

# \$ Scholarships



# What is a Scholarship?

- The government, colleges and private organizations provide money to help students cover college costs –they are usually considered ‘gifts’ that do not need to be paid back!
- Scholarships are usually offered to students who meet certain requirements –they can be need based, academic based, given to a specific ethnic group or religion, etc.
- There are several different types of scholarships available
  - College Scholarships
  - Outside Scholarships
    - Local Scholarships
    - State Scholarships
    - National Scholarships



# College Scholarships

- Most common type of scholarship
- Check out a college's website and financial aid materials for information on the scholarships it offers
- Your college may automatically submit your name for their scholarships when you submit financial aid forms –best to check with a financial aid advisor



# Outside Scholarships

- Given by an organization that isn't your college or the federal government
- National Scholarships –open to students all over the country; usually sponsored by large organizations
  - National Merit
  - Gates Millennium Scholarship
  - Intel Science Talent Search
  - Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation
- Local Scholarships –scholarships awarded to students graduating in your county and state
  - Scholarships sponsored:
    - Church, Synagogue, Mosque or other religious community
    - Local branches of organizations –Rotary Club or Village Council
    - Your parents employer
    - Your employer
- State Scholarships –limited to students attending college in their state
  - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship



# How to Apply for a Scholarship

1. **Don't Miss Deadlines** -scholarships have deadlines early in the fall of senior year. Mark the due dates on your calendar and work your way backward to figure out how much time you'll have to get each piece of the application finished.
2. **Start Your Research Early** –researching scholarships, requesting information and application materials, and completing applications all take time.
3. **Read Eligibility Requirements Carefully**
4. **Get Organized** –make a separate folder for each scholarship and sort the files by application due dates
5. **Follow Instructions**
6. **Check Your Application**
7. **Keep Copies of Everything**



# BEWARE –Scholarship Scams



- “The scholarship will cost money”
  - Applying for a scholarship generally does not cost money. Only a few legitimate scholarships ask for a small application fee. If a scholarship requires a fee, do some research to make sure it’s not a scam
- “We’ll do all the work”
  - Don’t be fooled –there is no way around it. You must apply for scholarships yourself
- “I need your credit card or bank account number”
  - Some agencies claim that they need your credit card or bank account number to “hold the scholarship.” Never give out this information
- “The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back”
  - No one can guarantee that they’ll get you a scholarship and you should never have to pay for a scholarship



# Where Can I find Scholarships?

- Big Future: College Board's Scholarship Search → <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- Fastweb → [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - Create an account and you will be matched with a database of over 1.5 million scholarships!
- Royal Palm Beach HS Scholarship Bulletin
  - [www.rpbhs.org](http://www.rpbhs.org) → School info → Counseling Services Department → Scholarship Info → Scholarship Bulletin
    - [http://www.rpbhs.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_1938215/Image/Scholarship%20Bulletin%20-%202016-2017.pdf](http://www.rpbhs.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1938215/Image/Scholarship%20Bulletin%20-%202016-2017.pdf)

