

Getting Started at MC

1 Investigate Financial Assistance

Contact a campus Financial Aid Office for information, applications, and procedures. Financial aid discussions are most productive prior to application, but are helpful at any time. Check the Financial Aid Web page at <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/finaid>.

2 Apply for Admission

You are eligible to attend Montgomery College if:

- You are a graduate of a secondary school or
- You have successfully completed the high school GED or
- You meet the early placement requirements and can benefit from the programs and services of the College.

You may apply online at <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/Admissions/signature.html> or may use a printed application form available at <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/Admissions/signature.html>. Mailed applications should be sent to the Admissions and Records Office of any campus. A \$25 nonrefundable application fee will be charged. International and early placement students should apply by mail or in-person only. Online and mailed applications are normally processed within two workdays of receipt; in-person applications are processed immediately.

Returning Students

If you have ever been admitted to Montgomery College as a credit student you do not need to reapply; however, you should contact the Admissions and Records Office at the campus you plan to attend to update your personal information prior to registration.

Students Transferring to Montgomery College

Submit the Admission Application and an official transcript from your prior school. Keep an unofficial copy of your transcript for advising purposes.

Visiting Students from Other Colleges

You must first apply for credit admission. If you plan to take courses to transfer back to your current college or university you should obtain a "permission to enroll" form or similar document from your home college or university to guarantee that your MC credits will be accepted toward your graduation requirements.

No High School Diploma?

Adults

If you have been out of high school for at least three years and do not have a high school diploma or GED you may still enroll for up to six credits per term.

Early Placement—Still in High School

If you are in high school and will not graduate prior to your first semester at Montgomery College follow the early placement procedures. See <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/Others/earlyplacementprogram> or call 301-279-5000 (New: 240-567-5000).

Under Age

If under the age of 16, your parent(s) should contact the Office of the Dean of Student Development at the campus you plan to attend. If initially approved by the Dean, you should then follow the early placement procedures described at the website above.

Residency for Tuition Purposes

Montgomery College charges tuition and fees at three levels: in-county, in-state and non-resident. Generally, students who are "domiciled" in Montgomery County for three months are entitled to in-county rates. Exceptions are made for some groups, including active duty U.S. military. See <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/verified/pnp/45003.doc> or Catalog Appendix A for details. Appeals for changes of residency classification must be accompanied by evidence justifying such change and must be processed prior to the end of the THIRD WEEK of classes. Any changes processed after the THIRD WEEK of classes will be effective the following semester.

Articulation (Transfer) Agreements

To assist students in smooth transfer, Montgomery College and many colleges and universities have developed articulation agreements. These agreements detail curricula and policies that permit students to undertake associate's degrees at MC and complete bachelor's degrees at a four-year institution without loss of credit.

Schools with which Montgomery College maintains articulation agreements include:

- The University of Maryland System
- Howard University
- Trinity College
- George Washington University
- Johns Hopkins University School of Continuing Studies
- Catholic University Metropolitan College
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Middlebury College
- Hood College

Montgomery College and Hood College have a unique agreement which will allow students to complete an associate's degree at MC and a bachelor's and master's degrees at Hood in five years of full-time study. Some Montgomery College students may be eligible to enroll for one course free of charge at Hood College. If you have questions about these agreements, please call the Career/Transfer centers at Germantown, 301-353-7772 (New: 240-567-7772); Rockville 301-279-5062 (New: 240-567-5062); and Takoma Park/Silver Spring, 301-650-1479 (New: 240-567-1479) or go to the Web site: <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/departments/studev/articulations.htm>.

Advanced Standing

Credit Transfer

Students who have earned college credit for courses at other institutions and who intend to earn a certificate or degree at Montgomery College may receive transfer credit. Transcripts should be mailed from the sending institutions to any MC campus Admissions and Records Offices. If a transcript is hand-carried, it must be in a sealed envelope. **Transcripts are evaluated only for degree-seeking students at MC. Unofficial transcripts or grade reports may be used by advisors for registration purposes.**

Students seeking advanced standing credit for coursework completed outside of the U.S. must have a full evaluation completed by an independent, accredited credentialing service. This evaluation must then be forwarded directly from the service provider to the Office of Admissions and Records at the campus you plan to attend. The College will then determine the credit to be awarded and will notify the student.

To assure evaluation prior to the start of the semester/term, documents must be received by:

- April 2 for summer
- July 2 for fall
- November 1 for spring

Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Exams

Montgomery College awards credit for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Exams. For details, go to <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/advstanding.html>. Students should submit to the Office of Admissions and Records an official record of an appropriate score on any Advanced Placement Examination or International Baccalaureate Examination taken in high school.

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

CLEP tests are solely computer-based. MC requires both a general CLEP registration form and an MC-specific form. These forms and FAQs are available by sending an e-mail to clep@montgomerycollege.edu. A shorter list of FAQs are available by calling the MC CLEP line at 301-444-1808 (New: 240-567-1808).

MC's test site is located at the Gaithersburg Business Training Center (GBTC), 12 S. Summit Avenue. You may take CLEP exams at a variety of academic institutions.

For specific test dates, as well as which exams MC accepts and course equivalencies, see: http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/assessment_prior_learning/TESTclep.html. All tests begin at 12:45 in 405 GBTC. If there is unexpected demand which cannot be accommodated, we try to schedule additional dates. Please make sure that your forms and payment are submitted to Extended Learning Services, Germantown Campus, in advance, since space is limited.

Credit by MC Examination

Credit by examination may be earned for courses identified in the catalog with “(CE)” after the course title. Such examinations are prepared and evaluated by Montgomery College faculty. The cost is 40 percent of the in-county tuition rate. Contact the appropriate department for additional information.

Credit by Learning Assessment (Portfolio Option)

Students may also receive credit for prior learning through the Portfolio Development Program. Students must attend an Information Session in order to register for the required course and participate in the program. The portfolio class is held each fall and information sessions are held periodically. Call **301-353-7870 (New: 240-567-7870)** for additional materials and information.

Selective Admission Programs

For admission policy for all students, see <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/verified/pnp/41001.doc>.

Health Sciences Admissions

The health science programs listed below have special admission requirements and deadlines:

- Diagnostic Medical Sonography (degree and certificate)
- Health Information Technology (degree and certificate)
- Nursing
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiological (X-Ray) Technology
- Surgical Technology (degree and certificate)

Fall application deadline for all selective admission health science programs is April 1. The deadline for spring admission (nursing only) is July 1. The Health Sciences Admission Application is available at: <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/StudentForms/healthsciappl.pdf>

School of Art + Design

Applicants to the School of Art and Design (SA+D) submit an SA+D application, a portfolio of previous artwork, official transcripts (high school or college), and a letter of recommendation. Students must be accepted into the SA+D program in order to attend credit classes in this program. For more information contact the SA+D Admissions Office at **301-649-4454 (New: 240-567-4454 as of 8/15/07)** to receive an application package or download an SA+D application from <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/schoolofartanddesign>.

International Admissions for Students Requiring F-1 Visas (I20)

Contact the International Student Coordinator at the campus you plan to attend. Application deadlines are October 1 for fall admission for F-1 students requiring new visas, change of immigration status, or reinstatement to F-1 status; October 1 for spring admission. August 1 is the deadline for fall transfers and December 1 for spring transfers for students transferring to Montgomery College with valid F-1 status and satisfactory academic records. See <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/I20>.

3 Log-In to MyMC

“MyMC” is the portal or secure gateway to Montgomery College information and services available to you as an individual student. On MyMC you will find 24/7 access to your schedule of classes, registration, payment and financial aid status, grades, academic record, degree check, messages from instructors, chat rooms, clubs, and much more.

You may log-in to MyMC as soon as your admission to the College as a credit student is complete. Go to <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu> and then click on the green MyMC icon at the top of the page. From there follow directions to “Find your MyMC ID.” If you have any problems, contact **301-279-5000 (New: 240-567-5000)** for assistance.

4 Explore the Catalog

The Montgomery College Catalog is your basic guide to enrollment. It includes course descriptions, graduation requirements, course prerequisites and other important student information. The complete official Catalog is available online at <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/verified/catalog>. Printed and CD copies of the Catalog are updated annually and are available in the Counseling centers and Admissions and Records Offices.

To request a personal CD copy of the Montgomery College Catalog, contact the College Response Center by email to response@montgomerycollege.edu or phone **301-279-5000 (New: 240-567-5000)**. Be sure to include your full mailing address, exactly as it should appear on our shipping label.

5 Schedule Tests, If Needed

Assessment Tests

Assessment tests are required unless you are exempt for one of the reasons shown below. Test results are used to determine placement in reading, English, and math courses and to assure that you are prepared for other College-level subjects.

Montgomery College offers assessment tests at no charge and also accepts the results of some standardized tests, including the SAT, ACT and TOEFL. For English and reading assessment testing exemptions and placement into EN101, the minimum scores are:

- ACT Composite Score 24
- SAT Verbal 550;
- SAT Verbal 600 or above; contact English Department for placement
- TOEFL iBT 90; TOEFL computerized 231; TOEFL written 575

For math assessment testing exemption and course placement, the minimum scores are:

- ACT Math 24*;
- SAT Math 550 for MA 110-160; 600 for MA 180
- SAT Math 650 or higher, contact Math Department for placement.

**MA110 and higher require EN101 and RD120 assessment levels in addition to math scores.*

See also: <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/AssessCtr/assessment-placement.html>

Assessment testing, and in some cases, prerequisite checking are waived for the following reasons:

• A Prior U.S. Degree

Students who have a prior degree, two-year or higher, from an accredited U.S. college or university are exempt from assessment testing and prerequisite checking; however, the College encourages all students taking any course with a math requirement to take the Accuplacer math test if they have been away from math classes for three years or longer.

• Transferable Credit Equivalent to EN101 or Higher at Montgomery College

Students who have completed a college level English course in the U.S. are exempt from English and reading tests.

• Personal Interest Students

Adults (out of high school for at least three years) who are admitted as “personal interest” students and who speak English as their first language may enroll in up to 11 credits of courses other than math or English prior to assessment testing.

• Visiting Students from Other Colleges

Students from other colleges and universities may fax a “permission to enroll” form or letter signed by their academic advisor to the campus Office of Admissions and Records. Montgomery College will accept the recommendation of the home institution advisor and permit registration for those specific Montgomery College courses. Alternatively, visiting students may use an unofficial transcript to permission to enroll from a counselor or advisor.

Caution: Even if you are exempt from assessment testing and/or prerequisite checking for one of the reasons shown above, please note that all students are expected to begin each class with the skill levels indicated in the course description. An instructor may drop any unqualified student. If in doubt, take an assessment test or consult an advisor before enrolling.

6 Be Advised

Students New to College

Montgomery College requires most new students to participate in a group advising program before meeting individually with advisors and counselors. If you take a Montgomery College assessment test you should make an appointment for an advising program while at the testing session. There are two programs for new students, the MAPP, (Montgomery Advising Program for students who take the Accuplacer), and the IMAPP, (an "International MAPP), for students who take the LOEP, (Levels of English Placement Exam). After participating in a MAPP or IMAPP, new students may meet individually with counselors/faculty advisors for additional services. New students who are exempt* from Montgomery College assessment tests should schedule an advising session (MAPP or IMAPP) by calling the campus Counseling Center.

*See #5 for details about exemptions from assessment testing.

Students Transferring to Montgomery College

If you have transfer credit for the equivalent of EN101 contact the Counseling Office at your campus for advising. If you have not completed a College level English class in the U.S., you will need to submit assessment scores or take Montgomery College assessment tests and attend an advising program, MAPP or IMAPP.

Continuing or Returning Students

Visit the campus Counseling and Advising Center. Rockville students who have majors other than general studies and are in good academic standing should contact a faculty advisor in the academic department.

Visiting Students from Other Colleges

If you are enrolled in another college or university and plan to return there you should obtain your primary academic advising from your home institution. However, you may also contact a Montgomery College counselor or advisor as needed. Bring a permission to enroll form from your home institution.

First Year Experience (FYE)

Many new and exciting, yet challenging opportunities are ahead of you in your first year of college. Montgomery College (MC) has brought together a variety of resources to help ease your transition to college, so you can be even more successful! Together these resources are called the First-Year Experience or more popularly known as FYE. There are two very important events that you should participate in at the start of your FYE which includes a Montgomery Advising Program (MAPP) or International Advising Program (IMAPP) session and New Student Orientation (NSO), which is coordinated by the Office of Student Life at each campus. Attending these two events will help welcome you to the MC community and provide you with a lot of very helpful information. In addition, it is strongly recommended that you take a FYE course in your first semester of enrollment, which can be chosen from DS107 (First Year Seminar), DS 104 (Seminar for International Students), or any other approved FYE courses. Enrolling in an FYE courses will provide you with an opportunity to meet other new students, learn even more about what MC has to offer you to enhance your college experience, and earn college credit. FYE doesn't just stop at a MAPP/IMAPP session or a FYE course. At each campus there will be a host of FYE related events and programs throughout the academic year to help you **GET CONNECTED** to MC and its wonderful faculty, staff, and students.

To find out more about FYE at MC and to get involved, visit the FYE Web site at <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/FYE>, or visit the Counseling and Advising Department on your campus.

Specialized Advising Services

Specialized advising services are available for:

- **Students With Disabilities**

Disability Support Services

<http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/DSS/>

- **International Students Who Require a Student Visa/I20**

International Student Coordinators

<http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/studev/international.html>

- **U.S. Veterans**

Veterans Advisor, Rockville

<http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/veb/>

- **First Generation or Low Income**

Student Support Services, Rockville

<http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/ssserv/>

7 Register

You may register online* or in-person. Check the online Schedule of Classes for up-to-date information about time and place of classes and space available. Before attempting to register make sure you meet all prerequisites and assessment levels by checking the course description for each class. If a class is full, select an alternative.

Online registration for each class continues until midnight before the first scheduled meeting. Any later registration must be done in person. Once a class actually begins, you must also request written approval of the instructor. Late fees may apply. The most popular classes often fill early in the registration period. Register early to obtain your first choice.

*See page 14 of this schedule for a guide to online registration and payment.

Deadlines for Registration/Add/Drop

Critical deadlines are based on a percentage of the scheduled class meetings.

6% Drop with a refund. (One week for a full semester class - these periods are less during the winter/summer sessions.)

20% Drop with no refund; no W grade in the record

20% Change from credit to audit/audit to credit

73% Drop with W grade; no refund.

Caution: Online drops after the 73% date result in automatic F grades.

Seniors

Maryland residents age 60 and above may register with a tuition waiver on a space available basis. If you qualify as a senior and space is available during the late registration period your tuition will be automatically waived; however, associated fees will be charged. If you register before the late registration period begins, you will be charged full tuition. See also page 3.

Early Placement/Underage Registration Restrictions

Students still in high school or under the age of 16 must register in person. Early placement students submit the Early Placement Form from their high school together with a signed registration/add/drop form each time a course is added. Underage students must complete the early placement procedures and also submit written approval from the Dean of Student Development of the campus where the class is scheduled.

Audit

You may register for audit (no grade and no academic credit) through the 20% point of the term. Instructor permission is not required unless the class has started.

Honors Modules and Honors Program HP Courses

Many Montgomery College classes offer students with excellent academic records an opportunity to complete extra assignments and earn an "HM" designation for the course on the official transcript. For most courses, you must have completed at least 12 credits, including EN101 with at least a B and have a cumulative GPA of 3.2. See <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/advantage/honors/> for details about honors modules and honors programs.

Cancelled Classes

If your class has been cancelled, you may choose an alternative. Any refund due will be mailed to you within four weeks after the start of the semester.

8 Check Your Registration

You are responsible, both financially and academically, for all classes for which you are officially registered. Registration errors must be reported immediately to the Office of Admissions and Records. Even if you decide not to attend, you must officially drop prior to the refund deadline, or you will be charged full tuition and fees. Do not assume you will be automatically dropped.

9 Pay for Your Classes

Payment due dates are listed in the calendar on page 3. Your registration is guaranteed only when payment is made by the published deadline. Failure to meet the payment deadline may result in the loss of classes in your schedule.

10 Obtain Your Student ID Card

See the Directory of Services on page 4 or
<http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/studentid/>

11 Obtain a Parking Decal

All vehicles must be registered with the Safety and Security Office and display a current decal. Parking decals may be obtained by submitting to the Security Office the following items:

- your vehicle license plate number
- proof of paid registration

12 Buy Your Books

Books may be purchased online at <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/bookstores/> or on the campus where the class is offered.

13 Attend the First Class Meeting

Attendance at the first class meeting is important because instructors distribute syllabi and explain requirements and expectations.

14 Check into Support Services and Student Life

These services and activities complement and enhance your academic efforts and personal growth.