

# **Scholarship 101 – Your Guide to Researching Scholarships**

A scholarship is a form of financial aid, typically awarded on the basis of merit, that doesn't need to be repaid by the student. The search can be tedious, but putting forth a determined and organized effort might be worth it. Scholarships run anywhere from a few hundred to a few thousands of dollars. Don't automatically discard scholarships offering small amounts and don't rely on just a few scholarship opportunities to come through. Apply and apply and apply. *There are **VERY FEW** free rides out there.*

## **Where to Look**

1. Online Search Engines (create a profile and filter through the matches)
  - <http://www.college-scholarships.com/free-scholarship-searches/>
  - this link has more than 70 free scholarship search sites.
  - FastWeb, CAPPEX, High Five, MeritAid, etc. are commonly used.
2. Colleges/Universities
  - used to recruit a talented (academic/athletic/other merit) and diverse student body
  - used to recruit specific majors
  - offered by membership organizations
  - legacy or memorial awards
  - may be based on GPA, ACT/SAT score
  - DON'T MISS DEADLINES!
3. Military
  - Service Academies
    - <http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/us-military-academies-overview.html>
  - ROTC
    - <http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/rotc-programs/>
  - Enlisted (GI Bill)
    - <http://www.collegescholarships.org/scholarships/military-students.htm>
4. Local/School/Community
  - Guidance Bulletin Email Blast  
(send email to [cindy.snyder@vbcsd.com](mailto:cindy.snyder@vbcsd.com), subject = *subscribe*)
  - Butler High School Opportunities – **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**
    - Dayton-Montgomery County Scholarship Program (online, 2<sup>nd</sup> semester)
    - 2.5 GPA and FAFSA submission required)
    - Local Scholarship Packet - available approximately 2/1/21
      - Part I – Scholarship Connect (online)
      - Part II - (paper packet, must be picked up in guidance)
5. Personal Contacts
  - Parent's employer/Your employer
  - Church/Religious Organization
  - Clubs/Organizations
  - Sports Teams (high school, club)
  - Banks/Credit Unions
  - Search!

