

6 Things You Should Know About Scholarships

And how to get started finding free money for college

1 There are scholarships for everyone, not just jocks and geniuses
Don't sell yourself short — millions of scholarships are out there for almost every talent and interest. Are you a vegetarian? Roller skater? Star Trek fan? Yup, there's a scholarship for that.

2 Even a few hundred dollars can make a big difference
Some scholarships offer big money, some not so much. Apply anyway. Even if you only get a few hundred dollars, that can help pay for textbooks or other expenses. Bottom line: scholarships are money in your pocket that you won't have to pay back.

3 It's really worth the time and effort
Sure, you might have to write a few essays but it's worth it. Scholarships are free money! Be sure to follow guidelines and be mindful of deadlines. A late submission can eliminate you from consideration.

4 Watch out for scholarship scams
Don't pay for scholarships. Period. There are many reputable and free scholarship search sites. Get recommendations from your school about good sources.

5 You can apply even if you're already in college
Did you know that 50% of scholarships are available for students already enrolled in college? You can apply for scholarships every year you're in school.

6 Finding scholarships is easy (and free)
Start at SallieMae.com/ScholarshipSearch, your all-access pass to finding scholarships. It's free and it's home to more than 5 million, worth over \$24 billion. It matches you to available scholarships and alerts you when new ones pop up.

Begin your search at SallieMae.com/ScholarshipSearch

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