

# Scholarship Searches

NOVEMBER 2010

HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

ALL STUDENT VERSION



*A brief overview  
of the scholarship  
search process*

## Finding gift aid to help fund your education

Do not pay a fee for scholarship searches. Working on your own a student will generally find as many sources as a paid service.



There are many resources to help in your searches. The reference librarian at your school or local library, high school guidance counselors, web searches, information from the Department of Education and other sources are available to help you organize a search.

Many scholarship sites brag about the number of students who have found money through their sites. Oftentimes these statistics can not be verified.

Some sites even list funds like Pell Grants or Cal Grants for which a student will be automatically considered by using the FAFSA and then charge for that information. You can often do better than those services.

Graduate, Credential and Adult students are encouraged to do these searches. There are

generally less funds available for these groups but it would be worth the search efforts.

Many scholarship search web sites charge a fee to search their databases or list sites that charge an "application fee". Research finds these sites generally are not an improvement over students and families doing their own searches.

We have not included grants or scholarships that the HNU Financial Aid Office will research eligibility for you.

*Scholarship agencies and administrators generally publish deadlines. Peak processing time is often from mid-October through mid-February of each year. Please be sure to read and understand the requirements as they may vary from*

# Sample Scholarship Sites by Category

The following pages are not a complete list of scholarships. They have been designed to demonstrate how to link words together to do web searches for grant and scholarships. Going to these sites will lead the user on to other similar sites and will let us build on those searches.

The lists below will give you an idea of words to use in your web searches. Finding one link will often lead to many more choices.

In doing research for this document it was noted that different web search programs returned different results. Switch between browsers and see what might happen on your searches.

Often grant or scholarship searches are Often scholarships are focused on targeted groups. Academics, talent, athletics, diversity, underrepresented, geographical locations,

These words should be used as a suggestion of searches to try and locate scholarships and grants. String together words - scholarships, grants, college, university, adult, graduate student, your ethnicity, your town or city, social organizations you or your family members belong to, community service you have done, your church, your state education department, your interests, your intended major or profession, your sport, clubs or organizations you have been involved with..... You get the idea.

## GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP SITES

<a href="http://www.collegescholarships.org/">http://www.collegescholarships.org/</a>	<p>Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.</p>
<a href="http://www.collegeanswer.com/paying/scholarship_search/pay_scholarship_search.jsp">http://www.collegeanswer.com/paying/scholarship_search/pay_scholarship_search.jsp</a>	<p>Sallie Mae offers a free scholarship search. Provides access to a scholarship database containing more than 3 millions scholarships worth over 16 billion dollars. It is expanded and updated regularly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Privacy policy ensures you will not receive unwanted emails or be subject to intrusive advertising.</li> <li>• Must be registered to access the scholarship search.</li> </ul>
<a href="http://www.collegenet.com">http://www.collegenet.com</a>	<p>A state of the art college planning website with extensive links. Apply to college online using a CollegeNET account (and your credit card). The site also includes a scholarship search engine.</p>
<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">http://www.collegeboard.com</a>	<p>The College Board is a national nonprofit membership association whose mission is to prepare, inspire, and connect students to college and opportunity. The site also includes an extensive scholarship search engine.</p>
<a href="http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/other.phtml">http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/other.phtml</a>	<p>Scholarship and scholarship search information and links from the premier not-for-profit web site for families and financial aid administrators.</p>
<a href="http://www.studentscholarshipsearch.com/scholarship-search-ebook.pdf">www.studentscholarshipsearch.com/scholarship-search-ebook.pdf</a>	<p>A comprehensive guide to scholarship searches with tips, realistic information and explanations of the process. This free downloadable pdf files provides a lot of informative information.</p>
<a href="http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public?topicID=15&amp;operation=topic">http://www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public?topicID=15&amp;operation=topic</a>	<p>Information on the Student Gateway to the U. S. Government</p>

## SCHOLARSHIPS BY PROFESSION

<http://www.collegescholarships.org/>

Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.

Search based on your major or intended career. Search along with words like grant, scholarship, financial assistance, etc. Use more than one search engine and you might return different values.

health professional scholarships

Will lead you to hundreds of opportunities in various aspects of health care. There are opportunities in the military, government, various state programs. Searching on health professionals will lead you to various student loan assumption and forgiveness programs.

Engineering

Opportunities for men and women in dozens of engineering fields.

Teachers and Higher Education

Music

Sciences

Business, Business Administration

Psychology

Check [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org) (The American Psychological Association) for some scholarship information. If you know a psychologist or become a student member you will find more information internally on their site. This is just one example of many you will be able to find in that specialization.

Sociology

## HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIPS

<a href="http://www.hsf.net/">http://www.hsf.net/</a>	<p>Building on 35 years of excellence in Hispanic higher education, The Hispanic Scholarship Fund recently launched "Generation 1st Degree," an initiative aimed at putting a college degree in every Latino household and creating a strong and enduring impact on the college outlook of Latino families across the country.</p> <p>Check the Resources Link for a pathway to dozens of scholarships search sites.</p>
<a href="http://www.aspira.org/">http://www.aspira.org/</a>	<p>National nonprofit organization devoted solely to the education and leadership development of Puerto Rican and other Latino youth.</p>
<a href="http://www.hispanicheritage.org">www.hispanicheritage.org</a>	<p>Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards identify, promote and prepare Latino leaders in the classroom and community. Scholarships are available for Hispanic high school seniors.</p>
<a href="http://www.hispanicgrants.net">http://www.hispanicgrants.net</a>	<p>Everything you need to know on applying and receiving Hispanic Grants. Visit this site for grant writing tips and other resources for Hispanic students.</p>
<a href="http://www.chci.org/chciyouth">http://www.chci.org/chciyouth</a>	<p>The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute has developed one of the most complete and concise collections of Hispanic-specific financial aid information.</p>
<a href="http://www.migrantstudents.org/campapplicants.html">http://www.migrantstudents.org/campapplicants.html</a>	<p>The College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) is a unique federally-funded educational support and scholarship program that helps students from migrant and seasonal farm-working backgrounds to reach and succeed in college. Participants receive anywhere from \$750 to \$4,000.00 of financial support during their freshman year of college and ongoing academic support until their graduation. View the list of the (38) currently participant colleges/universities on their webpage.</p>
<a href="http://www.latinocollegedollars.org/">http://www.latinocollegedollars.org/</a>	<p>The Tomás Rivera Policy Institute's national scholarship directory enables students and parents to target scholarships according to each student's GPA, state, and other specific information about that student.</p>
<a href="http://www.collegescholarships.org/">http://www.collegescholarships.org/</a>	<p>Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.</p>

## AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIPS

<a href="http://www.uncf.org/">http://www.uncf.org/</a>	<p>Online resources for Black college students</p>
<a href="http://www.collegescholarships.org/">http://www.collegescholarships.org/</a>	<p>Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.</p>
<a href="http://blackstudents.blacknews.com/">http://blackstudents.blacknews.com/</a>	<p>Online resourced for Black college students</p>
<a href="http://www.blackexcel.org/link4.htm">http://www.blackexcel.org/link4.htm</a>	<p>A scholarship gateway for students</p>
<a href="http://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/minority-scholarships/african-american-scholarships/">http://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/minority-scholarships/african-american-scholarships/</a>	<p>Link to dozens of scholarships from various sources include private business and public sources</p>
<a href="http://www.thesalliemafund.org/smfnew/scholarship_directory/index.html">http://www.thesalliemafund.org/smfnew/scholarship_directory/index.html</a>	<p>This free scholarship search, geared for African-American students, contains more than 300 scholarships searchable by GPA requirement, academic and career interest, and application deadline.</p> <p>This directory is a part of The Sallie Mae Fund's multi-faceted <a href="#">African-American College Access Initiative</a>, launched in October 2005, to improve access to higher education among African-American students. Produced by the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education</p>
<a href="http://www.financialaidfinder.com/student-scholarship-search/scholarships-personal-characteristics/african-american-scholarship/">http://www.financialaidfinder.com/student-scholarship-search/scholarships-personal-characteristics/african-american-scholarship/</a>	<p>A robust web site with easily searchable scholarship, grant and related information</p>
<a href="http://www.tuskegee.edu/Global/story.asp?S=9781017">http://www.tuskegee.edu/Global/story.asp?S=9781017</a>	<p>Tuskegee University provides a list of scholarship links for all to search</p>
<a href="http://www.gmsp.org/">http://www.gmsp.org/</a>	<p>The 2011 Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) scholarship application is now available. GMS will select 1,000 talented students to receive a good-through-graduation scholarship to use at any college or university of their choice. We provide Gates Millennium Scholars with personal and professional development through our leadership programs along with academic support throughout their college career.</p>



## NATIVE AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIPS

<http://www.collegescholarships.org/>

Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.

<http://www.collegefund.org/>

The American Indian College Fund is a Native-operated organization and the nation's largest provider of private scholarships.

They support the nation's tribal colleges and universities and their students.

<http://catchingthedream.org/>

Formerly known as the Native American Scholarship Fund, Catching the Cream (CTD) was chartered in 1986 to help provide Native American Tribes, communities, and tribal organizations with professionally trained and education Native Americans.

<http://www.indian-affairs.org/>

Association on American Indian Affairs provides scholarships.

<http://www.gmsp.org/>

The 2011 Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) scholarship application is now available. GMS will select 1,000 talented students to receive a good-through-graduation scholarship to use at any college or university of their choice. We provide Gates Millennium Scholars with personal and professional development through our leadership programs along with academic support throughout their college career.

# LGBT SCHOLARSHIPS

- [Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation](#)
- [Lee Dubin Scholarship Fund for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents](#)
- [Audria M Edwards Youth Scholarship Fund](#)
- [Deaf Queer Resource Center](#)
- [Equity Foundation](#)
- [Financial Aid for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students\(Search on "gay"\)](#)
- [Fund for Lesbian and Gay Scholarships \(FLAGS\)](#)
- [Gay and Lesbian Medical Association](#)
- [LGBT Health Education and Research Trust](#)
- [Human Rights Campaign\(HRC\) Scholarship Database](#)
- [Messenger-Anderson Scholarship and Internship Program for GLBT Journalism Students](#)
- [eQuality Foundation - Northern and Central California Students](#)
- [The LEAGUE Foundation Academic Scholarships](#)
- [Maylon-Smith Scholarship \(psychology\)](#)
- [National Gay Lesbian Task Force \(NGLTF\) Fellowships-login required](#)
- [National Women's Studies Association Student Resources](#)
- [PFLAG National and Local Scholarships](#)
- [The Point Foundation: A Scholarship Lifeline for LGBT Students](#)
- [Pride Foundation \(Pacific Northwest\)](#)
- [Queer Foundation Scholarships for Queer Theory Scholars](#)
- [Queer Foundation Essay Contest](#)
- [Queer Asian & Pacific Islander Pride Scholarship Fund](#)
- [Scholarship Help Desk](#)
- [Greater Seattle Business Association Scholarships](#)
- [Skadden Fellowship Foundation \(law\)](#)
- [TRANSGENDER SCHOLARSHIP AND EDUCATION LEGACY FUND For Transgender Identified Students in the Helping and Caring Professions](#)

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WOMEN

<a href="http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/">//societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/</a>	The Society of Women Engineers
<a href="http://www.collegescholarships.org/">http://www.collegescholarships.org/</a>	Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.
<a href="http://www.guidetoonlineschools.com/financial-aid/scholarships/women">http://www.guidetoonlineschools.com/financial-aid/scholarships/women</a>	Don't let college tuition stop you from getting your education. These 50 scholarships were all specifically created to help women. They stretch across all disciplines and offer a wide range of aid.
<a href="http://scholarships.fatomei.com/scholarships-for-women.html">http://scholarships.fatomei.com/scholarships-for-women.html</a>	Financial aid for women in college, graduate school and postdoctoral study
<a href="http://www.gocollege.com/financial-aid/scholarships/minority/womens-scholarships.html">http://www.gocollege.com/financial-aid/scholarships/minority/womens-scholarships.html</a>	In search of gender equity
<a href="http://scholarshipsfor-women.com/category/uncategorized/">http://scholarshipsfor-women.com/category/uncategorized/</a>	How and where to get scholarships for women
<a href="http://www.scholarshipswomen.net/">http://www.scholarshipswomen.net/</a>	There are several college grants and scholarships available especially for women. These grants can be considered as financial awards that can be used to pursue a higher education or trade school. The greatest advantage of getting them is that you do not have to pay these back at any time. There are awards and scholarships provided directly by the government. You may get these through philanthropy foundation awards also.
<a href="http://www.acu.edu/admissions/adult/payforeducation/scholarships.html">http://www.acu.edu/admissions/adult/payforeducation/scholarships.html</a>	ScholarshipHelp is a website that explains how college funding works, the types of scholarships available, how to find them and how to apply for them
<a href="http://www.ehow.com/about_5052961_scholarships-older-minority-women.html">http://www.ehow.com/about_5052961_scholarships-older-minority-women.html</a>	

## SCHOLARSHIPS BY SUBJECT

<http://www.collegescholarships.org/>

Narrow your search through this site to quickly find the opportunities you want. Please note that the selections become more unique as you search further, and the selections are located at the top of the left menu for easy browsing.

[//societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/](http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/)

The Society of Women Engineers

## **If a Scholarship Application Requires an Essay**

- One of the Most Important Steps
- Do an outline for the essay
- If you have difficulty writing try recording a conversation and then write it down
- Everyone is capable of filling in the blanks on a college application, but not everyone can apply their wits and creativity to writing the typically required essay.
- Above the hard facts on your application, the essay is where you actually are lucky enough to have the opportunity to brand yourself.
- Make yourself an individual
- Don't go overboard but do be well organized in your thoughts and writing. Show your "smarts", thought process, innovation, creativity, community service and bring it all together. Are you on the student council, do you do work in the community, are you on a team, do you have a great gpa, have you won awards for your in school or community or volunteer work. Sell yourself.

## **Be Original**

- Imagine, if you had to read thousands of applicant essays, what types of topics would stand out to you?
- Try discovering an essay topic in that way. Allow your "voice" to show through. When you struggle to make the essay formal and stiff, it will lose its appeal very quickly. You want to hook the admissions person who is reviewing yours, out of a pile of others.
- Some grants or scholarship agencies will generously let you choose a topic, which is a predicament in and of itself while other schools will leave it to you.

## **Proofreading, Rewriting, and Editing**

- A good piece of writing doesn't come easily. Well-written prose is hard work. Maintain a consistent focus in your piece. Offer enough details so that the reader is very clear what the experience, idea, or event has meant to you and what your role has been.
- Rewrite and rewrite again. Often where you first started writing the essay is not the real beginning, sometimes it's a few sentences down or even a paragraph down, where you started to let your thoughts really flow. Don't be afraid to cut out the original beginning in favor of a stronger essay.
- Spelling mistakes, bad sentence structure, and garbled points of view will stick out. Use spell-check. Refer to a reputable style guide, such as the MLA Style Manual or the Chicago Manual of Style, two very widely accepted sources or simply ask a teacher to take a look at your writing.

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## **References**

- If your scholarship requires references ask the person if they can give you a **GOOD** letter of recommendation.
- Let your reference know the purpose of the letter and a little bit about the program or agency that sponsors the scholarship. Your reference may be able to write to that purpose.
- Provide the person with an addressed, stamped envelope to make it more convenient. If that person has to hunt for a stamp or take a trip to the post office it delay the process.
- Don't Don't Don't wait until the last minute and expect to get a timely letter.

## **Paid Services**

- There are plenty of paid services that will promise you an "original" essay for \$10. Colleges want to see your work, not the work of someone else. Professional editing services alone will cost over \$10, so you can guarantee that whatever is being sold for \$10 will be unoriginal and/or junk that is worth far less than the paper it is printed on.
- Professional editing services might be a value, especially when you are applying for competitive graduate school programs and feel your weakest spot is writing.
- Keep in mind that many of the more substantive services can be quite costly.

The above information was partially sourced from the web site [collegeinformation.org](http://collegeinformation.org)