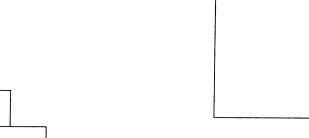
EXPLORING

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



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EXPLORING SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Finding out about and applying for scholarships can be a time consuming and complex activity. The goal is to identify funds that are considered gift aid as a resource for paying for college. Scholarships are not only for geniuses, so don't be discouraged from applying because your grades are not wonderful. Other criteria for scholarships include community service, leadership, hobbies, athletics, program of study and pure luck.

THE COMMON LINK

There is a common link among all scholarship winners – THEY APPLY!!! This may take a lot of work, and can be eased by tailoring one application so that it can be used over and over again for other scholarships. There is an art to applying for scholarships. Speak to past winners. You can learn from someone who has applied successfully.

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

An abundance of scholarship information is sent directly to high schools, and will be made available to those who request it. Also tap the resources of other schools, which may have different information.

Some approaches worth trying:

- * Check your school scholarship binder
- * Speak to parents and friends
- * Visit local libraries
- * Visit college scholarship offices
- * Check college catalogues for scholarship information
- * Use the internet

STUDENTS, START YOUR ENGINES!

Start your scholarship search as early as seventh or eighth grade. Students can enter contests (spelling bees, essay contests, athletic events, and general contests) that may offer a scholarship as the prize. Search for opportunities from lenders, newspapers, and other companies.

DEADLINES

Scholarship opportunities always have deadlines. You might want to set up a spreadsheet to clearly identify the deadline dates as well as the requirements for each scholarship. Some scholarships only require a completed application form. Others might require an essay or recommendations. If the scholarship is based on a certain criteria, be prepared to provide documentation.

BE PREPARED

Expect to do some writing and follow through on all requests:

- *Write to the scholarship source requesting an application (or you may be able to apply online). If the application is to be mailed, it is a good idea to enclose a cover letter that includes a brief description of why you are applying, where the information to apply was found, and the importance of the scholarship.
- *If you receive a "reject" letter, it is recommended that you write a thank you letter for the opportunity to apply. If you can apply again in a future year, include a request to be put on a mailing list.
- *If you receive the scholarship, send a thank you letter immediately. Include a description of how the scholarship will positively impact your pursuit of a college education.

TEN TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- 1. Read the scholarship requirements and directions carefully. Your application will not be successful if you are not eligible for the scholarship.
- 2. Complete the application in full. If a question does not apply, note that on the application. Do not leave anything blank.
- 3. Follow directions. Provide everything that is required, but do not supply things that are not requested. You could be disqualified.
- 4. Neatness counts. Make several photocopies of the forms you receive. Use the copies as working drafts to develop your application. Type your application. If you must print, do so neatly.
- 5. Make sure that your essay makes a positive impression. The key to writing a strong essay is to be personal and specific. Include concrete details to make your experience come alive: who, what, where and when.
- 6. Pay attention to deadlines.
- 7. Give the application a final check. Proofread the entire application carefully. Be on the lookout for misspelled words or grammatical errors. Ask a friend, teacher or parent to proofread it as well.
- 8. Provide your name and social security number (if applicable) on each page of your application to ensure that nothing is misplaced. Before sending your application, make a copy of the entire packet for your records.
- 9. Ask for help if you need it. If you have problems with the application, call the funding organization and ask questions.
- 10. Your ability to submit a neat, timely, complete application reflects on you. It is your face to this organization. Take pride in yourself by submitting your best application.

SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS

According to the Federal Trade Commission, there are many fraudulent scholarship databases.

Be wary of:

- * Scholarship services that charge fees for their listings or claim to have "exclusive" information
- * Companies that guarantee a scholarship or your money back
- * Services that ask for a credit card number or say you are a "finalist" in a contest that you did not enter

SCHOLARSHIP SOURCES:

Fastweb www.fastweb.com

AXA Achievement Scholarship Program www.axaonline.com/axafoundation/

Coca Cola Scholar Program www.coca-colascholars.org

Women Sport Foundation www.womenssportsfoundation.org

Davis Putter Scholarship Fund www.davisputter.org

American Legion Legacy Scholarship Award www.legion.org/programs/resources/scholarships

State Aid to Native Americans NYS Education Department, Room 475 EBA Albany, N.Y. 12234

Padgett Business Services Scholarship Program www.smallbizpros.com

Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts www.fummwa.org

Hispanic Scholarship Fund www.hsf.net

Gates Millennium Scholars www.gmsp.org

National Society of Accountants Scholarship Foundation www.nsacct.org

Tylenol Scholarship www.tylenol.com

Ron Brown Scholar Program http://www.ronbrown.org

Scholarships on the Net http://www.advocacy-net.com/scholarmks.htm

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship http://www.truman.gov/

Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarships http://www.jackierobinson.org/

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation http://www.marine-scholars.org/

United Negro College Fund Merck Science Initiative http://www.uncf.org/merck/program.htm

Undergraduate Scholarship Program through the National Institutes of Health https://ugsp.nih.gov

National Scholarships at all levels http://scholarships.kachinatech.com/scholars.html

Sallie Mae's free Online Scholarship Search http://www.salliemae.com/planning/scholarships.html

Astronaut Scholarship Foundation http://www.astronautscholarship.org/

Athletic Scholarships
http://scholarships-ar-us.org/athletic.htm

Scholarships for College Students http://www.scholarships4students.com Intel Science Talent Search http://www.sciserv.org/sts

Discover Card Tribute Award Scholarships www.discoverfinancial.com/community/scholarship.shtml National Peace Essay Contest http://www.usip.org/ed/npec/index.shtml

Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships http://holocaust.hklaw.com/

Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships http://www.aynrand.org/contests/

Brand Essay Competition http://www.instituteforbrandleadership.org/IBLEssayContest-2002Rules.html

Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org/

Presidential Freedom Scholarships http://www.learnandserve.org

SallieMae Scholarship Search http://www.college answer.com

American Political Science Association http://www.apsanet.org/PS/grants/aspen3.cfm

National Academy of American Scholars Program http://www.naas.org/senior.php

Actuarial Scholarships for Minority Students http://www.beanactuary.org/minority/scholarship.cfm

International Students Scholarships
http://www.iefa.org/
College Board Scholarship Search
http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

Burger King Scholarship Search http://www.sms.scholarshipamerica.org/bkscholars/

Siemans Westinghouse Competition http://www.siemens-foundation.org/

League of United Latin American Citizens http://www.lulac.org/programs/scholar.html

CollegeNet Scholarship http://www.collegenet.com/elect/app/app

Union Sponsored Scholarships and Aid http://www.aflcio.org/scholarships/scholar.htm

Federal Scholarships & Aid Getaways http://www.fedmoney.org/

25 Scholarship Gateways from Black Excel www.blackexcel.org/25scholarships.htm

World Learning http://www.worldlearning.org/sitemap.htm

ScienceNet Scholarship Listing http://www.sciencenet.emory.edu/undergrad/scholarship.html

Rhodes Scholarships at Oxford http://www.rhodesscholar.org/info.html

The Roothbert Scholarship Fund http://www.roothbertfund.org/scholarships.php

Nursing Education Scholarships http://www.nysna.org/education/schools/scholarships.html

ExploraVision High School Scholarships http://www.exploravision.org/

John F. Kennedy Scholarship http://www.jfkcontest.org/

The Lincoln Forum http://www.thelincolnforum.org/essayContest.html

New York State Grants, Scholarships and Awards Quick Reference For more information go to www.hesc.com

<u>Scholarships</u>

Flight 3407 Memorial Scholarships

Flight 3407 Memorial Scholarships provide financial aid to children, spouses and financial dependents of individuals killed as a direct result of the crash of Continental Airlines Flight 3407 on February 12, 2009.

Flight 587 Memorial Scholarships

The Flight 587 Memorial Scholarships guarantee access to a college education for the families and financial dependents of victims of the crash of American Airlines Flight 587 on November 12, 2001.

Military Service Recognition Scholarship (MSRS)

The Military Service Recognition Scholarship provides financial aid to children, spouses and financial dependents of members of the armed forces of the United States or of a state organized militia who, at any time on or after Aug. 2, 1990, while a New York State resident, died or became severely and permanently disabled while engaged in hostilities or training for hostilities. For study in New York State.

NYS Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship

The New York Lottery is not currently awarding any new scholarships. Recipients of a prior LOT Scholarship will continue to receive any unpaid balance subject to the original requirements.

NYS Math & Science
Teaching Incentive Scholarship

The NYS Math & Science Teaching Incentive scholarship provides grants to eligible full-time undergraduate or graduate students in approved programs that lead to math or science teaching careers in secondary education.

NYS Memorial Scholarships for Families of Deceased Firefighters, Volunteer Firefighters, Police Officers, Peace Officers, and Emergency Medical Service Workers

The NYS Memorial Scholarship provides financial aid to children, spouses and financial dependents of deceased firefighters, volunteer firefighters, police officers, peace officers, and emergency medical service workers who have died as the result of injuries sustained in the line of duty in service to the State of New York. For study in New York State.

NYS Scholarships for Academic Excellence

Scholarships for Academic Excellence are awarded to outstanding graduates from registered New York State high schools. Awards are based on student grades in certain Regents exams. For up to five years of undergraduate study in New York State.

NYS World Trade Center Memorial Scholarship The NYS World Trade Center Memorial Scholarship program guarantees access to a college education to the families and financial dependents of the victims who died or were severely and permanently disabled in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and the resulting rescue and recovery efforts.

Senator Patricia K. McGee Nursing Faculty Scholarship

The Senator Patricia K. McGee Nursing Faculty Scholarship program seeks to increase the number of educators and adjunct clinical faculty teaching nursing education in New York State.

Awards

NYS Aid to Native Americans

This program provides aid to enrolled members of tribes listed on the official roll of New York State tribes or to the child of an enrolled member of a New York State tribe. For study in New York State.

NYS Regents Awards for Children of Deceased and Disabled Veterans The Regents Awards for Children of Deceased and Disabled Veterans is provided to students whose parent(s) have served in the U.S. Armed Forces during specified periods of war or national emergency.

Segal AmeriCorps
Education Award

The AmeriCorps Education Award is provided to New York State residents interested in high quality opportunities in community service.

Veterans Tuition Awards

Under this program, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, or other eligible combat veterans matriculated at an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution or in an approved vocational training program in New York State are eligible for awards for full or part-time study.