



Structuring the Scholarship Search

Wednesday December 14, 2022

DCP College Counseling Team

Program Overview

- Contextualizing College Costs
- Scholarship Sources
- Scholarship Strategies
- Scholarship Search Engines
- Retooling the Essay
- Questions and Answers

Program Agenda

6:30pm Scholarship Presentation

7:10pm Q&A

7:20pm Time for Individual Scholarship Search
with assistance from College Counseling Team

Why Scholarships?

Average Sticker Price vs. Average Net Price
(Tuition, Fees, Room & Board)



How Much Could College Cost My Family?

Use Tools to Estimate Cost

- [Net Price Calculators](#)
- [MeritMore](#)
- [TuitionFit](#)

Scholarship Sources

Inside the University/Institutional Aid

- The Financial Aid/Admissions Office
- Departments or academic programs
 - Good only at the specific college offering it

Outside the University

- Private organizations
- State and local governments
 - Can often be used at the university or for outside costs*

Private Scholarship Strategy

Start Hyperlocal:

Check with your student's high school, your employer, unions, community organizations, religious institutions and any other close community tie for scholarships.

1



Next, Explore Locally:

Check county organizations such as ELKS or Rotary Clubs, small government organizations and city or county nonprofits.

2



Move to the State Level:

Explore the Illinois Student Assistance Commission and State nonprofits and governing bodies like the Illinois Association of College Admission Counselors.

3



Examine National Scholarships:

Explore major businesses like Amazon, McDonald's and Footlocker as well as national nonprofits.

4



TIP:

The chance of winning local scholarships is much higher than national scholarships. Invest more effort into scholarships that will have limited competition.



College Specific Scholarships and Grants

Merit determined by

- GPA with and w/o SAT/ACT score
 - Some scholarships have automatic benchmarks, others are discretionary.
- Application materials
- Sometimes include interviews

Need based determined by

- Family income
- FAFSA/CSS Profile

Special talents and circumstances

College Applicants Receiving Merit Scholarship Offers

2 out of 3

Example of Automatic Merit Scholarships

DePaul Freshman Scholarships

Award Amount: \$15,000 to \$24,000

Applying. You're automatically considered for one of our four academic scholarships (Presidential Scholarship, Deans' Scholarship, DePaul Scholars' Award, St. Vincent DePaul Scholarship) when you apply to DePaul. You do not need to submit a separate application. However, priority consideration is given to students who submit their admission applications by November 15—so be sure to apply by this date. If you earn an academic scholarship, we'll notify you in your acceptance packet.

(Note: Students admitted to the School of Music or The Theatre School are not eligible for the academic scholarships listed below. Please see "Talent Scholarships" for opportunities within the School of Music and The Theatre School.)

Renewing. Academic scholarships may be renewed for up to four consecutive years (12 quarters) of undergraduate study if you maintain good academic standing. You must be enrolled full time each quarter and complete a minimum of 36 quarter hours for the Fall, Winter and Spring quarters.

Catholic Heritage Scholarship (The Illinois Catholic High School Scholarship)

Award Amount: \$20,000

Any graduate of a Catholic high school in Illinois with a 3.7 GPA or higher who is admitted as a full-time freshman will be awarded a \$20,000 scholarship, beginning in fall of 2019. This scholarship is renewable for four years based on satisfactory academic performance and progress, bringing the total award to \$80,000. Students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement may receive a larger award. This scholarship may not be combined with other DePaul scholarships except for the Provost's Achievement Award. Eligible students also may qualify for need-based financial aid.

Cross Reference Merit Offers with Published Information


MARK TWAIN NONRESIDENT AWARD														
SAT SUPERSCORE	1570-1600	1530-1560	1490-1520	1450-1480	1420-1440	1390-1410	1360-1380	1330-1350	1300-1320	1260-1290	1230-1250	1200-1220	1160-1190	1130-1150
ACT SUPERSCORE	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23
SCHOOL GPA on 4.0 SCALE (and on your transcript. If that GPA is not on a 4.0 scale, we will convert it.)	4.00+													
	3.95													
	3.90													
	3.85													
	3.80													
	3.75													
	3.70													
	3.65													
	3.60													
	3.55													
	3.50													
	3.45													
	3.40													

Mark Twain Level 1
\$21,500

Mark Twain Level 2
\$8,500

Examples of Institutional Search Sites

ScholarshipUniverse Login



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Welcome to Scholarship Universe, a scholarship matching tool for admitted University of Arizona students. Scholarship Universe connects Wildcats to millions of dollars in internal and external scholarships based on your personalized profile. We search, Wildcats apply.

Prospective students can view scholarships below if the department has made them publicly visible. Current and admitted University of Arizona students can [log in](#) to search and apply for scholarships.


Note: Not all departments have made their scholarships publicly visible on Scholarship Universe, so please check with your department for their available scholarships and timeline.

Sort: Alpha: A-Z Filter

AMOUNT	ORGANIZATION	DEPARTMENT	APPLY BETWEEN
Amount Varies	College of Social and Behavioral Science (SBS)	English	2/11/2022 - 4/11/2022

[View](#)

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY | Scholarship Connect Sign In



▼ Opportunities Donors

Our Opportunities Show Filters

Search by Keyword

Award	Name	Actions
\$0.00	Grace School of Applied Diplomacy Study Abroad Scholarship The Grace School of Applied Diplomacy (DPL) invites you to apply for the...	Deadline 01/02/2023
Varies	Grace School of Applied Diplomacy Study Internship Scholarship The Grace School of Applied Diplomacy (DPL) internship scholarship is...	Deadline 01/02/2023
Varies	Open Arms Endowed Scholarship The Open Arms Scholarship will provide financial assistance to a few...	Deadline 01/08/2023
\$0.00	CBPL Scholarship -- Community and Project Based Learning The Community and Project Based Learning internship scholarship is...	Deadline 01/09/2023
Varies	Carducci-Gentile Endowed Scholarship Due to the generous gift from William P. Fotis and Samuel J. Gentile,...	Deadline 01/15/2023
Varies	Chicago Business Travel Association Scholarship Due to a generous gift from Chicago Business Travel Association (CBTA),...	Deadline 01/15/2023
Varies	Dr. Dominic G. & Helen T. Paris Scholarship in the School of Public Service SPS -- Awarded to students enrolled in the School for Public...	Deadline 01/15/2023
Varies	Hospitality Leadership Scholarship To be awarded to undergraduate students in the School of Hospitality...	Deadline 01/15/2023
Varies	Hostmark Hospitality Group Endowed Scholarship Due to a generous gift from Mr. Jerome Cataldo, the Hostmark Hospitality...	Deadline 01/15/2023

Application Progress

● General Application ⓘ

✓ College of Social Science

📄 Applicant Record

You can save your application at any time by clicking **Save and Keep Editing** at the bottom of the form. Once completed, you can submit your application by clicking **Finish and Continue**.

Note: Required fields are marked with an asterisk.

General Application Questions

Please select the companies your parents (or in noted cases, grandparents) are employed by, if applicable.

- Not Available
- Michigan State University
- Farm Bureau Insurance
- Ford Motor Company
- Local 324
- General Motors Company
- UAW
- Dow Corning (parents/grandparents)
- Army/Navy
- Straits Corporation

Please list your extracurricular activities, if applicable.

Words Used: 0 [Maximum Words: 500]

Example Formatting: ***bold***, *_italics_*

B *I*
Help Preview Edit

Save and Keep Editing
Finish and Submit

Average Chances of Winning a Private Scholarship

1 in 8

Common scholarship **CRITERIA**

GPA	Financial Need	Ethnicity	ACT/SAT score
Field of study	First-generation student	Talents	Community Service
Employer	Leadership	College choice	Activities
Military service	Disability	State of residence	Gender

Common Items Needed for Scholarships

- GPA/Transcript/Test Scores
- List of activities and leadership
- Community service hour documentation
- Portfolio (talent based)
- Resume
- Essay(s) or video(s)
- Letter of Recommendation(s) -- does the letter fit a scholarship committee?
- Picture/headshot
- Financial documents/College acceptance and/or award letter

Do you have to be nominated?

Strategies

- Identifying your eligibility (pre-work)
- Identify and collect needed components
- Organize yourself!
- Recommendation reuse and requests
- Ease of winning
 - Hyperlocal (DePaul), local (your neighborhood/Chicago), state (IL), national
 - Essay vs. no essay sweepstakes
- Apply for as many as possible
- Utilize additional scholarship databases

Common Scholarship Essay Topics

- What do you want to do after high school?
- What was your high school experience?
- Topic specific-current events
- A challenge you faced and how you grew
- Being involved in your community
- Social issues/social justice/community service
- Leadership experiences

Examples of Retooling an Essay

Common App Personal Statement Prompt

The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

The IDEal Scholarship Essay Prompt

In your educational or personal life, how have you met the challenge of adversity? More specifically, describe your situation, what you learned and how you have benefited from the experience. (There are 3 scholarships on this site with similar criteria so check them all out).

Examples of Retooling an Essay

Indiana Application Essay Prompt

Describe your academic and career plans and any special interest that you are eager to pursue as an undergraduate at Indiana University.

Lupita Turriff Scholarship Essay Prompt

How did you become interested in your chosen field and where do you hope it takes you?

Sample Scholarship Application Search

Vinnie DePaul

3.5 GPA

Plays Futbol

Paints

Italian

Learning Disability

Catholic

ESports

Tall



Scholarship Stipulations

- Is it renewable?
- What GPA do I need to maintain eligibility?
- Colleges where your student is in the top 20% of admitted students
- Don't pay for a scholarship applications
- Are there scholarships available for me in all 4 years of college?