Maryland Higher Education Commission Office of Student Financial Assistance 6 North Liberty Street, Ground Suite Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 767-3300; (800) 974-0203 TTY for the Deaf - (800) 735-2258 www.mhec.maryland.gov



5th Year Appeal Criteria	Required Documents
Academic Program required 5 years of study	<ul> <li>Letter of explanation from student</li> <li>Official or Unofficial Transcript</li> <li>Letter from academic advisor</li> </ul>
Serious illness or injury of student	<ul> <li>Letter of explanation from student</li> <li>Official or Unofficial Transcript</li> <li>Letter from physician</li> </ul>
Serious illness of a member of the students immediate family	<ul> <li>Letter of explanation from student</li> <li>Official or Unofficial Transcript</li> <li>Letter from physician</li> </ul>
Serious emotional difficulties of the student	<ul> <li>Letter of explanation from student</li> <li>Official or Unofficial Transcript</li> <li>Letter from advisor, social worker, psychologist, etc.</li> </ul>
Extenuating financial circumstances beginning after January 1, 2022	<ul> <li>Letter of explanation from student</li> <li>Official or Unofficial Transcript</li> <li>2021 Federal IRS Tax Return Transcript or 1040 Signed Federal Tax Return (student/parent)</li> <li>W-2 Forms (student/parent)</li> <li>Supporting documents: <ul> <li>Job termination or layoff of student and/or parent(s)/spouse (requires original letter from employer)</li> <li>Termination of benefits notice from the issuing agency for student</li> <li>Separation agreement of student and/or parent(s)/spouse</li> <li>Divorce decree of student and/or parent(s)/</li> </ul> </li> </ul>