Tabacco-Schmidt Scholarship

Application Deadline: Mon, 02/29/2016

This scholarship is a need-driven scholarship for Pell-grant recipients in CHC entering their junior year.

Joseph Tabacco is a class of 1971 UMass-Amherst graduate earning his degree in Government, while at UMass, he was active in student government, having served two term as Class President. In 1974, Joe attained his law degree with Honors from George Washington University School of Law. He served as a trial attorney for the US Department of Justice, Antitrust Division for several years before entering private practice in New York City. In the early 1990’s Joe relocated to the San Francisco Bay area and opened the San Francisco office of Berman, DeValerio Pease & Tabacco, a law firm with offices in Boston and Palm Beach Gardens Florida. He has specialized in securities fraud and antitrust litigation, representing victims of securities fraud, market manipulation and antitrust conspiracies, including some of the largest public pension funds in the world, in a variety of cases.

Peggy Schmidt is an independent college counselor who established her practice, Smart College Choices, seven years ago. She is a graduate of the UCLA College Counseling Program. Peggy has covered education issues for national magazines and The New York Times. She has written or produced more than two dozen non-fiction trade books. As education editor of Glamour magazine for eight years, she wrote two monthly columns on college and career-related topics.

For many years, Peggy was the career coordinator at the New York University Summer Publishing Institute. She graduated cum laude from Bowling Green State University and has done graduate work at Teachers College, Columbia University. She served on the board of directors for the Charles Armstrong School, a K-8 school for dyslexic learners. She has worked as a volunteer counselor with QuestBridge, which links exceptional low-income students with top colleges.

Eligibility: Recipients must be members of Commonwealth Honors College. Applicants must be current sophomores who will have at least 60 credits in the fall. Must have received Pell grants for first two years, and continue to be eligible for
the next two years. Must have taken out loans to finance education. Preference is given to first-generation college students who graduated from a Massachusetts high school. The scholarship is renewable for the student’s senior year, presuming they remain Pell-eligible and in good academic standing within Commonwealth Honors College.