



January 2015

Nearly half of MCC students graduate without debt. At \$1,708 per semester (full-time, in-state rate), MCC’s tuition is the second lowest in the SUNY system and yet financial assistance is our students’ greatest need. For the first time, in 2013-2014, more than \$1 million in scholarships funded through private philanthropy was awarded to MCC students. President Obama’s recently announced “America’s College Promise” aims to increase access to higher education for students who meet requirements and show progress toward completion in programs that transfer or lead to careers in demand by local employers. As the national discussion continues, MCC will keep its stakeholders informed.

Affordability, Scholarships Help Students Complete Their Goals



Cyan Montz will graduate from MCC with an associate degree in engineering science in May 2015. This young mother and full-

time student is focused on transferring to the University of Rochester in the fall and pursuing a career in biomedical engineering. Her goal is to work in

pharmaceutical and cancer research.

One of the reasons Cyan chose MCC in 2013, after attending a four-year college and taking a semester off, was its affordability. “I don’t want to graduate in debt,” she says. “I have a lot riding on my education. I have to get a place for a whole family.”

Receiving a Xerox STEM Scholarship in 2014 has helped Cyan cover tuition and work fewer hours at her part-

time job at The Strong. She believes a college education will result in a career she loves instead of a job that may not provide for her and her family.

“Students are grateful for the price of MCC,” she says.

Outreach and Student Loan Counseling Result in Fewer Defaults



According to credit bureau Experian as reported by CNN, 40 million Americans now have at least

one outstanding student loan, pushing the nationwide student loan debt to an all-time record of \$1.2 trillion.

At MCC, student loan counseling,

increased outreach regarding financial literacy and stricter financial aid application deadlines have resulted in more than 2,000 students using a payment plan and a 4 percent decrease in the amount of unpaid tuition and fees sent to collections during the past year.

Nearly half of MCC students graduate debt-free. Those who do rely on student loans owe an average of \$6,866 after completing their studies at MCC.

ESTIMATED COST OF AN MCC EDUCATION

Depending on a student’s housing choice, the actual cost of an MCC education is approximately \$11,000 to \$16,000 per year. The breakdown below reflects the estimated annual cost of attending MCC:

Tuition	\$3,416
Fees	\$356
Books/Supplies	\$1,200
Transportation	\$1,500
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$1,200
Housing & Food	\$3,500 - \$8,500



MCC Offers a Strong Start towards Bachelor's Degree

Having a college credential is critical to employability and starting a career in our region. MCC's low tuition and financial aid opportunities make earning a college degree and/or certificate even more affordable. Completing the first two years of study at MCC can save students up to 80% of the total cost of a bachelor's degree and put them on the right path to complete their degrees on time with fewer loans.

	MCC for 2 Years + SUNY 4-Year College for 2 Years	MCC for 2 Years + Private 4-Year College for 2 Years
Estimated Cost* (over 4 years)	\$46,858	\$88,498
Estimated Savings (over 4 years)	\$31,102	\$72,742
*includes tuition, fees, room and board		

Save for Success Opens Doors to College

Members of the first cohort of Save for Success scholars completed the fall semester and received matching grants of \$3,000 to continue their studies.

A collaboration of MCC, ESL Federal Credit Union and PathStone Corporation, the Save for Success program provides low-income students with an 8-to-1 matching education grant, as well as ongoing financial and life skills counseling. The program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and by private supporters. Save for Success will provide a total of \$400,000 in matching financial support to students over the next five years.

High School Students Earn College Credits at No Cost

Launched in fall 2014, MCC's Inspiring Every Day scholarship program provides a jump-start on a college education for economically disadvantaged high school students across six counties. Students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch, and who take MCC dual enrollment courses at their high school or BOCES site, are eligible for the scholarship. More than 800 students participated during the fall 2014 semester.

The scholarship covers MCC tuition and fees for the semester and enables students to earn transferrable college credits while still in high school. Upon graduation, students can use earned credits to accelerate their studies at MCC or at other colleges and



universities. Research has shown that high school students who complete college coursework are more likely to graduate from high school and continue their college studies.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS SURPASS \$1 MILLION

Through its *Every Bright Future Needs a Strong Foundation* campaign, the Monroe Community College Foundation makes funding of student scholarships its primary focus. In 2013-2014, 731 scholarships totaling more than \$1 million were awarded to MCC students. This past fall, the scholarship application process was made completely accessible online for students and families (www.monroecc.edu/go/scholarships). The college and foundation's shared vision ensures students have access to the scholarship support needed to complete their educational goals.

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