

Paying for college can be a challenge for most families and getting a scholarship is a great way to help cover the cost. Scholarships are gifts of free money awarded to students.

Make sure you go online and research various scholarships available for graduating seniors. Look for scholarships offered by a variety of sources. The money is there. Continue your scholarship search and **APPLY!!!**

TIPS FOR SUBMITTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

1. SAT and/or ACT scores testing prior to the senior year provides time to retake the tests for improved scores and makes the test scores available when needed for scholarships and college entry. You can retake the SAT and/or ACT during your senior year to improve your scores.
2. Mail applications well in advance of the deadline.
3. Mail all required forms and documents in the same package to avoid lost forms, incomplete submissions and disqualification.

4. Submit only documents requested. Additional information is not used to determine the applicant's status.
5. Submit all requested information in the form required (example: G.P.A in a 4-point un-weighted grade scale).
6. Basic musts for students: [1] Write clearly; [2] Complete all required information; [3] Complete only those sections designated for you; [4] Secure all required signatures; [5] Read instructions carefully; and [6] submit only the information requested.
7. When submitting tax information for financial need, be sure the form shows the adjusted gross income, the number of dependents covered by that income, and any other required data. The first page of the standard Federal 1040 tax return provides that information. Submit only copies of tax forms unless originals are required.
8. Apply for scholarships for which you are qualified.
9. Answer only the questions asked when given the opportunity for a written response. Additional information is not used to determine the applicant's status.

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCE INFORMATION

State Employee's Credit Union (SECU) Foundation Scholarship

SECU Foundation takes an active role in assisting communities across North Carolina. To support this commitment, the People Helping People scholarship was established to help North Carolina public high school students attend college.

Speak with Mrs. Atkinson for more information about applying, requirements, and deadlines.

<https://studentaid.gov/>

Getting money for school starts with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA will determine how much your family can afford for college, in the eyes of the federal government. You can get forms by calling (800) 433-3243. The form should be filled out as soon as possible after Jan 1 of the student's senior year in high school.

www.mapping-your-future.org

This a one stop site for students and parents with information on financial strategies, career options, and college planning.

www.embark.com

Site provides guidance on choosing majors, careers, links to colleges and links to scholarship programs.

www.keycolleges.com

This site is designed to assist you in making college and career choices, learning about scholarships and

financial aid, even where to find bargains in campus housing.

www.edsouth.org

This site provides information about how to develop a plan for college, how to find scholarships and student loan programs, how to choose a career and how to find answers to frequently asked questions.

www.collegenet.com

At this site you can find information about scholarships, loans, financial aid, applications, aid calculators, and answers to a host of financial aid questions.

www.college-scholarships.com

This College Scholarships and Financial Aid site is designed to offer college bound students, parents, and counselors easy access to information on colleges and universities throughout the United States, free college scholarship and financial aid searches, and SAT and ACT test preparation tips, and more. The site consist of an online directory of college and university admissions office email addresses and telephone numbers, college scholarship and financial aid office email addresses, and links to the home pages and online applications of more than a thousand colleges and universities. And, the site has a page of links to the very best college and

university admissions, college scholarship, and financial aid pages on the web. You will even find information on graduate schools, the GRE and GMAT examinations, MBA programs, the TOEFL, community colleges, historically African-American colleges, and campus life.

www.ed.gov

This site provides information about federal financial aid programs.

www.fastweb.com

Aid in matching each student's background, automatically, with eligibility requirements for scholarships from around the country and advise them about scholarship opportunities tailored to them. All for free.

www.finaid.org

At this site you can find information about scholarships, loans, financial aid, applications, aid calculators, and answers to a host of financial aid questions.

www.collegeboard.com

Provides tips on everything from registering for the SAT online to searching through the scholarship locator.

www.collegesavings.org

This site provides information about state sponsored college saving plans.