



## Available Scholarships

### Introduction

Searching and applying for scholarships is a great way to work towards paying for college because it is money you don't have to pay back. Students often think they should start looking for scholarships during their senior year of high school, but there are scholarships out there for all ages. This list was compiled to share with scholars around the United States. It doesn't represent a complete list and therefore will serve as a living document.

### National Scholarships

- [Scholarship America](#)
- [Niche Scholarships](#)
- [Jack Kent Cook Foundation](#)
- [College Board's Scholarship Search](#)

### Rural America Scholarships

- [Hagan Scholarship Foundation](#)
- [Foundation for Rural Service](#)
- [America's Farmers](#)
- [BEACON Scholarship](#)
- [McKelbey Foundation](#)
- [National Center for Farmworker Health](#)
- [Appalachian Health Career Scholarships](#)
- [Nurse Corps Scholarship Program](#)
- [GAMMA MU Foundation](#)
- [IOWA Academy of Family Physicians](#)
- [Indiana Primary Care Scholarship Program](#)
- [Texas Rural Education Association Scholarship](#)

### Trusted Scholarship Resources

- [The College Board](#)
- The Dept. of Labor's [CareerOneStop website](#)
- Research scholarships offered by local nonprofits, religious groups, businesses, etc. Fewer people know about them so it increases your chances of receiving the scholarship! Ask your high school if they have a list of local scholarships you can apply for as well.
- [Studentaid.gov](#) is the most reliable and comprehensive resource for all financial aid-related questions or concerns.

## Strategies & Tips

- Put together a folder at home for financial aid-related documents, including your parent/guardian's tax returns, W-2s, and your Federal Student Aid pin number, username, and password, once created.
- As you find scholarships that you are eligible for, add their application deadlines to a calendar and set an alert to remind you a week before it is due.
- Deadlines are important! For example, the New York State Excelsior Scholarship pays for your whole tuition for in-state residents at a SUNY or CUNY school if your family income is less than a certain amount, but only if you apply by the deadline!
- Start by looking for local scholarships. There are fewer people competing for these, so you have a better chance!
- Think of what makes you unique, such as your hobbies or life experiences. Then, type that plus "scholarship" into a search bar to find obscure scholarships you can easily write an essay about.
- Tips for avoiding scholarship scams:
  - Never give out your bank account information, social security number, or Federal Student Aid (FSA) account information.
  - Avoid scholarships that ask for entry fees or use words like "sweepstakes" or "random selection." These scholarships are only "luck of the draw" so you have a better chance applying for something more specific.
  - Research the organization to make sure it is legitimate.