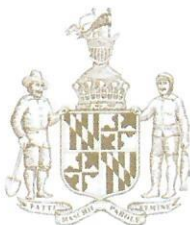


JOANNE C. BENSON
Legislative District 24
Prince George's County

MAJORITY WHIP



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Budget and Taxation Committee

Education, Business and
Administration Subcommittee

Pensions Subcommittee

Joint Committees

Audit and Evaluation Committee

Children, Youth, and Families

Ending Homelessness

Fair Practices and
State Personnel Oversight

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 2024

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in a Senatorial Scholarship. I am pleased that you have decided to pursue further education. Senatorial Scholarships are one of the aid programs available through the State of Maryland. For information on other programs, you may want to check the website of the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC).

Since scholarship awards are based primarily on financial need, you are required to have a current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filed. **The deadline for filing the FAFSA is March 1, 2024.** However, MHEC has extended the Maryland financial aid deadline to submit the 2024-2025 FAFSA to **June 1, 2024.** Once you have submitted a FAFSA, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) which can be obtained by going to www.fafsa.ed.gov.

MHEC requires a student profile. It will be used to contact you regarding scholarship awards. See the login procedures found via www.mdcaps.mhec.state.md.us.

Senatorial Scholarships are awarded to students for academic programs in Maryland schools unless a degree in a "unique major" is only available at an out-of-state school. The Office of Student Financial Assistance must verify that your major qualifies. If you plan to pursue such a course of study, a copy of that office's verification letter must accompany your application to us. Please **note that the verification process takes up to 8 weeks. If you are unsure of your district, you can find it at:** <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>.

Please complete the enclosed application and return it to my office along with the required supporting documents in a mailing **postmarked by June 3, 2024. If you miss this deadline, you must re-apply in January 2025.** You may also want to be in touch with District 24's Delegates to make inquiries about applying for their scholarships. Contact information for your Maryland Delegates is available via www.mdelect.net.

I look forward to receiving your application. If you have any questions, please contact our office via email at: CBingham@senate.state.md.us.

Sincerely,

Joanne C. Benson

Joanne C. Benson