

College and Career
Pathways Department



Scholarship Tips & Exploration

Paying for College



What is a scholarship?



Where do scholarships come from?

- ✓ The academic institution (college/university)
- ✓ Community organizations/businesses
- ✓ Private sponsors/donors

What kinds of scholarships are available?

- ✓ **Merit - Based:** academic, athletic, artistic, or other abilities
- ✓ **Need - Based:** financial need
- ✓ **Student - Specific:** ethnicity, gender, religion, etc.
- ✓ **Career - Specific:** interests and career plans
- ✓ **Unusual criteria:** left-handed



Begin your search early

Find and apply for as many scholarships as you can!



How do I find scholarships?

Look locally:

- high school counselor
- family, friends
- your employer or your parents' employers
- non-profit agencies
- religious organizations
- professional groups related to your field of interest.

Klein ISD E-Scholarship USA

www.collegeguidanceconsultants.com

Enter User Name & Password

(Contact the counseling office)

- List sorted by due date
- Search for specific types
- Titles directly link to scholarship site



www.fastweb.com

- Free scholarship database, largest, most accurate, frequent updates
- Local, national and college-specific
- Search and compare college profiles
- Requires User ID and Password you create

Scholarship Search Sites

- [Big Future by The College Board](#)
- [College Greenlight](#)
- [Fast Web](#)
- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [Scholly](#)
- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [StudentScholarshipSearch.com](#)
- [FinAid.org](#)

Federal Resources

The following websites provide important information for obtaining scholarships and grants through the federal government:

www.careeronestop.org

www.Fafsa.gov

www.StudentAid.gov/scholarships

www.NationalService.gov

www.HHS.gov

www.VA.gov

How do I apply for scholarships?

- Each scholarship has its own requirements; check scholarship's website for details
- Make sure you read the application carefully, fill it out completely, and meet the application deadline.

Get Organized

- Gather scholarship materials
- Transcripts
- Standardized test scores
- Tax returns and financial information
- Financial aid forms
- Essays
- Letters of recommendation
- Proof of eligibility

Preparing an Application

- Follow directions
- List all activities and honors
- Neatness and grammar count
- Make a copy
- Meeting deadlines is crucial
- Choose references that know you well
- Proof your application and/or essay

Tips for Writing an Essay



- Give yourself time.
- Follow directions.
- Focus on the topic.

Writing the Essay

Prepare to answer questions on a variety of topics:

- *Academic plans*
- *Current events and social issues*
- *Personal history*
- *Achievements*
- *Future plans*

Top 10 things scholarship committees look at:

1. *An application submitted on time*
2. *General qualification, criteria, and completeness*
3. *Community volunteer involvement*
4. *Leadership & Personal Development*
5. *Extracurricular Activities*
6. *Applicant's personal situation*
7. *The Essay*
8. *References & Recommendations*
9. *Grade Point Average (GPA)*
10. *SAT & ACT Scores*

Other Scholarship Application Tips

- Use a professional email address, such as firstname.lastname@gmail.com
- Clean up the content of your Facebook account, removing inappropriate and immature material
- Google your name to see what shows up
- Make a photocopy of your application before mailing it
- Send the application by certified mail, return receipt requested or with delivery confirmation
- If rejected, ask for the reviewer comments

Avoiding Scholarship Scams

- Read the fine print
- Understand the terms and conditions
- Beware of “guarantees”
- Protect personal information
- Learn more at the scholarship scams website: Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams>


Campus–Scholarship Information

Go to the campus webpage for *Counseling* and click on the link *Scholarships and Financial Aid*.

- *Database of scholarships*
- *Monthly bulletins, newsletters*
- *Presentation PowerPoints*

Klein ISD Financial Aid Resources

www.promise2purpose.net



The banner features a logo on the left with the text "PROMISE2PURPOSE" in a stylized font, with "PROMISE2" in orange and "PURPOSE" in blue. Below the logo is the Klein ISD logo. To the right of the logo, the text "PROMISE2PURPOSE Pathways" is displayed in large, bold letters, with "PROMISE2" in orange and "PURPOSE Pathways" in blue. Below this text is a dashed line and the tagline "In Klein ISD, every student enters with a promise and exits with a purpose." At the bottom of the banner is a navigation bar with five tabs: "Graduation Pathways", "Specialized HS/College Pathways", "Advanced Courses", "Resources/Events" (which is highlighted in a light blue color), and "Certifications".

PROMISE2PURPOSE Pathways

In Klein ISD, every student enters with a promise and exits with a purpose.

Graduation Pathways Specialized HS/College Pathways Advanced Courses **Resources/Events** Certifications

[Scholarships and Financial Aid Webpage](http://www.promise2purpose.net)