Admission Requirements

Journalism is a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). See the Admissions section on general LEP admission policies. (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/requirements-application-procedures/admission-limited-enrollment-programs)

Freshman Admission and the 45-Credit Review

First-time entering freshmen will gain admission to the Philip Merrill College of Journalism directly from high school on an available basis. Early application is encouraged. Freshmen admitted to the program will have access to the necessary advising through their initial semesters to help them determine if Journalism is an appropriate area for their interests and abilities. Academic and career advising is provided to journalism students throughout their academic career by qualified academic counselors and the College’s faculty.

Freshmen who are admitted directly to Journalism will be subject to a performance review by the time they have completed 45 credits. To meet the provisions of the review, these students must complete:

1. The two, first-year Fundamental Studies courses: FSAW and FSMA;
2. JOUR201 with a grade of "C-" or higher (JOUR181, JOUR200 and FSAW are prerequisites for enrollment); and
3. attainment of a 2.8 GPA for all college-level work attempted.

Appeals

Students who are unsuccessful in gaining admission to Journalism at the freshman or transfer level, and believe they have extenuating or special circumstances that should be considered, may appeal in writing to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The student will be notified in writing of the appeal decision.

Students admitted to Journalism as freshmen that do not pass the 45-credit review but believe they have special circumstances that should be considered, may appeal directly to the College.

For further information, contact the College’s Student Services office at 301-405-2399.

Academic Programs

Major

• Journalism Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/journalism/journalism-major)

Advising

The Office of Student Services provides academic advising to journalism majors on an appointment basis. It is located at 1100 Knight Hall, 301-405-2399.

Opportunities

FIELDWORK OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNSHIPS

Supervised internships are essential. Adrianne Flynn is the Internships and Career Development Director, 3105A Knight Hall, 301-405-7247.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

Capital News Service

Capital News Service is a student-powered news organization run by the Philip Merrill College of Journalism. For more than two decades, we have provided deeply reported, award-winning coverage of issues of import to Marylanders.

With bureaus in College Park, Annapolis and Washington run by professional journalists, we deliver news in multiple multimedia formats via partner news organizations, a destination website, a nightly on-air television newscast and affiliated social media channels. We provide breaking news coverage, in-depth investigative and enterprise journalism, and serve as a laboratory for students to test and develop innovative new methods of reporting and telling stories.

UMTV

For students interested in broadcast news, opportunities to gain experience with cable news programs are presented in the curriculum and by volunteering at the campus television station, UMTV.

Student-Run Campus Media Outlets

Students can gain broadcast news and sports reporting experience through the campus radio station, WMUC. There are numerous student-run publications on campus. These include, The Diamondback, an...
independent daily newspaper that appears in print and online. The
Diamondback is one of the most-read campus dailies in the nation.
Among the many campus publications there are literary magazines,
newspapers and websites of interest to special populations. These
include the Eclipse, La Voz Latina, The Mitzpeh, Public Asian, Stories
Beneath the Shell, and Unwind magazine.

Living-Learning Programs

College Park Scholars - Media, Self & Society
Dr. Kalyani Chadha, Director, Media, Self & Society Program

Co-sponsored by the Philip Merrill College of Journalism, the Media,
Self and Society Program is one of the living/learning programs offered
by the College Park Scholars Program (CPSP). This two-year program
for incoming freshmen is designed to give students the opportunity to
undertake a critical examination of media organizations, institutions and
practices as well as gain practical experience through involvement in
a media-related activity of their choice. For more information, see the
College Park Scholars Program entry in the "Office of Undergraduate
Studies" section under "The Colleges and Schools."

Honors Program

Although no departmental honors program currently exists within the
College, academically outstanding students are recognized through
Kappa Tau Alpha, the Journalism academic honor society.

Student Societies and Professional
Organizations

The college sponsors student chapters of the Society for Professional
Journalists, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, and
the National Association of Black Journalists. These organizations
provide students with opportunities to practice skills, establish social
relationships with other students both on and off campus, and meet and
work with professionals in the field.

For information on the organizations listed, contact the Student Services
Office, 1100 Knight Hall, 301-405-2399.

Financial Assistance

The College is committed to enrolling the most qualified students,
regardless of ability to pay. Toward that end, the College, through
donor-sponsored awards, gives annual scholarships to undergraduates.
Additionally, the University awards scholarships and financial aid
including low-interest loans, grants and work-study opportunities.

Sources for Incoming Students

All incoming freshman are automatically considered for scholarships
granted by the College.

Baltimore Sun Diversity in Journalism Scholarship
Established by the Times Mirror Foundation, this non-renewable award is
granted to an incoming freshman with high academic achievement in
high school and wide-ranging cultural and economic background, who
resides in the Baltimore Sun's circulation area.

Frank R. Cormier White House Correspondents’ Association Scholarship
Established in 1991 by the White House Correspondents’ Association,
this award was renamed in 1994 to honor the memory of Frank
R. Cormier, who for two decades exemplified the best qualities of
White House correspondents with a blend of gentleness, humor and
professionalism that endeared him to the readers of his dispatches for
The Associated Press. This renewable scholarship is awarded to one
undergraduate student from Washington, D.C. or Prince George's County,
Maryland on the basis of financial need.

William Randolph Hearst Scholarship
Established in honor of William Randolph Hearst's 82nd birthday, these
are among the college's first scholarships. A limited number of non-
renewable awards are granted to outstanding students who are residents
of Maryland.

William C. Huffman Scholarship
This fund was established by Diana L. Huffman, the Baltimore Sun
Distinguished Lecturer at Merrill College, in honor of her father, Dr.
William C. Huffman (1910-1988), and his commitment to education and
philanthropy. This renewable scholarship is awarded to an incoming
freshman at the Merrill College of Journalism who is in good
academic standing and remain so throughout the term of the award,
demonstrate financial need, and is a resident of Washington, D.C. or
Prince George's County, Maryland. Students are eligible to re-apply for
the award in subsequent years as long as they still qualify for the award
criteria.

Jonathan Ledecky Sports Journalism Scholarship
Funded by New York Islanders minority owner Jonathan Ledecky
to support scholarships for students in the Philip Merrill College of
Journalism who have interest in sports journalism. Recipients must
have an expressed interest in sports journalism, be accepted for full-time
enrollment, and maintain good academic standing.

Sources for Current Students

Students are selected on a basis of need, merit, donors' intent or a
combination of these factors. Below is a selection of scholarships
students may apply for:

The Steven C. Affens Broadcast Journalism Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate broadcast student. Recipients shall be selected from applications that include evidence of
the student's on-air TV work.

Carolyn A. and Howard F. Ahrens Scholarship
Established by a bequest from Carolyn A. Ahrens, this scholarship is
awarded to sophomores or juniors enrolled in the Philip Merrill College of
Journalism. Students must be Maryland residents.

Fred I., Edna O. and Fred J. Archibald Scholarship
Established by a bequest from Fred I. Archibald of Baltimore News-
American and Frederick News-Post newspaper editors, this scholarship is
awarded to undergraduate students enrolled in the Philip Merrill College
of Journalism.

Professor Thomas Aylward Journalism Scholarship
Awarded to a Merrill College Ph.D. student.

Paul Berg Diamondback Scholarship
Funded by friends and family and The Washington Post in memory of
Paul Berg, Diamondback editor-in-chief 1978-79 and assistant editor
of The Post's Health section at the time of his death in 1989. This
scholarship is awarded to a Diamondback editor or news staff member
who displays special achievement and effort while working for the
campus daily newspaper. Applicants must have served at least one
semester on the Diamondback staff, and must return to campus for the following fall semester. All majors may apply for this scholarship.

Reese Cleghorn Excellence in Journalism Scholarship
Created in memory of the late College Dean Reese Cleghorn, this scholarship is awarded to undergraduate or graduate journalism students based on academic merit, with preference given to students with financial need.

Frank R. Cormier White House Correspondents’ Association Scholarship
Established in 1991 by the White House Correspondents’ Association, this award was renamed in 1994 to honor the memory of Frank R. Cormier, who for two decades exemplified the best qualities of White House correspondents with a blend of gentleness, humor and professionalism that endeared him to the readers of his dispatches for The Associated Press. This renewable scholarship is awarded to four undergraduate students from Washington, D.C. or Prince George's County, Maryland on the basis of financial need. Students must re-apply each year to be considered for renewal.

Ralph Crosby Journalism Excellence Award
Funded by Mr. Crosby, a 1956 graduate of the College who is a member of the Merrill College Board of Visitors and chairman of Crosby Marketing Communications, Inc., in Annapolis. This scholarship provides an award toward tuition and fees to an undergraduate journalism student based on academic performance and financial need, with preference (in order) given to a student from Annapolis, Anne Arundel County or the State of Maryland.

Theodore Crown, Sr. and Joseph T. Crown, Jr. Scholarship
Created by Kathryn Crown '66 in memory of her father and brother, this scholarship is awarded to undergraduate journalism students with junior or senior class standing.

Penny Bender Fuchs Scholarship
This scholarship was established by colleagues, family and friends of Penny Bender Fuchs, an admired and respected member of the Merrill College faculty from 1999 until her death in 2013. Rising Merrill College juniors and seniors are eligible for this award. Preference is given to students who have earned a grade point average of 3.0 or higher in journalism courses and are applying to internships.

Gridiron Scholarship
The Gridiron Foundation Journalism Scholarship was established in 2002 by the Gridiron Club and Foundation. The Gridiron Club is the oldest and most prestigious journalistic organization in Washington D.C., and its foundation makes charitable contributions and provides scholarship to journalism students. The Gridiron Foundation Journalism Scholarship is awarded to undergraduate students based upon outstanding academic achievements and a stated commitment to pursue a career in journalism. Students must re-apply each year to be considered for renewal.

The Ray Hiebert Scholarship Fund
This scholarship is awarded to undergraduate and graduate students who are studying abroad or doing research outside of the United States.

Carol Horner Journalism Scholarship
This scholarship was established by family, friends and colleagues of the late Ms. Horner, a dedicated journalist and woman of wonderful good humor who forged a distinguished career as a reporter and editor at the Philadelphia Inquirer and Wall Street Journal before serving as director of the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism at the University of Maryland. This non-renewable scholarship is awarded to a high-achieving undergraduate student with financial need in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism.

Christopher Houston '85 Scholarship
The K. Christopher Houston Scholarship was established in memory of K. Christopher “Chris” Houston, ’85, a distinguished journalist who worked for CNN Headline News in Atlanta and WUSA-TV in Washington, D.C. Funded by Karen Gray Houston, family and friends, this scholarship is awarded to a student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism who has demonstrated a strong interest in pursuing a career in broadcast journalism. Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply.

Jay Jackson Scholarship
Funded by former Annapolis newspaper executive Allen Jackson in memory of his brother Jay, an honors graduate of Maryland’s second journalism class. This scholarship is awarded based on merit and need, to a multiplatform student who will be a senior the following semester.

John A. Jenkins ’72 Internship Award
May be awarded to up to ten students per year and is to be used toward travel or tuition expenses related to an internship. This award cannot replace employee compensation.

Haynes Johnson Scholarship Fund
The Haynes Johnson Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 by funds donated from the faculty, staff and friends of Haynes Johnson. This scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding student in the Merrill College based on financial need and academic merit.

Robert C. Keith Fund for Investigative Journalism
The Fund shall be used to provide support for scholarships and teaching grants to faculty and students and support for other investigative journalism endeavors at the discretion of the dean of the Philip Merrill College of Journalism.

Phyllis and Frank Kopen Broadcast Journalism Scholarship
Endowed by broadcast faculty member and College alumna Sue Kopen Katsch ’76 in honor of her parents, this scholarship is awarded to a sophomore or junior broadcast student (radio or TV) in recognition of their contributions to the College’s broadcast journalism program. Consideration may be given to financial need and academic performance. Awards may be renewable for up to two years if recipients continue to make satisfactory academic progress. Students must re-apply each year to be considered for renewal.

Jonathan Ledecky Sports Journalism Scholarship
Funded by New York Islanders minority owner Jonathan Ledecky to support scholarships for students in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism who have interest in sports journalism. Recipients must have an expressed interest in sports journalism, be accepted for full-time enrollment and maintain good academic standing.

Rick Martin ’92 Scholarship in Journalism
The Rick Martin’92 Scholarship in Journalism was established in 2015 by Mr. Rick Martin. Mr. Martin has worked in the television news industry for more than 20 years as an assignment editor and manager – at CNN as well as other local news markets in Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Philadelphia. He has covered the White House, Congress, the Pentagon and the State Department. He has covered major breaking news, including the White House shooting by gunman Francisco Duran, the D.C. Sniper Attacks, and the September 11th terrorist attacks. Martin was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in the West Indies’ twin-island nation of Trinidad & Tobago. The Scholarship shall be awarded to an undergraduate student in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism who
demonstrates financial need and maintains good academic standing. This scholarship may be renewed each year if the student meets these criteria. Students must re-apply each year to be considered for renewal.

Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association Scholarship
This scholarship is funded by the MDDC Press Association and is awarded to full-time undergraduate multi-platform (non-broadcast) students who are residents of Maryland, Delaware, or D.C. Recipients and must also have completed at least three semesters with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Gertrude Poe Fund for Journalism Excellence
An endowed fund established in 1988 by the former editor, publisher and owner of the weekly Laurel News Leader in Maryland. Ms. Poe was the first female president of the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association and was inducted into the MDDC Hall of Fame in 1987. The Poe fund supports student scholarships in the Merrill College, with preference given to students with an interest in community journalism.

Frank Quine and Mary Ellen Doran-Quine Journalism Scholarship
Funded by the College’s former Assistant Dean Frank Quine and his wife, this scholarship is awarded to a high achieving multi-platform student (grad or undergrad) with financial need and high potential as a professional journalist.

Richard W. Worthington Journalism Scholarship
Named in memory of the late publisher of the weekly Bel Air, Md. Aegis newspaper. This scholarship is awarded to a multi-platform major (undergraduate or graduate) based on a combination of academic excellence, evidence of potential as a journalist and financial need. Preference given to a resident of Harford County, Maryland.

From the University
The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers all types of federal, state and institutional financial assistance programs and, in cooperation with other University offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: www.finaid.umd.edu

The National Scholarships Office is committed to helping students of the University of Maryland identify, apply for, and win national scholarships and fellowships in their pursuit of higher education. They also help students find research opportunities in their fields of study.

From Outside Sources
The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences – Fred Rogers Memorial Scholarship (www.emmys.com/foundation/programs/mister-rogers) - The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and the accounting firm, Ernst & Young, have created this $10,000 scholarship to support and encourage college students to go into the field of children's television. The scholarship is open to graduating seniors who are continuing on to graduate school and graduate students (Masters/Ph.D.)

Peter Agris Memorial Scholarships (www.alphaomegacouncil.org/scholarships/application-3/) - Five scholarships of $5,000 are available to journalism or communications graduate and undergraduate students of Greek American heritage. March 1 Deadline.

American Copy Editors Society Scholarships (https://aceseditors.org/awards/scholarships) - All ACES scholarships are for potential professional copy editors. The scholarships are open to students who will be juniors, seniors or graduate students in the fall, and graduating students who will take full-time copy editing jobs or internships. Late November deadline.

American Society of Newspaper Editors (www.schooljournalism.org/scholarships) - Comprehensive listing of various journalism scholarships from ASNE via schooljournalism.org.

Asian American Journalist Association (https://www.aaja.org/scholarships-internship-grants) - AAJA offers a variety of scholarships.

Association for Women in Sports Media Scholarship (http://awsmonline.org/internships-scholarships) - AWSM offers an annual scholarship program for female college students who plan to pursue careers in any sports communications fields: writing, copy editing, public relations, broadcasting, Internet or photography. Winners in each category receive a $1,000 scholarship.

The John Bayliss Broadcast Foundation (www.beaweb.org/bayliss radio.html) - Juniors, seniors and graduate-level broadcast majors are encouraged to apply for the Bayliss Radio Scholarship.

CCNMA: Latino Journalists of California Scholarship (ccnma.org/scholarships-and-awards/scholarships) - Open to residents of California only.

Chips Quinn Scholars Program (www.newseum.org/initiatives/chips-quinn-scholars-program-for-diversity-in-journalism) - Sponsored by the Freedom Forum, the program offers journalism students of color hands-on training, paid internships and $1,000 awards. Candidates must be nominated by the College to be considered for the program. Recent graduates are also encouraged to apply.

Evert Clark/Seth Payne Award for Young Science Journalists (casw.org/evert-clark-award) - For nearly three decades, the Evert Clark/Seth Payne Award has recognized the contributions to journalism of both Ev Clark and Seth Payne. The Award is intended to encourage young science writers by recognizing outstanding reporting and writing in any field of science. The winner will receive $1,000 and expenses to attend the annual meeting of the National Association of Science Writers (NASW) and the New Horizons briefing of the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing (CASW) in October.

Freedom Forum – Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship (freespirit.org) - The Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship and Conference Program annually awards $1,000 college scholarships to each of 102 high school seniors (a male and female from each state and the District of Columbia) who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism and who demonstrate qualities of “free spirit.”

Garden State Scholastic Press Association (https://gssspa.org/scholarships/) - Two scholarships are available from GSSPA for New Jersey high school students.

National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Chesapeake Bay Chapter – Betty Endicott Scholarship (www.capitalemmys.tv/students/scholarships) - NATAS-DC will award scholarships ranging from $1000 to $5000 to full-time college sophomores, juniors or non-graduating seniors with a declared major in communications, television or broadcast.
journalism. March application with May announcement – check website for announcement.

National Association of Black Journalists Sustaining Scholarship Awards (www.nabj.org/?SEEDScholars2015) - This competition for two four-year sustaining scholarships is open to any graduating student or U.S. high school senior who plans to pursue a career in journalism. NABJ offers a number of additional scholarships as well. February deadline.

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (www.nanbpwc.org/index-11.html) - Offers two scholarships for African American students whose major can include journalism. March deadlines.

National Association of Hispanic Journalists Scholarships (www.nahj.org/scholarshipinfo) - Open to high school grad, college and graduate students who are interested in a career in broadcast, photojournalism or print journalism. March 1 deadline.

The National Italian American Foundation (www.niaf.org/programs/scholarships) - Scholarships open to Italian American students who demonstrate outstanding potential and high academic achievements or those students from any ethnic background majoring or minoring in Italian language, Italian studies, Italian American studies or a related field, who demonstrate outstanding potential and high academic achievements. Must have a membership in NIAF to apply and an ancestor who immigrated to the U.S. from Italy.

National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association Leroy F. Aarons Scholarship Award (www.nlglja.org/students/aarons.htm) - Leroy F. Aarons and the Kay Longcope scholarships are awarded annually to students who demonstrate a commitment to providing fair and accurate coverage of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. These annual scholarships are presented in honor of two prominent journalists. Applications will be available in late February. They will also have the Kay Longcope Scholarship which will be available at the same time.

National Press Club — Persina Scholarship for Minorities in Journalism (www.press.org/about/scholarships) - Renewable scholarship for $2,500 per year for up to 4 years. For minority students planning to pursue a career in journalism. New. Richard G. Zimmerman Scholarship of $5000 (non-renewable.) The Press Club also offers a graduate-level scholarship.

New York Women In Communications Foundation Scholarship Program (www.nywici.org/students/scholarships) - Open to high school seniors as well as undergraduate and graduate students. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic excellence, need and a demonstrated commitment to the field of communications. You must be a permanent resident of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut or Pennsylvania. Deadline January 30.

The NewsGuild — The David S. Barr Award (www.newsguild.org/david-s-barr-award-student-journalism) - The David S. Barr Award is intended to recognize one high school and one college student for their journalistic achievement and to encourage young journalists to focus on issues of social justice. (Check the Newspaper Guild (now NewsGuild.org) website for information about when applications will be accepted.)

The Overseas Press Club of America Foundation (www.overseaspressclubfoundation.org/programs.html) - Aspiring foreign correspondents and students interested in international journalism are encouraged to apply for OPC Foundation's scholarship. The winners receive $2,000 checks each.

Radio Television Digital News Association and Foundation (www.rtdna.org/content/scholarship_info#.UiiKoLzFaZs) - RTDNA and RTDNF honor professional achievements in electronic journalism through numerous prestigious awards, scholarships, fellowships and internship programs. April 30 deadline to apply.

Society of Professional Journalists Maryland Pro Chapter College Scholarship (www.spj.org/grants.asp) - Applicants must have regular home residence in the State of Maryland, but may attend colleges or universities outside Maryland in nearby Virginia, D.C. or Pennsylvania. NOTE: This scholarship has not been given in a number of years but there are plans to reactivate it in 2013-2014. We'll provide a link when it is announced.

South Asian Journalists Association Scholarships (www.saja.org/scholarships) - The South Asian Journalists Association awards one $500 scholarship to a high school senior about to enter college and one $500 scholarship to a college student.

For more information, and eligibility requirements, visit http://merrill.umd.edu/admissions/tuition-financial-aid/

Awards and Recognition

Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association Top News-Editorial Student

Awarded annually to an outstanding top broadcast journalism student and top multimedia journalism student at commencement.

Julie Galvan Outstanding Campus Member Award

The Society of Professional Journalists chapter selects one graduate in journalism who is outstanding in his or her class on the basis of character, service to the community, scholarship, proficiency in practical journalism and significant contributions to their SPJ chapter.

Kappa Tau Alpha Top Scholar Award

Awarded at each commencement to the journalism student earning the highest academic achievement for all undergraduate study.

Kappa Tau Alpha National Honor Society

The top ten percent of the journalism graduating class is inducted into this national organization each commencement.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES AND FACILITIES

The Merrill College is home to many unique programs and opportunities available to undergraduate students:
UMTV
Broadcast journalism students study and learn at UMTV, the college-owned cable TV station that houses state-of-the-art equipment, including DVCPro, Avid and ENPS systems used in the field today. Students begin their broadcast education from their first semester at the College, volunteering as crew members for programs produced under the guidance of renowned broadcast faculty members.

CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE
The College’s Capital News Service operates news-editorial and multi-platform bureaus in College Park, Washington, D.C., and Annapolis, and a daily television newscast. CNS provides students with real-life reporting experiences covering a beat, developing sources, generating story ideas and writing on deadline under the supervision of a faculty editor.

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE
Students take their education out of the classroom and into the real world. Using internships, student media and in-class reporting, our students don't just learn why, but how. The college is located just outside Washington, D.C., the country's seventh largest media market.

TOP-NOTCH FACULTY
The Merrill College is home to internationally renowned journalists and media scholars. Courses are also taught by working journalists who serve as adjunct professors.

ACCESS TO CENTERS OF JOURNALISM STUDY
The Merrill College is home to several centers for journalism study and professional development. Undergraduates have opportunities to interact with these programs.

TECHNOLOGY FOR THE REAL WORLD
Students use the same technologies used by professional journalists and media specialists. From the latest in non-linear editing systems, to updated technologies for digital art and pagination, every undergraduate will have access to the software used by professionals in TV/radio production, visual journalism, online news and media communication.