Tips for Successful Scholarship Searches

Get Organized: Make a spreadsheet of scholarships that you have applied for and keep it updated.

Check Qualifications: Don’t waste time applying if you don’t qualify.

Pay Attention to Deadlines: Colleges mean business when it comes to deadlines. Keep deadlines on your calendar and make sure that you adhere to them. Need a reminder? Set it on your phone!

Recycle: Write one generic essay and then mold it to fit different applications. Example: if the mission/goals of the sponsoring entity values are education, speak to how education is important to you.

Do Your Best Work: Proofread, proofread, proofread! Then ask teachers, Talent Search Advisors, parents, and friends to proofread for you. Grammar and spelling matter!

Do Your Homework for Letters of Recommendation: You will need them! Ask for them well in advance of your deadline.

Plan to Devote Time: Set aside the same time every week (several hours) to work on scholarships.
**Scholarship Search Resources**

Create an account with all of these resources so that you can be “matched” with scholarships that pertain to you.

**Databases**

- **Fastweb**
  - [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- **College Board**
  - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- **Scholarship Experts**
  - [www.collegescholarships.com](http://www.collegescholarships.com)
- **College for All Texans**
  - [www.collegeforalltexans.com](http://www.collegeforalltexans.com)
- **Cappex**
  - [www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com)
- **Scholarship America**
  - [www.scholarshipamerica.org](http://www.scholarshipamerica.org)
- **Peterson’s**
  - [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- **Unigo**
  - [www.unigo.com](http://www.unigo.com)
- **CollegeNET**
  - [www.CollegeNET.com](http://www.CollegeNET.com)
- **Scholarship Monkey**
  - [www.scholarshipmonkey.com](http://www.scholarshipmonkey.com)
- **Raise Me**
  - [www.raise.me](http://www.raise.me)
- **Niche**
  - [www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com)
- **Six Up**
  - [www.sixup.com](http://www.sixup.com)

The list below is not an exhaustive list! Although you might find scholarships at these websites, do not narrow your search to just these.

**Scholarship Websites**

- **Coca Cola Scholarship**
  - [www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org)
- **Astronaut Scholarship Foundation**
  - [www.astronautscholarship.org](http://www.astronautscholarship.org)
- **Ambassadorial**

**Scholarships for Minorities**

- **Hispanic College Fund**
  - [www.hispanicfund.org](http://www.hispanicfund.org)
- **Ron Brown Scholarships**
  - [www.ronbrown.org](http://www.ronbrown.org)
- **United Negro College Fund**
  - [www.uncf.org](http://www.uncf.org)
Scholarship Tips

- Apply for scholarships at the schools you are applying to for admission.
- Ask everyone that you know if they know of any scholarships and look in your circle of people and groups that you know: churches, civic organizations, your job, your parents’ job, your career interests, your club affiliations.
- Review the Counseling page at your high school for a list of scholarships and deadlines.