



Scholarship Information

College takes drive, passion and resources. We recognize that families often need to look outside their immediate resources in order to help their students take full advantage of the Hood College experience. It is the mission of the Office of Financial Aid to help you and your family develop a financial plan to make your education attainable. Below is a list of various scholarship resources to consider:

Scholarship Search Engines:

https://collegeboard.org	https://fastweb.com
www.central-scholarship.org	www.petersons.com
www.salliemae.com/plan-for-college	www.gocollege.com
https://myscholly.com	www.unigo.com
www.cappex.com	www.chegg.com/scholarships

Scholarship Websites:

www.hsf.net/scholarship - Hispanic Scholarship Fund
www.asa.org - American Student Assistance
www.uncf.org - United Negro Fund
www.gmsp.org - Gates Millennium Scholars Program
<https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx> - Department of Labor Scholarships

State:

www.mhec.maryland.gov - State of Maryland
www.osse.dc.gov - District of Columbia
<https://www.doe.k12.de.us> - State of Delaware
www.riopc.edu - State of Rhode Island
www.vvac.org - State of Vermont

Frederick County:

www.cffredco.org - Community Foundation of Frederick County
www.fwccinc.org/education - The Frederick Women's Civic Club
www.frederickrotaryclub.org - The Frederick Rotary Club

Military:

www.benefits.va.gov - Department of Veterans Affairs
www.ebenefits.va.gov - Department of Veterans Affairs, Educational Benefits Status
www.armyscholarshipfoundation.org - Army Scholarships
www.vfw.org - Veterans of Foreign Wars
www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships - Army ROTC Scholarships

The Office of Financial Aid at Hood College provides information regarding outside scholarship searches as a courtesy to students and families. Hood College does not endorse any private scholarship search websites. Although we have made an effort to ensure these scholarship search websites are legitimate, this does not imply that Hood College or the Office of Financial Aid agree with the material contained on or links provided by the websites.

Tips for Scholarships

Scholarships can be found in several ways; contacting your high school counselor, public library, religious or community organizations, local businesses, or civic groups.

Search Tips

Searching for private scholarships can be time intensive. Make it easier by having a system to find and apply for these opportunities!

- Open an email account specifically for scholarships using a professional name and check the account frequently
- Start a spreadsheet to track deadlines and application requirements
- Make sure your resume is updated

Application Tips

Keep your information updated. If you have a LinkedIn profile or a resume, make sure it's up-to-date.

Be concise. Instead of listing everything you've ever done, highlight the activities you would like the donor to know about you.

Show initiative. Donors who invest in a student's future like to reward those who show initiative. If you have started your own business, created a club, or organized clubs or an event, highlight it!

Essay Tips

Do:

- Tailor your essay to each application to address specific questions or topics
- Be creative, organized and succinct
- Get feedback from a trusted mentor
- Proofread

Don't:

- Use slang or jargon
- Compare yourself to other students
- Submit the same essay for multiple applications

TIPS FOR WRITING A WINNING SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

Scholly website, Posted September 19, 2021

myscholly.com/how-to-write-a-scholarship-essay/

Tips for Recommendation Letters

Many private scholarships ask for a recommendation letter. The best letters come from someone (not a parent) who can speak not just to your accomplishments, but can applaud your character, work ethic and professionalism to showcase your intangible, positive character traits.

To get a great recommendation letter:

- Provide the recommender with a description of the scholarship and a list of skills or qualities that are important to highlight
- Give the reference a current copy of your resume and at least two weeks' notice for when the letter is due

Final Steps

- If you receive a scholarship, write a thank you letter to the donor
- Inform the Office of Financial Aid about the awarded scholarship

Beware of Scams!

Make sure scholarship information and offers you receive are *legitimate*. Remember that you don't have to pay to find scholarships. Avoid any scholarship that asks for application or processing fees. Check out studentaid.gov/resources/scams for information on how to avoid scams.