Alford J. Deaton Endowed Scholarship – This scholarship was established in 2021 by former students and friends in honor of Alford "Al" J. Deaton. Mr. Deaton was a native of Shannon, MS and graduated from Shannon High School. He received a BS Degree in math and science education and a Master of Education Degree in narrative math and physics from Mississippi State University. Mr. Deaton joined the faculty at East Central in 1968 teaching physics and retirement from teaching after 34 years. He was married to Barbara Finney Deaton who served for many years as the faculty secretary in the Communications Office at East Central.

To be eligible, scholarship recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Enroll full-time in a science field with preference given to physics or physical science;
- Be of sophomore status in good standing; and
- Have maintained a minimum 3.5 GPA on credits earned at East Central.

The East Central Community College Scholarship Committee will screen and select recipients from qualified applicants. The amount awarded will be based upon earnings form the endowment corpus. To maintain the fund ad infinitum, no amount of the corpus may be used for scholarship awards. Should no qualified recipient be awarded in any given year, the interest accrued will be deposited into the endowment corpus.