



University Transfer Center

Scholarship Tips

While You're Searching

- Explore all of your scholarship options. Look for scholarships online, in reference books, and at the financial aid office.
- Consider local scholarship opportunities- a local scholarship is probably your best chance for getting a scholarship. This means it will be less competitive as there are less applicants. Local banks, credit unions, grocery stores, and churches are all potential resources for community resources.
 - Small local scholarships = less competition
 - Big national scholarships = more competition
- Start ASAP and apply early- There are many scholarships that have early application deadlines, so don't miss out on these opportunities.
- Check University/College specific scholarships- Check with the university/college you plan to transfer to.

Before You Apply

- Get involved, and stay involved in extracurricular activities if possible.
- Apply for as many scholarships as you are eligible for- several smaller scholarships can add up to a lot of money.
- Apply only if you are eligible- read all the scholarship requirements and directions carefully, and make sure that you are eligible before you send in your application.
- Be persistent!- Be prepared to spend many hours researching for scholarships, and even more time on the application itself, however your time will pay off, just start early and don't give up.
- Select the right people to write your letters of recommendation, and give them plenty of time to do a good job (allow at least two weeks).

During Your Application

- Read the supplemental materials with the scholarship application to better understand the program's focus (community service, academics, subject interest). Then, answer the questions with the focus area in mind.
- Answer questions as they are asked. Don't go off topic.
- Fill out all forms completely, accurately and legibly, type whenever possible.
- Abide by application requirements and deadlines, use checklists and get organized.
- Make a copy of application before mailing it, and obtain a certificate of mailing for everything you mail.
- Promptly return all information requests from scholarship committees.

Beware of Scholarship Scams

- Do NOT pay any organization, company or individual to apply for scholarships, for scholarship search assistance, or for access to scholarship lists. Legitimate scholarship programs NEVER ask for an application fee.
- Nobody can guarantee you will win a scholarship.
- Do not give out personal information like bank account, credit card or social security numbers.

Scholarship Resources

Websites

- www.sbscholarship.org
- www.ahcfoundation.org
- www.fastweb.com
- www.maldef.org
- www.salef.org
- www.AB540.com
- www.latinocollegedollars.org
- http://e4fc.org/resources/scholarshiplist.html
- www.collegegrant.net
- www.collegescholarships.org
- www.nerdwallet.com
- www.scholarships.com
- www.finaid.org
- www.petersons.com
- www.cns.gov (volunteer positions in your area)

Written Resources available in the University Transfer Center

- Peterson's Scholarship Almanac
- Peterson's Scholarships, Grants, and Prizes
- Dollars and Sense for College Students by Ellen Braitman
- The College Board's College Cost & Financial Aid Handbook
- Cash for College by Cynthia Ruiz Mckee and Phillip C Mckee, Jr.
- How to go to College for Almost Free by Ben Kaplan

Other Sources

- Local library
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Hancock Financial Aid Office
- Hancock Library
- Your or your parents' employer(s)
- Hancock University Transfer Center
- Local chapters of national organizations (i.e. Lion's, Elk's, Kiwanis, etc.)
- Social or community service groups you or your parents are affiliated with
- Hancock Career Services Job Placement office