

Ten Things You Should Know About Scholarships

1. Check your sources

- Counselors and career centers
- Public and school libraries
- Colleges and universities
- Academic departments
- Local businesses
- Native Corporations
- Clubs and Organizations
- The Internet

2. Don't pay for free info

Some companies offer scholarship searches for a fee. Often the same reference material is available for free.

3. Bookmark these

Scholarships.com (www.scholarships.com)

Fastweb (www.fastweb.com)

FinAid (www.finaid.org/scholarships/)

CollegeBoard (www.collegeboard.com)

4. Ask for applications

Start with your high school or college counselors, career center, or UAOnline. In some cases, you may need to obtain application material directly from the donor of the scholarship. When you do request material directly, be sure to indicate the academic year for which you'll be applying and always include your address.

5. Search early and watch for deadlines

Most scholarships have deadlines starting in October. By March 15th, 75% of the scholarship deadlines have passed. Allow yourself time to complete required essays, resumes, and other materials that may go with your application.

6. Your odds are good

Scholarships are available to most who are willing to research the available sources and follow through with applying. While many scholarships are awarded based on academic merit, some scholarship donors also focus on other characteristics such as:

- Leadership
- Athletic ability
- Artistic or musical talent
- Geographical residency
- Non-traditional students
- Military affiliation
- Financial need

7. Improve your scholarship potential

- Achieve and maintain at least a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA)
- Be involved
- Be a leader
- Discover and nurture your talents

8. Many scholarships pay year after year

Some scholarships are renewable for multiple years. You may have to reapply each year, so keep a record of your awards and reapply if needed. Remember deadlines!

9. You can receive multiple scholarships

There are limits associated with ROTC or tuition-only scholarships, but other than that, go for more awards! If you have questions about limits, ask your Financial Aid Office.

10. You can receive scholarships & financial aid

Scholarship funding may reduce the amount of aid you will receive. Typically it will reduce loan and work assistance before changing grants. Contact your Financial Aid Office to find out how your financial aid award may be affected by scholarships.