Providence Grove High

Senior Connection - Class of 2018

November 2017

**Every attempt is made to make certain that the information and deadlines printed are correct. However, it is your responsibility to check and MEET the deadlines**.

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**Strategy for Searches: Creating a Successful Approach**

One of the best things about scholarships is that for the most part, they reward the applicants who put forth the most effort. Like teachers who can instantly spot a sloppy homework assignment, scholarship judges can identify poorly composed applications without lifting a finger. Depending upon the award and how many students participate, the process of eliminating under-qualified students can be competitive at best and downright ruthless at worst. You may already be thinking "They won’t pick me, so why waste my time?" The answer: the financial assistance that is obtainable through scholarships is worth it, even if you don’t receive an award from each and every scholarship that you apply to.

Most of the students who succeeded in earning scholarships did so for two reasons:

1. **They met the criteria outlined by the scholarship sponsor.**
2. **They approached the application process strategically and were selective in their pursuit of scholarship opportunities. It’s that simple.**

There is no magic recipe that will help to win a scholarship. What there is, however, is a time tested strategy that many students find incredibly helpful in organizing their scholarship search. The students who apply these techniques usually come out ahead in the end.

**Make a list.** Gather the information for all of the scholarship offers that you are qualified to apply for. The latter part of this suggestion is essential—do not spend valuable time applying for scholarships for which GPA, major, community involvement requirement, or any other criteria does not meet the standard. There are likely hundreds of awards for which you specifically qualify, so focus your attention on those. Read through your list and eliminate all awards that you are not qualified for.

**Assess each individual opportunity.** This will take time, but in the end your investment will pay off. After narrowing down your list so that it only includes the scholarships that are most relevant, consider the following categories:

* *Deadlines.* How long do you have to complete the scholarship?
* *Difficulty of preparation.* Considering the deadline, do you have time to thoroughly prepare for this award?
* *Award amount.* How much is the award worth? If it is only worth a couple hundred bucks, consider whether or not you are willing to spend your time on it. Keep in mind that every little bit does help and that you have a greater chance at receiving slightly smaller awards as opposed to full tuition grants, simply because they are less competitive.

**Prioritize your opportunities.** Now that you have determined the value of the scholarships that you have selected based on when the deadline is, preparation required, and the amount of the award, create a rating system. A simple way to do this is to rate each scholarship with a (+) or (–) sign next to the award. For example, an award with three plus signs is a scholarship for which you must apply. The deadline is far off, average preparation is required, and the reward it $2000. On the other hand, a scholarship with two minus signs might cause you to reconsider before taking the time to apply. It could be that amount of preparation required simply exceeds the amount of effort you are willing to exert because the scholarship award in only $100.

**FINANCIAL AID**

To apply for federal student aid, students and parents/guardians must complete the Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Paper applications are no longer distributed to schools. The FAFSA is ready now to be completed.

**Apply for your FSA ID # NOW!!!! Remember – both you and one parent/guardian must have an ID# to sign the application electronically.**

**Recommended Financial Aid Publications:** Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid; Your Federal Student Loans: Learn the Basics and Manage Your Debt; do you need Money for College? Go to [www.edpubs.ed.gov](http://www.edpubs.ed.gov).

**CSS PROFILE** (the other form) **Only certain colleges require this form**! The Profile used in addition to the FAFSA for additional financial aid consideration. You should submit your CSS PROFILE as soon as possible to meet all necessary deadlines. You can complete the PROFILE beginning in October. PROFILE forms and an entire list of all colleges who use the profile are available online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). There is a cost for the application plus a cost for each college you will submit the information to.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIPS**

Applying for scholarships is a time-consuming task, but the returns can be extremely profitable as well as personally rewarding. The essential question is: "WHERE AND HOW DO I FIND THE APPROPRIATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR ME?"

* Corporate Scholarships - in most cases, are not sent to the counseling office. Since they are available to employees' children, have your parents/guardians check with their respective employers concerning application and procedures.
* Individual College Scholarships - includes awards for academic merit, leadership, and proficiency in a special area (athletics, drama, art, and music). Each college has their own individual scholarship programs. It is your responsibility to check with the admissions office or financial aid office at the schools in which you are interested for scholarship opportunities applicable to you.
* **NOTE: Some merit scholarship opportunities have a deadline for your ADMISSIONS application to be submitted to the school. Make sure you know the specific deadlines at the schools you are interested in.**
* Community Clubs and Churches - frequently offer scholarships to members and their children. Check with these organizations in your community.

**COMPLETING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

* All materials submitted should be CORRECT, neatly typed or written neatly in black ink, if applicable, and all required information complete. Remember, online applications should not be submitted until you double check the information – have another person look over the application as well. **DEADLINES ARE CRUCIAL!**
* Letters of recommendation are the ***responsibility of the student!*** Be sure to request at least 2 weeks in advance.
* Always write a **thank you note** to anyone who writes a letter of recommendation for you! Also, follow-up with this person concerning the status of your application.

**SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINES**

<http://www.cfnc.org>

<http://www.fastweb.com>

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> or <http://studentaid.ed.gov> or <http://www.finaid.com>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

http://<www.scholarshipexperts.com>

<http://www.gocollege.com>

<http://www.collegeview.com>

**NEW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Golden Leaf Scholarship:** Designed to assist current high school seniors from certain rural counties, demonstrate both financial need and merit, and plan to attend participating North Carolina colleges and universities. The value is $3,000 per year. **The deadline is March 1,** **2018**. Go to [www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org) for more information on this scholarship.

**Ronald McDonald House Charities:** With education costs spiraling ever higher, a college education may seem out of reach. A partnership between Ronald McDonald House Charities and its local chapter opens the door to higher education for graduating high school seniors. The RMHC Scholarship Program seeks to invest in students who are exemplary role models in their communities and have the initiative to fulfill their educational goals. Application **Deadline is January 18, 2018.** All applications are available at www.rmhc.org or apply at <https://aim.applyists.net/RMHC>

**AXA Achievement Scholarship:** Recipients are selected based on ambition and drive; determination to set and reach goals; respect for self, family, and community; ability to succeed in college. Winners in every state nationwide receive scholarships of $25,000 $10,000 and $2000.00 Focus is on students' personal accomplishments. For more information, visit <www.axa-achievement>. Deadline for applying is **December 15, 2017**

 or until they get 10,000 applications.

**Inheritance of Hope:** Offers scholarships for students who parents are terminally ill or for students who are battling cancer. Applications for SEVERAL scholarships are available online at <http://inheritanceofhope.org/scholarships-2.html> **Various deadlines.**

**The NC Division of Veterans Affairs Scholarships** are for children of disabled, deceased, combat, or POW/MIA war veterans, or even just children of veterans that are not of the aforementioned group of veterans. You may be eligible for a full tuition scholarship from the state of NC to attend a state-owned institution of high education, community college, or technical institute within the state of NC or $4,500 per year to attend a private college in NC. For more information, contact The District Office of the Div. of Veterans Affairs Service Office at 336-766-1496. **Deadline to apply is June 1st**, however, the sooner you contact them the better to get the paperwork started. Applications can be accessed at [www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/NCDVAScholarship.pdf](http://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/NCDVAScholarship.pdf)

**Dixie Youth Baseball Scholarship** - Applicants must have been registered on a Dixie Youth Baseball team in a franchised Dixie Youth Baseball, Inc. prior to reaching age 13. Applications can be downloaded at [www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-state/north-carolina-scholarships/dixie-youth-baseball-scholarship](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.scholarships.com%5C%5Cfinancial-aid%5C%5Ccollege-scholarships%5C%5Cscholarships-by-state%5C%5Cnorth-carolina-scholarships%5C%5Cdixie-youth-baseball-scholarship) . Please be aware that NCAA rules may prohibit acceptance of this scholarship if a student will be participating in an athletic program in college**. Deadline to apply is February 1, 2018.**

**The Ron Brown Scholar Program** is for academically talented, highly motivated African American students who are currently seniors in high school and plan to pursue undergraduate degrees full-time. Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents to apply. Up to 20 scholars will be selected across the nation to receive $10,000 annually for four years. The scholarship can be used at the college of their choosing. Students who complete their application by this date will be considered for not only the Ron Brown Scholarship, but for other select scholarship providers. **Deadline January 9, 2018 at** [www.ronbrown.org.](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.ronbrown.org)

**Elks National Foundation Scholarships**: Legacy Scholarship Deadline February 2, 2018

[www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/Legacy.cfm](http://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/Legacy.cfm)

**Foot Locker:** Awarding twenty $20,000 scholarships to student athletes that have shown leadership within their teams, schools and communities. These twenty incoming college freshmen will receive funding for college - not because they scored the most touchdowns or goals, but because sports have helped the athlete to grow into strong leaders at school and in their communities. Minimum GPA is 3.0. **Deadline is December 15, 2018**. Students can access the application at [www.footlockerscholarathletes.com](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.footlockerscholarathletes.com)

**North Carolina High School Athletic Associated Endowed Fund Scholarships**

A high school senior student athlete attending a NCHSAA member school who will successfully complete graduation requirements in the spring of the current school year (2014 spring graduation) and must be planning to enroll, or already be enrolled, for the fall 2014 semester (following spring graduation) in an accredited, recognized university, college, or community college anywhere in the United States with the exception of the Tony Cullen Memorial Scholarship (refer to specifics noted in the application). Applications can be found at: <www.nchsaa.org>. The deadline: **February 14, 2015**.

**GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program:** This program awards up to 20 college-bound students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship with $10,000 renewable scholarships (up to $40,000 per recipient). Applications are available at [www.reaganfoundation.org](http://www.reaganfoundation.org) **Deadline 1/4/18.**

**SAE Engineering Scholarships:** Varies Requirements: High school senior intending to earn a degree in engineering or related science, U.S. citizen, GPA and SAT or ACT score requirements vary by individual scholarship **Deadline: March 15, 2018** Visit online:

<http://students.sae.org/scholarships/faq.htm>

**National Multiple Sclerosis Society’s Scholarship Program**

Scholarships available to anyone with multiple sclerosis, or anyone who is the child of someone with multiple sclerosis, who will be attending an accredited postsecondary school for the first time may apply. Deadline is **January 31, 2018**. To apply, visit [www.nationalmssociety.org/scholarship](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.nationalmssociety.org%5C%5Cscholarship)

**The Gallery Collection’s Greeting Card Scholarship Contest**: Program encourages students in high school and college to use creativity to design a greeting card appropriate for business or consumer use. Browse the website for examples of cards which have been winners. Read all of the Scholarship Rules before beginning the application [www.gallerycollection.com/greeting-cards-schol](http://www.gallerycollection.com/greeting-cards-schol%20)  **Deadline March 1, 2018**

**College Specific Scholarships:**

**Lenior-Rhyne University Teaching Scholars Scholarship**: This scholarship to exemplary high school seniors to receive this prestigious scholarship and develop the skills to become effective teacher leaders for our public schools. Priority consideration will be given to students applying by January 10, 2018. However, they strongly encourage students to apply immediately as spaces for this scholarship program are limited. This scholarship is valued at $5,500 per year for four year. Please apply at [www.lr.edu/academics/opportunities-for-exceptional-students/teaching-scholars](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.lr.edu%5C%5Cacademics%5C%5Copportunities-for-exceptional-students%5C%5Cteaching-scholars)

**UNCG Guarantee**: The University of NC at Greensboro pledges to make every effort to meet all of the selected student’s financial need allowing students to graduate from UNCG in four years with little or no debt; see <http://guarantee.uncg.edu> for more information. Students must qualify financially for the UNC Guarantee. Priority given to those that apply by December 1 and the application will close on February 1, 2018

**Randolph Community College Presidential Scholars Program**

* Five high schools seniors will be selected to receive a $2,500 scholarship for their first year of study that is renewable for the second year.
* Seniors who plan to attend RCC in the fall of 2018, have an unweighted GPA of at least 3.0, and have been involved in extracurricular/community activities should apply for this merit scholarship.
* Visit **[www.randolphccfoundation.org/presidential.html](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.randolphccfoundation.org%5C%5Cpresidential.html)** for additional information.
* Deadline to submit the application packet is **February 23, 2018 at 3 p.m.**
* Applicants who meet the preliminary requirements will be invited to attend the Presidential Scholars Day at RCC at that time they will be interviewed. Students selected for second interviews will meet with Dr. Bob Shakelford, president.

**Virginia Military Institute - Institute Scholars**

* Full and partial scholarships are available to cover the cost of tuition and fees for up to eight semesters of full-time study at VMI.
* Candidates must meet or exceed the following criteria: (1) Combined SAT: 1350 or ACT: 30; and (2) 3.7 High School GPA. Deadline is **February 1, 2018**
* [www.vmi.edu/academics/scholarships/](file:///E%3A%5C%5Cwww.vmi.edu%5C%5Cacademics%5C%5Cscholarships%5C%5C)

**Wake Forest University:**  <http://static.wfu.edu/files/pdf/admissions/ugscholarships.pdf>

**Winston-Salem Foundation:** Scholarships are available at

<http://www.wsfoundation.org/netcommunity/page.aspx?pid=802> deadline April 1, 2018.

**Meredith College:** Recruiting freshman wanting to attend Meredith College Teaching Fellows for 18-19 year. Interested students can access the application and other documents at

<http://www.meredith.edu/academics/special_academic_programs/teaching_fellows>. Completed applications are due in the Office of Admissions by **January 15, 2018.**

**The Carolina Covenant at UNC Chapel Hill:** Eligible low-income students who are admitted to UNC can enroll withoutworrying how they are going to pay for it; more info at [http://www.unc.edu/carolinacovenant](http://www.unc.edu/carolinacovenant/).

[UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Program](https://youtu.be/dZ1lBwtdR8U) awards a $20,000.00 scholarship distributed incrementally over four years of study at UNCG. In addition to scholarships, the UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Program includes a variety of other benefits, including integrated seminars, networking events, community engagement opportunities, and leadership development. Fellows also live in relative proximity to one another as part of the Residential Colleges or Lloyd International Honors College. Additionally, Fellows study abroad during their sophomore year as part of the global focus of the program. To be eligible for participation in the UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Program, a student must be a North Carolina resident and have a recommended minimum 3.80 weighted cumulative high school GPA and a minimum SAT verbal and math score of 1170 or ACT composite score of 24. Students must also select one of the following UNCG majors that lead to N.C. teaching licensure:

**Deadline is January 1, 2018** [UNCG Teacher Education Fellows Application](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0CJjOyChzqKlGhBobVTB8s8m0ZALs0fjFL7RpvaTI8VxAeA/viewform?usp=send_form).

**Minority Scholarships**

**NC Hispanic College Fund Scholarships -**  <http://thencshp.org/resources/for-students>

**UNCF:** Provides financial support to many scholarship programs for African American students. Check out these opportunities at [www.uncf.org](http://www.uncf.org).

**ROTC Scholarships**

**Air Force**

The application process requires, U.S. citizenship, minimum age of 17, minimum GPA of 3.0, minimum ACT composite score of 26 (excluding writing) and/or SAT score of 1180 (excluding writing), recommendations, extracurricular activities, leadership, interviews. Acceptance and attendance at a university with an AFROTC program. An applicant must also meet fitness, physical, and medical requirements. There is also a service commitment.

* Application deadline is **December 1, 2018**
* More information is available at **http://www.afrotc.com/**

**Army**

The application process requires, U.S. citizenship, age of 17-26 years, minimum GPA of 2.5, high school diploma or equivalent, minimum SAT score of 920 (math/verbal) or minimum ACT composite score of 19 (excluding the required writing test scores), recommendations, extracurricular activities, leadership, and interviews. Acceptance and attendance at a university with a ROTC program. An applicant must meet also physical standards. Student must agree to accept a commission and serve in the Army on Active Duty or in a Reserve Component (Army Reserve or Army National Guard)

* To apply for a scholarship, you must first create a MY GOARMY account. Then you will be able to log in and complete the scholarship application.
* More information is available at **http://www.goarmy.com/rotc/high-school-students/four-year-scholarship.html**

**Navy and Marine Corps**

* The three scholarship options are: Navy, Nurse, and Marine Corps.
* The application process requires, U.S. citizenship, age of 17-23 years, high school diploma or GED, minimum ACT and/or SAT scores, recommendations, extracurricular activities, leadership, and interviews. Acceptance and attendance at a university with a NROTC program. An applicant must also meet physical standards. There is also a service commitment.
* Application deadline is **January 31, 2018 by midnight (CST)**
* More information is available at [**http://www.nrotc.navy.mil/index.aspx**](http://www.nrotc.navy.mil/index.aspx)