Sara L. Heard Endowed Scholarship – This scholarship was established in 2021 by former students and friends in honor of Sara Elizabeth Linville Heard. Mrs. Heard was born in Riley, MS but grew up in Trenton, TN. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State College for Women. After teaching in Columbus and West Point, she started teaching in the science department at East Central in 1969 as a biology instructor. Mrs. Heard retired from East Central in 1987. She is admired by her former students because she gave them a strong background in science which has benefited them throughout their lives.

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

- Enroll full-time in a science field with preference given to biology or pre-med;
- 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.