

# 4 PAYING FOR COLLEGE: SCHOLARSHIPS

## WHAT ARE SCHOLARSHIPS?

Scholarships award money for education expenses based on criteria such as academics, athletics, community service or financial need. Community organizations, colleges, religious institutions and private companies are examples of scholarship providers.

**Regardless of your background or immigration status, there is likely a scholarship for you.**

## WHERE CAN I LOOK FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?

Your high school counselor is a good place to start. Here are some places to begin your research:

TheWashBoard.org: [thewashboard.org](http://thewashboard.org)

FastWeb: [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com)

Beyond Dreaming Scholarship List: [scholarshipjunkies.org/beyond](http://scholarshipjunkies.org/beyond)

The colleges you are interested in or local organizations such as the Act Six, College Success Foundation, and Washington State Opportunity Scholarship.

You may also be eligible for one of these state programs such as the College Bound Scholarship (Chapter 3) or Passport to Careers.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

1. **Research** scholarships you are **eligible** for.
2. **Submit** your **applications**. Make sure you follow instructions carefully!
3. **Complete** the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (**WASFA**).

## WHAT TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS CAN I APPLY FOR?

**Academic/Merit:** Based on GPA, test scores and/or coursework

**Athletic:** Based on athletic performance

**Creative:** Based on talent in art, music, dance

**Community service:** Based on involvement in your school or community

**Diversity:** Based on race, ethnicity, family heritage, religion, sexual orientation, etc.

**Need:** Based on financial need

**Other:** Leadership, alumni, etc.

**FEB:** GRADE 11  
**DEC:** GRADE 12

## \* DO RESEARCH

**Is the scholarship renewable?** If yes, learn about the renewal requirements. If it's not, think about how you are going to replace these funds the following year.

**Is it portable?** Can you take the scholarship with you if you **transfer** schools? Some scholarships are bound to specific colleges.

