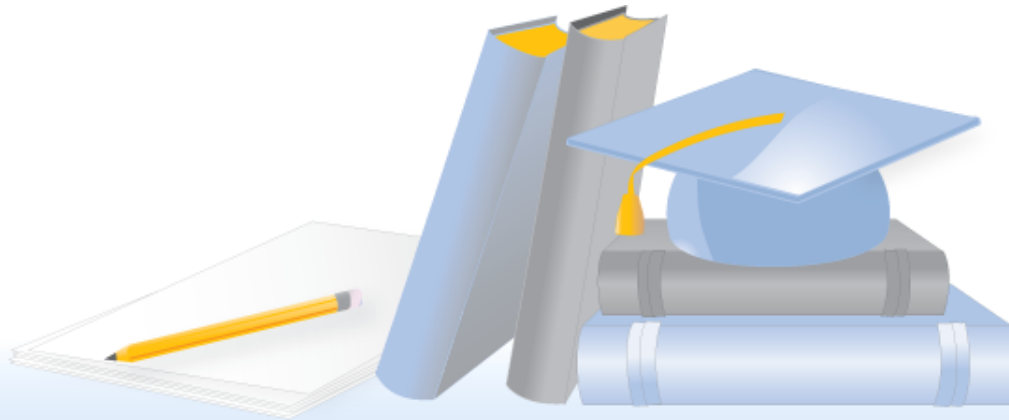




Filling the Gap: Scholarships



College Funding: Exploring The Options

- FAFSA
- Federal Loans and Grants
- College Savings Accounts
- **Scholarships**
- Private Lending Agencies: Student Loans



College Funding: Scholarships

- **WHAT** types of scholarships are out there?
- **WHERE** can scholarships be found?
- **WHEN** should students apply for scholarships?
- **HOW** do we navigate the process?



College Funding: Scholarships

- Merit-based vs. Need-based

Merit-based	Need-based
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Academic or merit-based scholarships are awarded to recognize outstanding academic performance, talents and leadership abilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need-based scholarships are awarded to those who demonstrate financial need.



College Funding: Scholarships

- Academics vs. Athletics

Academics	Athletics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Scholarships awarded based on a student's intended area of studyMost common areas of study: education, health, science, technologyProfessional organizations or companies affiliated with majors offer scholarships to entice students into their field.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Traditional athletic scholarships are very competitiveScholarships offered by colleges will be run by the NCAA, NAIA or NJCAAScholarships also available for athletes who play not to make a career of a sport, but because they enjoy the game.



College Funding: Scholarships

- Other types of scholarship opportunities
 - Scholarships by grade level
 - Scholarships by State
 - Scholarships by Type



College Funding: Scholarships

- Scholarships by Grade Level
 - Majority of scholarships will target college-bound high school students
 - Scholarships are available at every grade level (high school, undergraduate & graduate levels)



College Funding: Scholarships

- Scholarships by State
 - Some of the most common and easy to find scholarships are state scholarships
 - State scholarships are need-based & merit-based
 - State scholarships pay particular attention to applicants pursuing certain high need fields



College Funding: Scholarships

- Scholarships by Type
 - Different types include scholarships based on:
 - Ethnic background
 - Medical disabilities (Cancer, Epilepsy, etc.)
 - Community service
 - Religious convictions
 - Artistic abilities (art, film, dance, music)
 - Environmental causes



College Funding: Scholarships

- Where to find scholarships
 - Check the **Financial Aid Office** of the school the student plans on attending
 - Check with **local organizations and community foundations**
 - Sign up with **scholarship search sites** like Scholarships.com



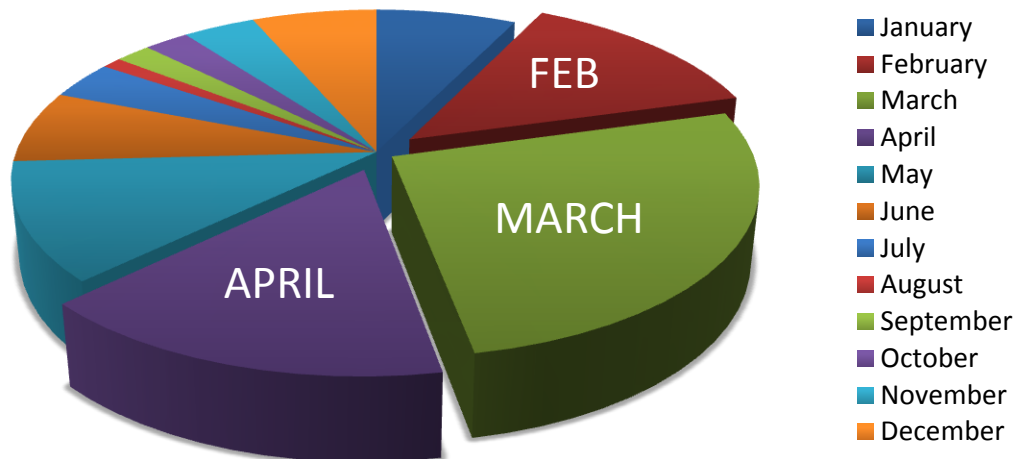
College Funding: Scholarships

- When to apply for scholarships?
 - Scholarships are offered **year round**
 - Best time to apply is **NOW**
 - Conduct a **search regularly** throughout the year to ensure you find recently added scholarships



College Funding: Scholarships

- When to apply for scholarships?
 - Large majority of scholarship deadlines are within the months of **February-April**



College Funding: Scholarships

- How to navigate the process
 1. Get organized
 - Pull together the information that may be needed for all scholarship applications
 - Academic Information (GPA, SAT/ACT scores)
 - Recommendation letters
 - College choices
 - Personal essay
 - Community/volunteer work



College Funding: Scholarships

- How to navigate the process
 2. Create a list of eligible scholarships
 3. Sort the scholarship list by deadline
 4. Start applying
 - Be sure to read the directions, qualifications, and fine print carefully
 - Watch out for scholarship scams



Questions & Answers

- Visit the Resource and Educators sections of Scholarships.com for more tips on how to fund a college education and free materials for financial aid nights.
 - Resources Link: <http://www.scholarships.com/resources/>
 - Educators Link: <http://www.scholarships.com/educators/>

