



# High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

February 2017 

12<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Searching For Scholarships

Scholarships for college are awarded to students for good grades, athletic ability, community service, or other qualities, traits, or abilities. Businesses, organizations, and universities award scholarships to a variety of students.

Scholarships range in both amounts and competitiveness. For example, a local scholarship may offer \$500 for one year, but will only be open to seniors at your high school, while a national scholarship may offer \$10,000 for four years of college, but will be open to students across the country. Here's how you can get the most out of the scholarship application process:

| DO  | DON'T  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Search (and apply) for scholarships on sites like <a href="http://thewashboard.org">thewashboard.org</a>, <a href="http://bigfuture.collegeboard.com">bigfuture.collegeboard.com</a>, <a href="http://scholarship360.com">scholarship360</a>, <a href="http://fastweb.com">fastweb.com</a>, and <a href="http://scholarships.com">scholarships.com</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After answering a few questions, the sites will automatically match you with scholarships you're eligible to apply for.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Apply for local scholarships <b>through Naviance Family Connection</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pay money for information or assistance with scholarship searches. There are plenty of free options online, or ask the school counselor for help.</li> <li>Procrastinate! Deadlines are firm, and it's important to get paperwork and applications submitted on time.</li> <li>Waste time and energy. Make sure you meet eligibility requirements for scholarships before you apply. Also, many scholarship applications require essays on similar topics – it's okay to reuse your work where applicable!</li> </ul> |

colleges

scholarships & money

> [scholarship match](#)

> [scholarship list](#)



Have Naviance Questions?

[naviance@everettsd.org](mailto:naviance@everettsd.org)

Check out **Naviance TestPrep!!**

-Self-directed practice course for **SAT** & **AP** exams

resources

• [Naviance Test Prep](#)

## Did You Know?

The best way to research a college's Cost of Attendance is to use the US Department of Education's Net Price Calculator (<http://collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx>).

Use it to estimate how much a college could cost. **Net price** is a term for the **Cost of Attendance** minus any **grants and scholarships** for which students may be eligible.

## Myth Buster

**MYTH:** Scholarships aren't worth the effort.

**REALITY: Crazy!** If someone offered you a part-time job for \$50 an hour, would you take it? Of course you would!

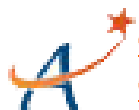
Think about applying for scholarships as a part-time job. If you spend 20 hours searching and applying for scholarships and are awarded just one \$1,000 scholarship, you just earned \$50 an hour for your efforts.

Do the math – scholarships are definitely worth your time!

Be sure to follow the directions, share your story, and have someone proofread your application. Use a free online scholarship search service, such as [theWashBoard.org](http://theWashBoard.org), to help you identify the scholarships you are eligible for and then start applying.

Remember, if you don't submit any applications, you won't have a chance to win free money for college!

Source: [Unigo](http://Unigo)



[Check Student Online Grades Here!](#)

## Things to Think About...

If you have been in foster care at any time after turning 13, your classes will likely be paid for at most Washington State colleges!!

Learn about the [College Bound Scholarship](#), the [Passport to College Scholarship](#), and/or the [Education and Training Voucher](#) (ETV) program to help pay for school.

Find details at:

[www.readysetgrad.org/fostercare](http://www.readysetgrad.org/fostercare) and [www.independence.wa.gov](http://www.independence.wa.gov)

These are supportive adults who can help guide your teen through the financial aid process: Designated Support Staff (DSS), program staff, financial aid staff, Independent Living (IL) providers, SETuP staff.

### Student Checklist

- ☐ Have your SAT/ACT scores sent to the schools on your final list.
- ☐ **Prepare and submit** your applications on time.
- ☐ **Complete college admission and financial aid applications.** If you plan to attend a community or technical college, don't wait until the last minute to apply – financial aid could be gone and the classes you want could be filled. Also, keep copies of all forms you mail or submit online.
- ☐ Need help completing the FAFSA? Go to <https://studentaidhelp.ed.gov/app/home/site/fafsa> to contact them directly! If you haven't filled out the FAFSA or WASFA, Do it this month!
- ☐ **Review your Student Aid Report (SAR)** online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Check that you listed all the colleges you are considering. If your SAR asks for additional information, or if you need to make a correction, do so ASAP.
- ☐

### Family Checklist

- ☐ **Learn about college loan options together.** Borrowing money for college can be a smart choice — especially if your high schooler gets a low-interest federal loan. Be cautious; learn about loan options and a [parent's role in borrowing money](#).
- ☐ **Encourage your child to take AP Exams.** Seniors, who take AP or other advanced classes, should talk with teachers now about taking these tests in May. Read more about the [AP](#)



Visit [readysetgrad.org](http://readysetgrad.org) to learn more and access resources to help your child make a plan.