

Scholarship Search

Successful Applications

Multiply your opportunities for being awarded!

1. Start your search early.
2. Read eligibility requirements carefully.
3. Organize all your scholarship materials.
4. Proofread your application carefully.
5. Do not leave items blank.
6. Follow instructions *exactly*.
7. Make sure your application is legible.
8. Make copies of everything you send—file in a safe place.
9. Double check your application.
10. Get your application in EARLY—don't wait until the day before or of the deadline.

Scam Slogans & Phrases

How to protect yourself from being slammed

- “The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back.”
- “You can't get this information anywhere else!”
- “I just need your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship.”
- “We'll do all the work...”
- “The scholarship will cost some money.”
- “You've been selected by a 'national foundation' to receive a scholarship.”
- “You're a finalist” in a contest you never entered.

Remember, never invest more than postage in conducting a scholarship search!

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

www.militaryscholar.org

www.military.com

www.aerhq.org (Army)

www.afas.org (Air Force)

www.marine-scholars.org

www.nmcrcs.org (Navy/Marine Corps)

www.cgmahq.org (Coast Guard)

www.legion-aux.org

www.afcea.org

Scholarship Websites

General Databases

www.fastweb.com

www.collegeanswer.com

www.collegenet.com/mach25

www.studentawards.com www.nationalmerit.org
(HS Juniors) www.petersons.com

www.kmfonline.org (student loan)

www.scholarshiphunter.com

www.scholarship-page.com www.financialaid.com

www.fedscholarships.com

www.scholarshipmanagement.org

www.fastaid.com

www.aasa.org (HS Juniors)

www.scholarshipexperts.com

www.collegescholarships.com

www.princetonreview.com

www.collegeboard.com www.scholarships.com

www.absolutelyscholarships.com

www.americorps.org

http://scholarships.brokescholars.com

www.srnexpress.com

www.feea.org

www.mapping-your-future.org

www.ducktapeclub.com

www.cappax.com

www.chegg.com

www.unigo.com

www.collegeexpress.com

www.niche.com

www.moolahspot.com

Ethnic Minorities

www.hispanicfund.org www.hsf.net

www.collegefund.org www.uncf.org

www.blackexcel.org

http://scholarships.fatomei.com/college.html

Students with Disabilities

www.nfb.org

www.gmsp.org

International/Study abroad

www.internationalscholarships.com www.iefaf.org

•Understanding the Terminology

Scholarships – money you are given for something *you have done or can do*, e.g., academic or athletic record. Sometimes used interchangeably with grants and tuition discounting.

Tuition Discount – discount applied against tuition as a type of scholarship. Generally used by private colleges and universities.

Grants – money you receive because of *who you are*, e.g, race, demographics.

Merit Based Award - monies given to whichever applicant is the best at the subject of the scholarship. Income is no consideration.

Need Based Award – money that is offered solely on the basis of financial need.

Low/No Interest Loans – money that must be repaid.

Federal Aid – monies that are provided to students/families through the United States Department of Education. In ALL cases, students must complete the Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Includes grants and loans.

State Aid – monies provided through individual states in which the student resides. In most cases, the FAFSA will be used so students will need to complete this document.

Scholarship Categories

(For most scholarships, students must have applied and been accepted to a college/university)

Academic – strictly based on overall (cumulative) GPA. May use weighted or unweighted GPA.

Merit/Service – awarded on the basis of services performed, contributions to the community, or academic record of performance—not just strictly the GPA—may also include rank, test scores, review of transcripts and courses completed.

Major – award is made on the basis of what academic major a student will pursue in college.

Talent – awarded on the basis of fine and performing arts talents such as art, theater, and music, or sports.

Ethnic – awarded on the basis of a student’s genealogical background.

Employment – award is given only to students who are employed by a particular organization, or to the students of parents (in some cases immediate family members) who work for a particular organization.

Military – award made on the basis of completed service in a branch of the military or *expected* service upon graduation from college.

Religious – recipient must be a member of this particular religious organization.

Membership/Affiliation – student or family member (generally parents/grandparents) is a member of a particular organization. This includes unions, clubs, and societies.