

# Scholarship 101

A scholarship is a financial aid award for a student to further their education. Scholarships are awarded on various criteria usually reflecting the values and purposes of the donor or founder of the award.



## Scholarship Classifications



### Merit Based

These awards are based on a student's academic, athletic, artistic, or other abilities. They often factor in an applicant's community service record and extracurricular activities. The most common merit-based scholarships, awarded by either private organizations or directly from the student's intended college, recognize academic achievement or high scores on the ACT or SAT standardized tests.



### Need Based

These awards are based on the student and family's financial record and will require applicants to fill out a FAFSA to qualify if the scholarship is a federal award. Private need-based scholarships will also often require the results of a FAFSA. The FAFSA calculates a student's financial need through a formula looking at the expected family contribution. Please visit [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) to learn more about the FAFSA.



### Student Specific

These are scholarships where applicants must initially qualify by race, gender, religion, family and medical history, or many other student-specific factors. Minority scholarships are the most common awards in this category.



### Career Specific

These are scholarships awarded to students planning to pursue a specific field of study.

# Scholarship Search

## Naviance

CCISD'S Counseling & Student Services lists scholarship information about local scholarships from community organizations. Information regarding scholarship requirements and deadlines for submission can be viewed from the scholarship listing for each scholarship. Please sign into Naviance using your CCISD Single Sign On portal.

[Learn more about Naviance at ccisd.net/naviance](https://ccisd.net/naviance)

## College Website

Visit your intended college's website to see the scholarship options they have available at their campus financial aid resource page.

## Scholarship Search Engines

- fastweb.com
- collegeboard.org
- petersons.com/finaid
- free-4u.com

## Naviance Student User Instructions

The COLLEGES Section provides access to Scholarships:

1. Log in to Naviance through your CCISD Single Sign On portal. Once logged into your SOS, click on the Naviance icon.
2. In the **Colleges** section of Naviance Student, you can search for scholarships. You can search College-Specific Scholarships, and National Scholarships, or complete a Scholarship Search based on the information in your Naviance Profile.
3. Use **Favorite Scholarships** to track scholarship awards you've been awarded.

