



The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) seeks outstanding chess player scholars for full-time university studies at the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. levels.

UMBC

UMBC is a mid-sized, public research university offering bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. UMBC combines the emphasis on teaching found at the best liberal arts colleges with the innovation of a research university, offering nationally recognized programs in the arts, sciences, engineering, technology, policy and the humanities.

www.umbc.edu

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UMBC CHESS SCHOLARSHIPS

UNDERGRADUATE CHESS SCHOLARSHIPS

UMBC offers a variety of scholarships to qualified undergraduate students in full-time degree programs. Foreign students are eligible. Prospects are invited to apply separately for the Honors College, for a possible \$1000 annual supplemental award www.umbc.edu/honors.

UMBC Pepsi-Cola Chess Fellows – a limited number of fixed dollar* tuition awards plus food and housing stipends of approximately \$15,000/year. UMBC also provides some funds for travel to chess tournaments. Candidates must be good students with extraordinary chess ratings (over FIDE 2400). In return, each fellow performs 100 hours of community service through chess each year (e.g., simuls, lectures, teaching chess).

Chess-Player Scholars – These awards range from \$1,000 to \$15,000 for Maryland residents, or \$1,000 to \$22,000 for out-of-state students per academic year; the amounts are linked to corresponding academic scholarships www.umbc.edu/financial_aid/scholar_fresh.html. Offered to a limited number of incoming freshmen (not transfer students) with outstanding academic records and high chess ratings (over USCF 2000). We prefer SAT test scores over 2150 (math + critical reading + writing). Although these awards do not include “full ride” options, the higher level awards are close to full coverage.

Tournament-Based Awards – reserved for winners of U.S. Cadet Championship (invitational), and Maryland “Sweet 16” Scholastic Chess Championship (Maryland scholastic players only). Incoming freshmen receive a fixed dollar*, four-year tuition award.

*(*Full tuition for first year and the same dollar amount for each subsequent year.)*

HOW TO APPLY FOR UNDERGRADUATE CHESS SCHOLARSHIPS

Apply directly online to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Orientation at undergraduate.umbc.edu/apply/index.php. Up-to-date information can be found here in regards to deadlines, requirements, and supporting documents necessary to complete your admissions file for review. Please also make sure to mention chess in your essay. The university will assist international applicants in completing their F-1 student visa. SAT (or ACT) test scores are required for undergraduate students wishing to be considered for scholarships; TOEFL test scores are required for nonnative English speakers. Applicants for Chess Fellow must additionally submit a short essay to Dr. Sherman explaining why they want to come to UMBC, what they plan to do after graduating from UMBC, and how they plan to balance chess and academics while at UMBC.

GRADUATE CHESS SCHOLARSHIPS

Typically, graduate students are supported by their department as research (RA) or teaching assistants (TA). A typical RA/TA receives tuition, stipend, and health benefits. The Chess Fellow is the only UMBC chess scholarship available to graduate students, and it can supplement other support.



UMBC Pepsi-Cola Graduate Chess Fellows – UMBC awards a limited number of graduate Chess Fellowships to good students with extraordinary chess ratings (over FIDE 2400). These fellowships provide financial support of approximately \$15,000 per year, include funds for travel to chess tournaments, and allow the recipient to be billed at the in-state rate for the purposes of tuition. In return, each fellow performs community service through chess each year (e.g., simuls, lectures, teaching chess).

Applicants to the Graduate School at UMBC should be aware of program-specific admission requirements, including possible required tests such as GRE, located at www.umbc.edu/gradschool/admissions/app_deadlines.html.

HOW TO APPLY FOR GRADUATE CHESS SCHOLARSHIPS

Apply directly to the graduate school (M.S., Ph.D.) using the online Web forms from www.umbc.edu. To receive full consideration for admission, applications are due November 1st for admission the following fall semester. Mention chess in your essay. The university will assist foreign applicants in obtaining F-1 student visas. The Chess Program recommends GRE test scores for graduates. TOEFL test scores are required for non-native English speakers (passing scores: 80 Internet test, 213 computer test, 550 paper test). Applicants for Chess Fellow must additionally submit a short essay to Dr. Sherman explaining why they want to come to UMBC, what they plan to do after graduating from UMBC, and how they plan to balance chess and academics while at UMBC.

ELIGIBILITY

Players and applicants must satisfy the eligibility requirements for college chess established by the U.S. Chess Federation (USCF). More information is available at <http://chess.umbc.edu> and www.collegechess.org. In particular, for titled players, undergraduates should be under 26 years of age by September 1st. Graduate students should be under 30 years of age by September 1st. Additionally, UMBC requires all scholarship students to be full time and to maintain a grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4-point scale). Foreign students are encouraged to apply.