

College Scholarships

Looking for College Scholarships?

Consider the best use of your time and effort. Start early and be diligent!

1. Apply to colleges and work directly with the admissions and financial aid office of that institution to see what merit scholarships for which you are eligible.
2. Research local scholarships of which you have an affiliation. Examples: parent's employer, church, school, local businesses.
3. Check out the scholarship websites that are listed on the "Helpful Links" tab on this page. It includes several good scholarship sites.

Be sure you have set up online accounts with www.cfnc.org and www.collegeboard.org. These sites can be extremely helpful. CFNC.org will give you great information about North Carolina colleges and universities. In addition the site has sample resumes, college planning calendars and information about scholarships.

- act.org
- This site offers loads of information on the PLAN ACT & ACT. It is also a great source for college financial aid research. You can register online at this site for the ACT. This is a helpful site, not just for test information, but for general advice about the college selection process.
- cccu.org
- Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (105 Christian liberal arts colleges that emphasize the integration of faith and learning).
- collegeboard.org
- This site offers information on the PSAT, SAT I & IIs, & AP tests. You can also sign up to get an SAT question of the day emailed to you. There are five focuses on the site: College Board tests (information, dates, registration, sending scores) planning for college, college search, apply to college (online application and advice about essays) and paying for college (including a financial aid estimator, scholarship search and CSS Profile).
- collegesofdistinction.com
- This site offers information on over 200 colleges that have been selected as a college of distinction. The criteria for selection are engaged students, great teaching, vibrant community, and successful outcomes.
- collegeprowler.com
- This can be helpful if you are seeking reviews written by students for students.
- commonapp.org
- The website for the Common Application (accepted by over 450 colleges).
- ctcl.org
- This is a site originally developed by Loren Pope and his team who research which colleges are found to be "colleges that change lives" based on his book of the same name.
- fairtest.org

- At this site, you will find a listing of colleges and universities that do not use the SAT or ACT to admit a substantial numbers of students. These test-optional schools have been increasing in number.
- kaplan.com
- This site gives information about all Kaplan services including area SAT & ACT prep classes.
- collegedreambuilder.com
- The College Dream Builder is a proven and reliable system that helps students prepare for and gain admissions to college. Their comprehensive program prepares students to pursue their life dreams, while removing the complexity, frustration, and challenges that parents face when sending their students to college.
- myblueprintstory.com
- Find a college fair in your area, and learn about all the Christian higher education options available for you! Find college matches and financial support advice.
- mycollegeoptions.com
- College matching based on your profile.
- naccap.org
- This site can link you to a variety of Christian colleges: National Association of Christian College Admissions Personnel (nearly 150 Christian liberal arts and Bible colleges).
- princetonreview.com
- This site gives loads of general information about the entire process and offers a recruiting service. It contains a wealth of resources and references. There are four focuses: research, SAT & ACT tests, applications and paying for college including a financial aid estimator and scholarship search. It provides brief descriptions of “The Best 351 Colleges.” They also have prep courses which they encourage you to take.

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FINANCIAL AID, STUDENT LOANS, & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

- act.org
- This site offers loads of information on the PLAN ACT & ACT. It is also a great source for college financial aid research. You can register online at this site for the ACT. This is a helpful site, not just for test information, but for general advice about the college selection process.
- cfnc.org
- This is a free resource for almost all elements of the college search, finance and application process. Visit and set up your “MY CFNC” account. It’s one of the best sites for North Carolina residents!
- collegeboard.org
- Some colleges/universities require the CSS (financial aid profile) to be completed in addition to the FAFSA form. The CSS does have a required fee.
- studentaid.ed.gov
- US Dept. of Education website to explore grants, scholarships and aid.
- fafsa.ed.gov

- This is FAFSA on the web (the free financial aid form required by all colleges). You will need to acquire a PIN and you can apply for the “Free Application for Federal Student Aid online. You and your parents must fill out the FAFSA form ASAP after January 1 of your senior year. The PROFILE (a supplementary financial aid form required by many private colleges) can be accessed at via the College Board website. Both are online applications.
- fafsa4caster.ed.gov
- This is a free resource that will allow you plug your financial information into a forecaster which is very accurate. It is a huge help in planning ahead and knowing what colleges will expect you to be able to pay. It is a good idea to do this your child’s sophomore and junior years in preparation.
- fastweb.com
- If you register with FastWeb, this service will email you with scholarships that match your criteria. As one of the most up-to-date scholarship databases, it can be helpful and is completely free!
- finaid.org
- FinAid is a guide to understanding the various types of financial aid available and provides calculators to help you estimate how much money you will need for college. There is also a “Financial Aid To Do List” to help you get organized. Go to the EFC Estimator. This also provides Title IV and Profile codes, needed as you complete the financial aid forms. This website also contains a great deal of useful information about the financial aid process and types of aid available.
- ScholarshipGold.com
- This site sends out an e-letter that is updated by Elizabeth Hartley, private counselor and author of *Scholarship Gold*. She offers a variety of services for students in the college search, application, interview, and scholarship search process.
- scholarshipplus.com/charmeck
- This link has the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School guide to scholarships which is researched and compiled by the School Counseling Services Department.
- schoolsoup.com
- A good site to use for scholarship searches.
- theoldschool.org
- This comes highly recommended. The Financial Aid Resource Center provides a free newsletter and offers discussions on financial aid concerns.

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

- hispanicfund.org - Hispanic College Fund
- kasf.org - Korean American Scholarship Fund
- theciaa.com - Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association
- uncf.org United Negro College Fund