



Scholarship Guide

Educational Opportunity Center

3100 Main St., Ste. 100

Kansas City, MO 64111

816.604.4400

State and Local

[Greater Kansas City Community Foundation](http://growyourgiving.org/scholarships): growyourgiving.org/scholarships

[Truman Heartland Community Foundation](http://thcf.org/students/scholarships): thcf.org/students/scholarships

[Great Jobs KC](http://greatjobskc.org): greatjobskc.org

[My Scholarship Central](http://myscholarshipcentral.org): myscholarshipcentral.org

[James L. and Nellie M. Westlake Scholarship](http://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/westlake): learnmore.scholarsapply.org/westlake

[Missouri Department of Higher Education](http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants): dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants

[Missouri Department of American Legion](http://missourilegion.org/scholarships): missourilegion.org/scholarships

General

appily.com

unigo.com

pathwaystoscience.org

myscholly.com

collegeboard.org

tuitionfundingsources.com

nitrocollege.com

bold.org

niche.com

scholarships.com

fastweb.com

petersons.com

scholarshipamerica.org

collegescholarships.org

Specific Populations

African-American

uncf.org/scholarships

blackexcel.org/06-200-free-scholarships-minorities.htm

tmcf.org

usda.gov/partnerships/1890NationalScholars

Latinx

hdfkc.org

hacu.net

maldef.org

hsf.net

LGBTQ+

hrc.org/resources/scholarships

nerdwallet.com/blog/loans/student-loans/great-lgbt-scholarships

transstudent.org/scholarships

Immigrants

usahello.org/education/university-adult-education/scholarships/

unigo.com

Individuals with Disabilities

disabledperson.com/scholarships/info

<https://aaahd.us/initiatives/scholarship-program/>

bold.org

afb.org (vision impaired)

Military Members/Veterans

linkvet.org/app/answers/detail/a_id/1257/

pva.org/find-support/scholarship-program

legion.org/scholarships

fisherhouse.org/programs/scholarship

Scholarship Search Tips

- Start Early! Most scholarship deadlines are in March or April.
- BEWARE of scholarship scams! Watch out for phrases like: “This scholarship is guaranteed”, “You can’t get this information anywhere else”, “We need your credit card or account information”, “You’ve been selected” for an award you have never applied for, “The scholarship requires a small fee or attend a seminar on how to get financial aid for a small fee”. For more information or to report a scam: Federal Trade Commission www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams.
- Note if the scholarship is renewable.
- Keep applying for scholarships. You will be in school more than one year.

Where to Look

- High school students – check with **high school counselor** for possible scholarship opportunities
- Contact all **colleges** you are interested in to find out about their scholarship opportunities.
- Check to see if your **employer** and/or your parents’ employers, if relevant, provide scholarships.
- **Professional organizations/associations** representing individuals in your intended career field
- **Military-connected** individuals look for scholarships that have this as a criterion.
- Do you belong to a **church, synagogue or other religious organization?**
- Are you or your parents a member of a **trade group, club, union, or association?**
- Do you or your parents belong to any **service organizations** such as Jaycees, Lions, Elks, etc.?
- Are you or your parents a member of a **fraternity or sorority?**
- Colleges might have scholarships for **children of alumni** if your parents graduated from college.
- **Large organizations and businesses** often provide scholarships to students who live in the area. Think of banking institutions, large retailers, manufacturing, high tech businesses, etc. in your hometown (or where you live now). Contact them directly to see if they offer scholarships.

Application Tips

- Scholarship committees want to give funding to students who will be successful in their education. Your challenge is to “prove” to scholarship committees that you are a good investment! On your scholarship applications, you need to demonstrate that you have qualities that will make you successful, such as: leadership, initiative, determination, integrity, service to your community, overcoming obstacles, commitment.... The list could go on and on. Start by identifying your skills, values, and strengths, then outline examples of past experiences where you have demonstrated these qualities.
- Use a tracking chart to organize the process: scholarship organization and address, application deadline, date you applied, required materials, date you should hear from them, etc.
- Budget time devoted to researching and applying for scholarships. This process takes time, commitment, and persistence!
- Carefully read the essay questions. Write specifically about what the essay directions tell you to write about. Grammar, punctuation, and spelling need to be flawless. No typos!

Find the answer to all of your federal-aid related questions at studentaid.gov

Revised Feb 2024