

## Scholarship & Resources Information

### Scholarship Resources:

- UP Opportunities Outside Scholarship Database - Office of Financial Aid:  
[up.edu/finaid/scholarships](http://up.edu/finaid/scholarships)
  - **Outside Scholarship Database:** Individual scholarships that we are notified of by outside organizations
  - **Sort based on:** scholarship title, subject area, state of residency, grad or undergrad, citizenship, non-citizen, and study abroad
- Oregon Residents: OSAC @ [oregonstudentaid.gov](http://oregonstudentaid.gov)
- Washington Residents: Washboard @ [thewashboard.org](http://thewashboard.org)
- Western Washington Residents: Edmund Maxwell Foundation @ [maxwell.org](http://maxwell.org)
- Eastern Washington & Idaho Residents: Innovia Foundation @ [innovia.org](http://innovia.org)
- Hawaii Residents: Hawaii Community Foundation @ [hawaiicommunityfoundation.org](http://hawaiicommunityfoundation.org)
- Alaska Residents: Alaska Community Foundation @ [alaskacf.org](http://alaskacf.org)

### Places to Check for Scholarships

- **High School Guidance Office:** Entering first-year students (current high school seniors) should work closely with their High School Counselors to obtain information on local scholarships. Ask if there are any scholarships for which your High School Counselor can nominate you since the applicant pool is often much smaller for these scholarships.
- **Community Organizations:** Clubs, organizations, professional associations, church memberships and even college alumni offices may all be sources of private scholarships.
- **Employers:** Check to see if your (or a parent's) employer would assist with college costs. Many employers offer tuition assistance benefits for their employees and their dependents, or even a scholarship fund for which you could apply.
- **Your Academic Department:** Some departments keep their own scholarship lists. Look at your department's website to see if they have a list that you can look at.

### Beware of Scholarship Scams

- If you pay money to get money, it's probably a scam.
- Never invest more than postage stamp to get information about scholarships or to apply for scholarships.
- Nobody can guarantee that you will win a scholarship.
- Do not give out personal information such as social security number, bank account information, or credit card information.

## Finding Scholarships

### Applying for Scholarships

- **Start early.** If possible start a year early and do the research regarding what is required for each scholarship as far as deadlines, qualifications, letters of reference, etc. Track all deadlines and scholarships so you can apply for multiple scholarships at once.
- **Start Locally.** Always start at the local, state, regional level and then proceed to the national level. At the local and state level, the scholarships might be smaller but there will be fewer students applying for them which will increase your odds of winning a scholarship.
- **Spend time on your essays.** They will get you the big bucks. By spending time on your essay and writing a fantastic one you are setting yourself apart from the competition. Use the resources available to you to get help with your essay and have multiple parties proof read it for mistakes.
- **No scholarship is too small.** Think of it as a job. When you receive a \$500 scholarship that you spent 5 hours researching, writing your essay, and applying for it; you just earned yourself \$100 an hour. Much better than the average student!
- **REMEMBER YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T APPLY! Apply to many to get any!**

### Tips & Tricks for Finding Scholarships

- **"Kitchen Table Talk"** – Sit down as a family and discuss all the organizations, companies, employers, and clubs that your family is affiliated with. There are lots of opportunities out there that are not advertised.
- **Google Search** – Don't be afraid to do a Google search when looking for scholarships. Generic scholarship searches (such as "College Scholarship for Bio Majors") can be very helpful in finding good places to start your search. Play around with search terms that apply to you and see what scholarships you can find. Another great tip with Google searches is adding ".pdf or .doc" on the end of your search. You will come up with lots of scholarship applications that you can sort through to see if the scholarship applies to you.
- **Use Scholarship Search Engines** – Using one of the large scholarship search engines can give you good ideas on where to start your scholarship search but it should not be the only resource you use. When filling out the profiles be liberal, for example when you get the section asking for your major, select ALL the majors that relate to your major.
- **Ask the question** – Many smaller scholarship organizations do not do a lot to advertise their scholarships. It never hurts to contact an organization you have an association with and ask if they have a scholarship that you can apply for.