting@mgccc.edu or 228-896-2536.**