

Frequently asked questions about the MVP Scholarship

About MVP

What is MVP?

- The Multicultural Vision Program (MVP) Award grants one hundred scholarships in the amount of tuition (up to eight semesters) to incoming first-year students who are new direct-from-high school students, who are U.S. Citizens or permanent residents, residents of the state of Iowa and identify as: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black/African American, Asian American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latinx, or Multiracial on the application for undergraduate admission; or who have participated in a federally funded Educational Talent Search or Upward Bound program. Students will also demonstrate academic potential in ways that go beyond class ranking or test scores.

Does the scholarship apply for the summer?

- No. The eight semesters are only for fall and spring.

Does the scholarship apply if I study abroad?

- Yes! The scholarship will apply towards the tuition associated with study abroad if the study abroad program is billed normal tuition through Iowa State, such as exchange programs. Some programs are charged differently and do not count as Iowa State tuition, so explore available options before committing.
- If you consider studying abroad, also remember the MVP scholarship does not apply in the summer and would only cover study abroad during the regular academic year.

What are the eligibility requirements for MVP?

- To be eligible for the MVP scholarship, prospective students must:
 - Be a new, direct, out-of-high school student.
 - Prospective students who have been out of high school for over a year and have not gone to college are not eligible.
 - Transfer students are not eligible.
 - Be a resident of the state of Iowa and a US Citizen or Permanent Resident.
 - Students who identify as undocumented or as Deferred Action for Early Childhood Arrivals (DACA) are not eligible for the scholarship.
 - Students who recently moved to Iowa in the last year will need to contact the Registrar's Office to discuss residency eligibility (515-294-0767).
 - Be admissible to Iowa State University.

- Identify as American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black/African American, Asian American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latinx, or Multiracial
- Demonstrate financial need based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Have faced personal and/or financial challenges or hardships

What are the requirements to keep the MVP Scholarship?

- Maintain full-time enrollment (12-credits per semester)
- Complete twenty-four (24) new credit hours each academic year
- File the FAFSA each year by the priority deadline: December 1st
- Maintain a 2.00 cumulative Grade Point Average or higher at Iowa State University
- Enroll in and earn a passing grade in U ST 101B in your first Fall Semester and in U ST 102A in your first Spring Semester

Can I extend the MVP scholarship for a 5th year?

- Students may only have their scholarship extended for a 5th year if they are in the Architecture or Landscape Architecture program. Students must be admitted in that major from their first year and maintain enrollment in the major during their time at ISU.

Will my MVP scholarship extend to graduate school if I decide to enroll in graduate school at Iowa State?

- No. The MVP scholarship is specifically for undergraduate tuition only.

About MVP Applications

Where can I go to apply for the scholarship?

- Send them to the MSA website. Have them hover over the Scholarship Programs tab, select Multicultural Vision Program, and then Future MVP Students and MVP Application. When the link is active, they will be able to apply.

Do I need to fill out the FAFSA?

- Yes. As part of the eligibility to be rewarded the scholarship, you need to complete the FAFSA for the 2022-2023 year. The priority deadline for the FAFSA and the date of submission we require for MVP is December 1st, 2021. FAFSA becomes available on October 1st.

“I just learned about this scholarship. Can I still apply?”

- Provide ‘yes’ or ‘no’ response based on date of inquiry. If before December 1, notify them that the application deadline is on December 1, 2021 if they would like to be considered.

When will I be notified if I got the MVP scholarship or not?

- Award Notification will be made in early spring 2022 semester.

How does FAFSA affect this scholarship?

- MVP is a financial need-based scholarship. The FAFSA determines how much financial need a student has according to various factors such as family size, household income, number of members going to college, cost of attendance at the school of your choice, etc.
- If they have questions about their financial situation or status, transfer them to the Office of Financial Aid at: 515-294-2223.

Are there any options for MVP scholars to have help paying for room and board?

- Not through MVP, however, students can utilize other financial aid sources to cover these expenses such as non-tuition scholarship, grants, and loans.
- Recommend students look at the Financial Aid website for available options – <https://www.financialaid.iastate.edu/>, or call Financial Aid at 515-294-2223.

How does the MVP scholarship work with taking classes at community colleges while still taking classes at Iowa State?

- The MVP scholarship can only be used for Iowa State University tuition. Any expenses incurred from community college classes will be the responsibility of the student (and family).
- Students may take courses at both places; however, community college credits will count as transfer credits, and may not apply to Iowa State courses/credits. Reach out to your academic advisor for additional information.

How are MVP scholars selected?

- Scholars are selected based on a review of their application materials.

Can I move in earlier than the scheduled move-in date?

- Students will need to contact the Department of Residence to discuss this possibility (515-294-2900).

Is there a way that I cannot live in a residence hall and still get the MVP Scholarship? (i.e. student athletes may be required to live in Fredrickson Court, health concerns, family is local, etc.).

- Yes. They will need their parent or guardian to send a letter to the MSA office stating the reason their student needs to live out of the residence halls.

I already signed a lease for an apartment because I didn't realize there was a requirement to live in a residence hall or a sorority/fraternity my first year. Am I still eligible for the scholarship?

- Yes, this is okay. Make sure Aiden is aware of the student's living arrangements.

New Current first-year students

Do I have to enroll in the listed courses mentioned?

- Yes. U ST 101B and U ST 102A are mandatory requirements for the scholarship. Scholars must enroll in and successfully pass both courses. Send them to this link for a description of the two courses: <http://catalog.iastate.edu/azcourses/>.

When do I sign up for the University Studies class that MVP students have to take during their first semester?

Students will sign up during summer orientation. Students should let their academic advisor know that they are an MVP Scholar and need to sign up for U ST 101B for the fall semester.

When is the MVP orientation?

- MVP Orientation is on Wednesday the week before school starts (August 18, 2021).
- The MVP Orientation is one of the required and mandatory events to keep the scholarship.
- Location and Time TBD.

Are all events mandatory?

- Not all events are mandatory but are highly encouraged. MVP staff will communicate what events are required.
- When there is a mandatory event, if a student is unable to attend due to illness or other emergencies or issues, it needs to be communicated/approved by Aiden, depending on the situation.

Which MVP class do I sign up for during spring semester?

- The class is U ST 102A and it is mandatory for all MVP scholars to take

“I fell below the 2.00 GPA requirement. Will I lose my scholarship?”

- First semester students will not lose their scholarship unless they have failed the MVP course U ST 101B.
- Students who fall below the 2.00 GPA requirement during the first semester will need to schedule a meeting with Aiden during the first 2 weeks of the Spring semester to talk about an action plan.

MVP Appeals

“I fell below the 2.00 GPA requirement for MVP. Will I lose my scholarship?”

- One of the requirements to maintain the scholarship is to maintain a 2.00 cumulative GPA. If a student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.00, they have the opportunity to appeal.

“How can I get my scholarship back?”

- Students may apply for an MVP scholarship appeal on our website at: <https://www.multicultural.dso.iastate.edu/programs/appeal>
- Scholarship Appeals are due in January for Fall semester appeals, and June for Spring semester appeals. All students will receive more information about exact appeal deadlines each semester.

“Can I save my application and come back to it later?”

- No, the system currently does not have that capability
- You will need to have all submissions items ready to send prior to completing the appeal application. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted.