

Moorpark College Foundation Scholarship Workshop

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Fall 2025

Moorpark College Foundation

SCHOLARSHIPS
ONE
APPLICATION=
120+
OPPORTUNITIES!



Awards:
\$500-\$2,000

Application Open
Dec. 1-Jan. 31



bit.ly/mc_so

Workshop Overview



What are scholarships?



Moorpark College Foundation Scholarships



Timeline



Application Overview: Breakdown by sections



What you can do to prep



What are Scholarships?

Financial Aid vs. Scholarships

- **Financial Aid:** Publicly funded. Can be grants or loans. Apply through FAFSA/CADAA.
- **Scholarships:** Privately funded. Never have to be repaid. Applications vary.
- You can get both!

On-Campus vs. Off-Campus Scholarships

- **On-Campus scholarships** refer to a scholarship or program specific to a college/university.
- **Off-Campus scholarships** are not specific to a college or university. Usually, funds come from an external organization.

Am I eligible for scholarships?

- Yes!
- It is important to find opportunities that are right for you.

Moorpark College Foundation Scholarships



How It Works

- One application → automatically matched to all scholarships you qualify for.
- This is our on-campus scholarship program, exclusive to MC students.



Who Can Apply

- Admitted, continuing, or transferring MC students.
- Applications available on an annual basis.

Important Dates

- Application Open: December 1, 2025
- Application Close: January 31, 2026
- Awards for Fall 2026 – Spring 2027
- No late submissions or deadline extensions.

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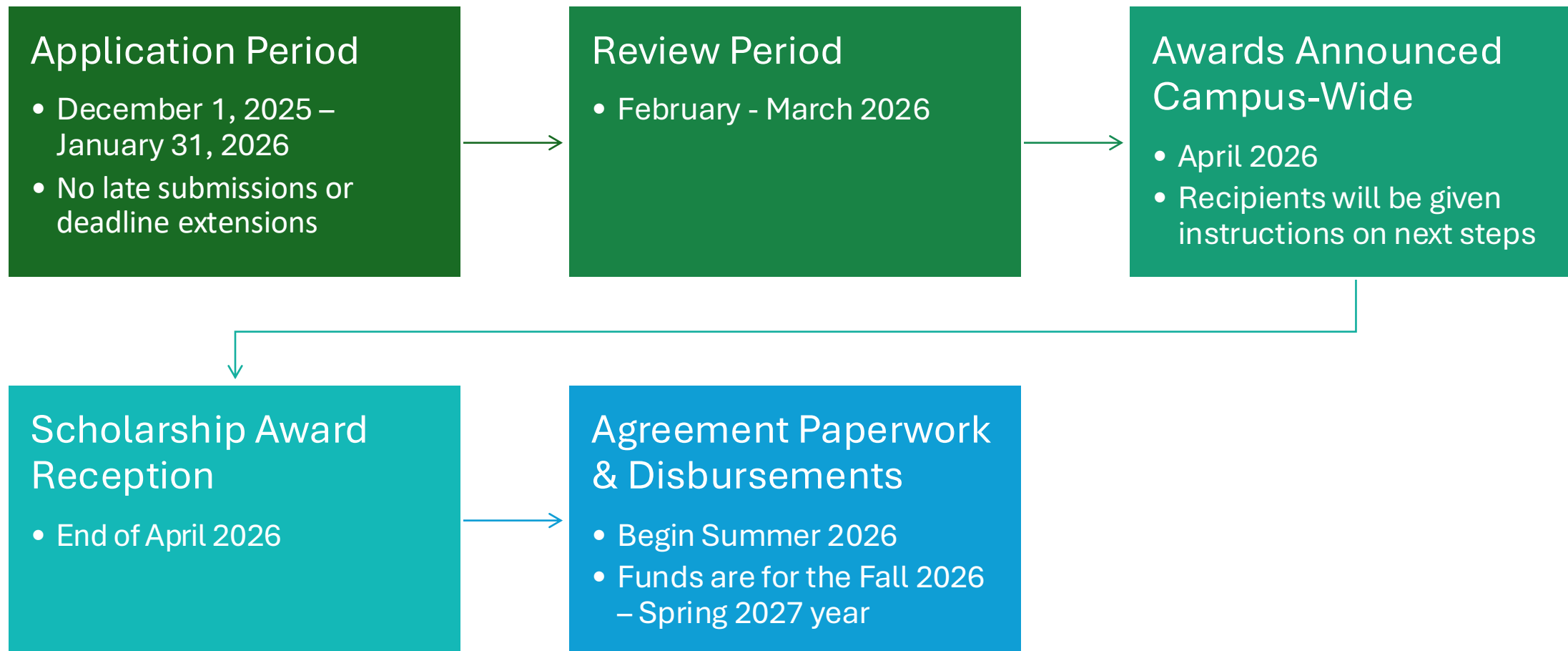
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MCF Scholarship Timeline



Application Overview: Sections



Questionnaire

Multiple choice & Yes/No questions.

Major & Field of Study.

Status questions:
continuing, transferring,
full-time, part-time.



Transcript

Unofficial transcript.
Confirmation of GPA.



References

Enter name and email.
Your reference gets a link
to fill out the
recommendation.



Essays

5 Mandatory essays, 300
word maximums each.
Also includes Optional
Essays.



Application Overview: Questionnaire

Major

- Pick your field of study from a list.
- If you have two majors, list the most relevant one.
- If you're unsure, ask Cristy.

Student Status *(for 2026–2027, not your current year)*

- **Bachelor at MC:** You are starting or continuing a Bachelor's program at Moorpark College.
- **Continuing:** You are staying at Moorpark College but not in a Bachelor's program.
- **Transferring:** You will move to a 4-year college or university in Fall 2026 or Spring 2027.

Enrollment Status

- **Full-time:** Usually 12 or more units per semester. *(Some programs count fewer units as full-time.)*
- **Part-time:** Fewer units than full-time for your program.

Major-Specific Questions

- Some questions only apply to certain majors.
- Read them carefully, but it's okay if most answers are “no.”



Application Overview: Transcript

How do I get my transcript?

- You'll upload your unofficial transcript from your MyVCCCD portal
- Step-by-step instructions are in the application and online guide
- Use a transcript that includes your final Fall 2025 grades

What to look at

- **Overall GPA** → the GPA you'll report on the application
- **Overall Earned Hours** → how many units you've completed

GPA Requirements

- Some scholarships have a minimum GPA (usually 2.5–3.0)
- Others don't require a GPA at all

Everyone is encouraged to apply, no matter your GPA!



Application Overview: References

Reference & Recommenders

- You need at least 1 reference from someone in an academic or professional setting (professor, counselor, supervisor, coworker, community leaders).
- You can list up to 3 references— more is better!

Process

- Enter your reference's name + email in the application.
- They'll get an email with instructions and a special link.
- References complete a short survey and (optionally) upload a letter of recommendation.
- Your application can be submitted before references are finished.
- **References deadline: February 4, 2026.**

Suggestions

- Ask early (at least 2 weeks' notice).
- Consider listing 2–3 references to strengthen your application.
- Check in with references to make sure they submit on time.



Rita Book (MC Student)



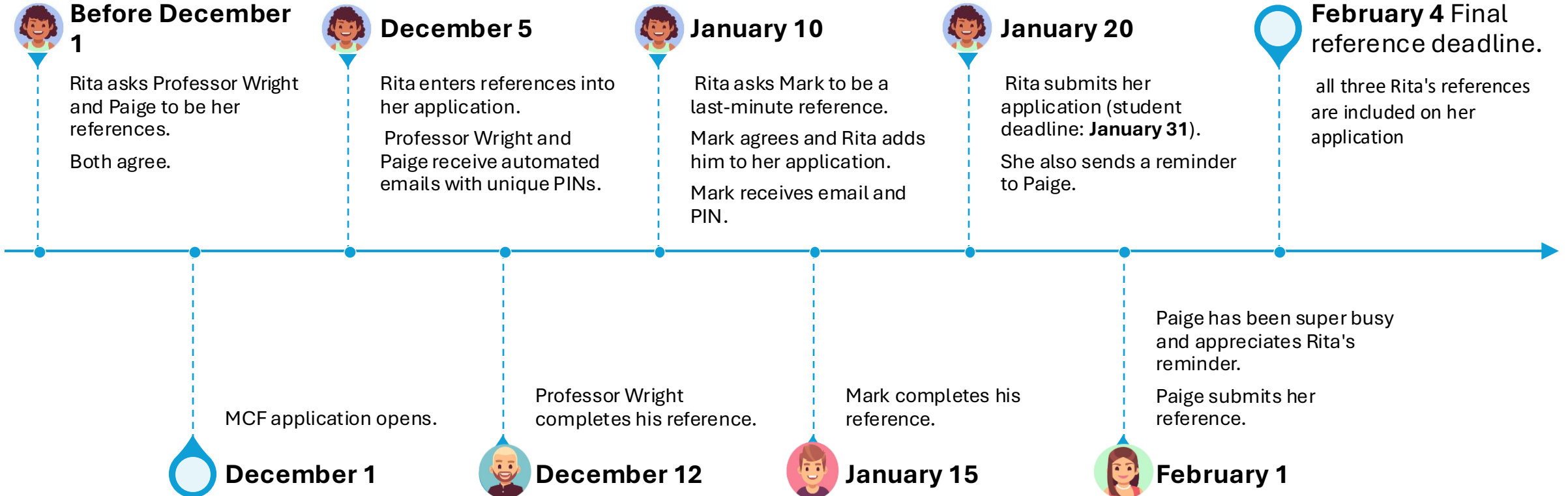
Professor Wright
(Rita's instructor)



Paige (Rita's Boss)



Mark (Volunteer Organizer)



Application Overview: Mandatory Essays



Requirements

- 5 essays
- 300 word max each
- The same for every applicant
- All review committees have access to these essays

Tips

- Start drafting early
- Write your essays in a **separate document first**, then copy and paste them into the application fields.
- Get feedback at the Scholarship Office or the Writing Center

1. Educational Goals Essay

- Explain the relationship between your academic pursuits and career ambitions. What have you already accomplished, and what do you envision for your future?

2. Campus Activities Essay

- Describe your involvement in campus life and its impact on your overall experience. What has it meant to you?

3. Community Service Essay

- Describe your experience with community service. How has this involvement shaped your personal or professional aspirations?

4. Financial Need Essay

- Tell us about a financial challenge you've faced during your education and how it has influenced your approach to your studies.

5. Scholarship Impact Essay

- How would receiving this scholarship affect your educational journey? Please share your thoughts.

Application Overview: Optional Essays



Optional Essays

- Some scholarships require extra essays.
- Only reviewed for those specific awards.
- Prompts are usually very specific.
- Answer as many or as few as you like. No penalty for skipping.
- You still must meet other eligibility requirements (GPA, major, etc.).

Examples of Scholarships with Optional Essays

- **ASMC Mental Health Matters Scholarship:** Any major, No GPA requirement, Must be enrolled in at least 3 units.
- **Clean Power Alliance Voyager Scholarship:** For certain STEM majors, 2.5+ GPA
- **Bruce Garber Legacy Scholarship:** Any major, 3.2+ GPA

What you can do to prep



Read the Scholarship Guide Online

- See what you can expect
- bit.ly/mc_so or scan the QR code

Draft your essays

- Prompts are in the online guide
- Get feedback at the Writing Center

Ask for references early

- Give them time to prepare, at least 2 weeks notice

If you have questions, contact the Scholarship Office

- Cristy, Scholarship Tech.
- Fountain Hall 210-C
- mcscholar@vcccd.edu
- (805) 378-1418
- www.moorparkcollege.edu/scholarship

