

MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP (CES) PROGRAM Modification to the CES Effective for the 2010-2011 School Year

Background

The CES has gone through numerous changes since the time Mr. Hershey first provided loans to his students to continue their education.

- In the 1950's through the 70's, MHS would contribute no more than three-fourths of the total cost of college after the graduate had utilized all available resources, including their Social Security, college scholarships/grants, and government grants.
- In the 1980s, the program stipulated that graduates could receive a maximum CES amount of \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year over four years of college) and must attend a state or state-related college or university.
- In the early 2000's students were required to pay the first \$2,000 in college costs each year of their education.
- In the late 2000's students were given an opportunity to earn their CES through academics and behavior standards and the introduction of the rigor matrix which has resulted in better persistence results.

Effective with the Class of 2011, the current CES program has three modifications which are explained below.

Modifications

Required Stafford subsidized loan

A student who graduates with the Class of 2011, and future classes, will continue to be required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This application will provide the post-secondary schools with information on the ability of the student to pay for his/her education. The post-secondary school will use this information to develop a financial aid package which will show how much free money (scholarships and grants) the student will receive.

All students will now have to take a Stafford subsidized loan for \$2,500 each year before any of the student's CES is utilized to pay any remaining tuition, fees, room, and board costs. If the student does not plan to use his/her CES money, a loan may not be needed to pay for his/her education.

A subsidized loan is one in which the federal government will pay the interest on the loan as long as the student is at least a part-time student working towards a degree. MHS graduates earning a college degree within six years will have their Stafford subsidized loan (up to \$2,500 per year) paid by any remaining CES funds the graduate still may have available. The reward for successful completion of the degree or certification is that the loans of \$2,500 per year will be paid off and the student will not have any debt for those loans as long as they complete their degree and have CES funds remaining. However, if the student does not complete his/her degree for any reason, those students -- not Milton Hershey School -- will be responsible for paying the loans.

Change to the number of demerits

For a student to be eligible to earn his/her CES each year, the student must earn a 75% overall grade point average, may not have any level 4 discipline infractions, and must have earned no more than 50 demerits. The demerit level of 50 is a change from a 75 demerit level which was the standard in recent years.

Seniors failing a required course for graduation during their senior year

If a senior is failing a course required for graduation at the end of the second marking period (based on the average of the first two marking periods), the student will be required to successfully complete his/her first year of post-secondary education at a community college or specialty school (examples -- a culinary arts school or art school), if he/she wants to utilize his/her CES.