

# ALL THE DIFFERENCE



Discover all the difference  
*you're making* at Montgomery College.



**MC** MONTGOMERY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION





## First in Her Family!

### *Jury is Achieving Her Dreams with a Boost from Montgomery College.*

While many of her peers entered the workforce after high school, Jury Medrano Jimenez '24, a first-generation college student, enrolled at Montgomery College. She saw MC as a high quality and affordable option that would provide her with the skills needed to pursue a career in business. Starting classes during the pandemic, she struggled to manage her college education remotely.

**Generous donors like you, allow first in their family students like Jury to navigate college successfully.**

Fortunately, as part of the value MC offers, students like Jury can access resources to keep them on track. MC offers *Mi Gente Learning Community*, a comprehensive program including classes in business for Latino/a or Hispanic students. Having friends in her class and connecting with her professor led to more opportunities and her future changed. Jury graduated from MC and is pursuing a business degree at the University of Maryland.



**Your Support Paves the Way to More Students Earning their Degree.**

# Empowering First-Generation Students at Montgomery College.



**\$5,322\***  
**Montgomery College**  
(in-county rate)



**\$10,783**  
Maryland's public  
four-year schools  
(in-stat rate)



**\$47,399**  
Maryland's private  
four-year institutions

Many students choose Montgomery College for its excellence, accessibility, and affordability in earning a degree, certification, or licensure. MC is uniquely equipped to support first-generation students like Jury Medrano Jimenez, offering high-quality faculty and extensive resources to help them navigate college independently. When students graduate or complete their journey at MC, they are well-prepared to seamlessly transfer to a four-year institution or enter the workforce with confidence and pride.

**MC is a driving force behind  
14,998 jobs, strengthening  
Montgomery County and  
boosting our local economy.**

*\* Based on an average of 30 credits  
per year for full-time students.*



# Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success: *Coaching Our Students Through Every Step.*

For more than 10 years, the ACES program has transformed lives by guiding underrepresented students, like Jury, from high school to college graduation and beyond.


Starting in high school, ACES provides individualized coaching and career readiness training, ensuring students can achieve their educational and professional goals.

ACES provides scholarships, a lifeline of encouragement, and practical support, ensuring students never feel alone on their educational journey. **Your generosity fuels this life-changing program**, helping students overcome barriers and achieve their dreams.

Wanting to give back, Jury worked for the ACES program while a student at MC, where she supported at-risk high school students, sharing her experiences to encourage them. She enjoyed working with students and appreciated the staff who also

provided the continued support she needed to strengthen her mental health and earn work experience, noting, “I felt cared for at the ACES office, and I will forever be grateful for the memories and experience I gained working there.”

Thanks to your generosity, students like Jury are achieving their goals and returning to uplift the next generation. Your support fuels this life-changing program and ensures no student walks their path alone.



That sense of connection and opportunity made all the difference in my academic turnaround.

—JURY

# Setting Up Students for Success *with the First Year Experience Program.*

The first year of college is an exciting and challenging time for many of our students. To help our students achieve academic and personal growth, MC offers the First Year Experience (FYE) program which connects first year students to MC services and resources to help them stay engaged.

The FYE program includes the First Year Seminar, New Student Orientation, and Summer Bridge which is a program designed to help incoming students prepare for the transition from high school, employment, or military service to college. Throughout the academic year, there are additional workshops and events to support first year students leading them to long-term success.

“Providing the resources needed for new students makes a world of difference.”

**DANA BAKER**  
FYE Director



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# FYE by the Numbers

## 2020

FYE program launched

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## 200+

students supported  
per summer

## 3 Campuses

Germantown, Rockville,  
and Takoma Park/Silver Spring  
plus specialty sections  
for Spanish speakers and  
student athletes

MC alumna, Bahareh Farahifar '17, shares, "Right from the start, the FYE program gave me a lot of support and organizational strategies in order to stay on top of my assignments and workload. It helped a lot, especially since I was the first in my family to attend college in the US. I really grew out of my shell and began to participate in events more, volunteering for different organizations, and interacting with my peers and professors. It really felt like a community where anything could be possible." Now as a psychologist with MCPS, she is proud to give back to the community she grew up in, "I want to set students up for success, just like I was, and be able to see them flourish and grow."

MC alumnus and Student Ambassador to FYE and Cybersecurity graduate, Dr. Alexander (Sasha) Stone '13 notes, "Immediately after high school, I started working. I later decided to pursue a cybersecurity degree and found Montgomery College offered the high-quality education at an affordable rate that I was looking for. Since volunteering for First Year Experience I found a community of students looking to achieve the same goal, get a quality education, and make the most out of their time at Montgomery College." Now working as a cybersecurity analyst, Stone shares, "I finally feel that I not only have a job but a rewarding and exciting career in the field that I love."





**IN SPRING 2025, MORE THAN  
1,100 STUDENTS WERE THE FIRST  
IN THEIR FAMILIES TO ATTEND  
COLLEGE, REPRESENTING 6.7%  
OF ALL CREDIT STUDENTS.**

Your support empowers these pioneers,  
transforming lives and building a stronger,  
more educated community.

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# Montgomery College offers high-quality, affordable education.

With tuition at roughly half the cost of Maryland's public four-year universities at \$5,034 versus \$10,783 annually for in-county, your investment directly empowers students to achieve their dreams and strengthens our community's workforce.



Support Montgomery College Today!

→ [MONTGOMERYCOLLEGE.EDU/GIVE](https://MONTGOMERYCOLLEGE.EDU/GIVE)



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# Our First-Generation Students Count on Donors Like You to *Keep High-Quality Education Affordable.*



of our students  
receive  
scholarships

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**\$1,350**  
average scholarship  
2024-2025  
academic year

Your donation directly supports these students, ensuring they access excellent programs and achieve their academic and career goals without financial barriers.

When you support our general scholarship fund, you help first-generation college students stay in school and thrive.

Make your gift online today at:

➔ [MONTGOMERYCOLLEGE.EDU/GIVE](https://MONTGOMERYCOLLEGE.EDU/GIVE)





