The Richard Bernstein Student Achievement Award for Excellence is a stipend of $5,000 to be awarded to a graduating senior of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The award is given annually during Spring Commencement exercises. The following criteria are to be considered in the selection/evaluation process of nominees:

**Eligibility:** UMES graduating seniors

**Leadership:** Demonstration of leadership abilities at school and/or in the community. The ability to be effective on an interpersonal basis. Exhibition of a high degree of integrity and the ability to work with others.

**Adversity:** Particular consideration will be given to individuals who have overcome physical or personal obstacles on their path to earning their degree.

**Scholarship:** Evidence of outstanding performance in academic work and demonstration of the potential for continued scholarly efforts will be considered but they will not be the primary determinants.