

Applying for scholarships

When you apply to colleges, more often than not your acceptance letter will be accompanied by a letter noting a financial award. This is money afforded to you based on test scores, grades, academic achievements, need, etc.

The majority of students will not receive a “full ride” in that award letter. There will be a gap between what tuition, room and board, and other fees will cost and what you have been allotted as a discount on the cost of college.

This is where other scholarships come in! Do not ignore the potential in spending your time applying for scholarships. Here are some of the different scholarship types that are available to you.



1 REGISTRATION-ONLY SCHOLARSHIP ENTRY

These types of scholarships are the easiest and quickest to apply to. They are associated with belonging to a certain website or group. The odds of winning these scholarships are less likely because more people are applying. However, the payout tends to be larger and you could win a lot of money from one source.

2 ESSAY OR Q&A SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships take a little more work to apply. You may have to write an essay or answer questions that would then qualify you for consideration for the scholarship. Fewer students apply to these scholarships, so if you are eligible for the award and you are confident in your ability to communicate that through your writing, these scholarships are highly recommended. Awards are usually worthwhile and can go a long way in closing the gap in college costs.

3 QUALIFICATION-BASED SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships awarded based on unique characteristics are very common. Students will have to prove their eligibility through a variety of ways. Some of the most popular qualifiers for scholarships are financial need, ethnicity, demographics, family affiliations, religious affiliations, physical traits, etc. Many students find out about these scholarships through online searches or organizations they are already affiliated with.

ENTER TO WIN \$4,500 ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP

An essay scholarship given to a student who makes a difference in his/her community and demonstrates through their essay a need for the award.

ENTER TO 1 OF 2 NEXTSTEPU \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships are awarded in January 2016 and July 2016. Anyone who registers at NextStepU.com is eligible to win one of the two available scholarships.

Enter both scholarship contests at nextstepu.com/nextstepu-scholarships