



# The Scholarship Process

You have to **START!**



How do I get a scholarship?

**BE YOU**  
★ and own it

Be you!

Find ways to get involved

Own who you are

Take risks

Get involved

Ask for help

Develop your team

A photograph of a sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sky is a mix of dark blue, orange, and yellow, with a bright light source on the horizon. The water is dark blue with a shimmering reflection of the sun. The quote is centered over the image.

**YOU MISS 100% OF THE SHOTS  
YOU NEVER TAKE**

— Wayne Gretzky

## Terms to know:

- 1) **Grants**: *Did someone say free money? Unlike loans, grants—which can come from the state or federal government, from the college itself, or from private sources—money you do not pay back. Many grants determine eligibility by looking at your FAFSA results.*

# Grants Specific to Oregon

Important Grants for Oregon:

- *Oregon Promise - apply through OSAC; Application is open*
- *Oregon Opportunity Grant- Fill out the FAFSA as soon as possible this money does run out.*

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**

## Terms to know cont.

2) **Merit-based Scholarships**- awarded on the basis of grades, test scores, athletic ability, and/or community involvement rather than financial need.

3) **Need-based Scholarships**- awarded based on the family's need to pay for college. \*\*Every college and scholarship define need differently.

## Terms to Know Cont.

4) **Diversity Scholarships**- typically a renewable scholarship offered through the colleges. They are designed for underrepresented racial/ethnic minorities and first generation college students.

5) **Stackable**: Ask the universities/colleges if their scholarships are stackable.



5) Incentive Scholarships- designed to help provide funding to students who could benefit from a little more support. Sometimes these do not have a specific GPA requirement.



# Scholarship Timeline

- September to December: Students should be looking for scholarships offered through the colleges they are applying. A number of colleges have scholarship deadlines of December 1st.
  - Most colleges have separate scholarship application deadlines
  - Often students have to be accepted to the college **before** they can access the application portals.
  - Students often miss scholarships for their colleges b/c they are so focused on the applications.
  - Scholarship deadlines are often at the same time as the final application deadline.

# Timeline

- November to February: Look for National and State level Scholarships and Grants
- OSAC Opens November 1st!
  - Ford Family Foundation Scholarship
    - File the FAFSA
    - EFC \$6,000 or less
    - GPA 3.0 or better



# Scholarship Timeline

- February to May: Focus on scholarships specific to Oregon, Beaverton, and your specific school.
- Always: Stay organized and find a way to keep track of deadlines!!



## Tips for the Application

- Always follow the directions- even if you think they are strange, follow them. Not following directions will keep you from getting scholarships.
- Proofread and Edit Carefully!!!
- Know where to turn in the application and the deadline. Some applications have to arrive by a specific time on a specific day and some just need to be postmarked. Others can be hand delivered.

## Tips for the Application: The Essay

The essay gives you a chance to tell the committee who you are and why they should help you. It is important to not only talk about an event but how the event helped/is helping you grow, and the character qualities you are developing. Then you will want to discuss how this will help you as you move forward into your future goals.


## Tips for the essay cont.

Know the requirements- some want a specific number of words, some a word count, some have specific items to be discussed.

Analyze the directions. Are there different parts?

It is ok to say how the money will help you!

Edit! Edit! Edit! Ask for help!



Remember it's OK  
to be yourself.

Richard Branson

# Tips for the essay cont.

## Know the audience:

Research the organization giving the scholarship for which you are applying.

Who is offering the scholarship

Who are the judges?

For what is the organization known?

What is the organization's mission?



# The Introduction

- ~Many personal statements begin with a catchy opening, often a distinctive personal example as a way to getting the reader's attention.
- ~Keep it short and to the point.
- ~Connect the example to the actual scholarship: mention the specific name of the scholarship.
- ~Mention the degree you are seeking to earn

# Body Paragraphs

Address any specific questions from the application or Address your own qualifications or

What you've learned or are learning about yourself or

Long-term goals or a combination on the above

Each paragraph needs to be focused and have a topic sentence that informs the reader of the emphasis.

The examples from your experience must be relevant and support your qualifications for the scholarship.

# The Conclusion

Tie together the various issues you raised in the essay, and reiterate your interest in receiving the scholarship. You must also mention how receiving the scholarship will be a step towards a long-term goal in the closing paragraph.

It's ok to say how the money will help support you in reaching your goals.

# Helpful Links

Helpful Links:

Your school's website

[WUE](#)

[OSAC Scholarship](#) (application opens Nov. 1st)

[Scholarships.com](#)

## Helpful Links

[PCC Scholarship Foundation](#) (application opens Dec. 1st)

[Opportunities Book 2019/2020](#)

[Big Future](#)

[Unigo](#)