



How to Find Scholarships

Scholarship Search Tips:

Just like applying to college, searching for scholarships is a process.

1. Set aside time every week to look for scholarships.
2. Each scholarship will have different requirements and deadlines. Before applying to a scholarship make sure that you meet the requirements.
3. Scholarship due dates are hard deadlines. Submit your application before the deadline date. If that is not possible, make sure to submit it by the deadline date.
4. Apply to local scholarships. Local scholarships have a smaller number of applicants compared to national scholarships.
5. Remember the scholarship process is a competitive one. Answer all the questions, include the required documents, allow enough time for recommendation letter(s) if required, and proofread your application prior to submitting it.

Red flags:

1. Never give personal information like your social security number or credit card/bank information when applying to scholarships.
2. Be wary of scholarships that use language like "scholarship fees" or "scholarship guaranteed".
3. Do not pay for scholarships

Finally, while scholarships don't have to be paid back like a loan and are considered "free money", you must invest your time in finding and applying to them.

Scholarship Resources:

**Naviance*: Students should continually check *Naviance*. It is the database where FCPS and WPHS advertise scholarships, including the description, requirements, deadline and how to apply to the scholarship listed

*Colleges may offer their own scholarships. You will need to check individual college websites for college/university-based scholarships

*The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia lists scholarship opportunities specifically for students from Northern Virginia: <https://www.cfnova.org/grants-and-scholarships/scholarships>

*There are lots of scholarship search engines/websites you can utilize to look for scholarships. Some allow you to set up a profile that will direct scholarships to your inbox. These are a few sites that students may consider when searching for scholarships. This list is not intended to be all inclusive.

- <https://www.scholarships.com/>
- <https://www.fastweb.com/>
- <https://www.cappex.com/>
- <https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>
- <https://www.chegg.com/scholarships>
- <https://www.petersons.com/scholarship-search.aspx>
- <https://www.unigo.com/>
- <https://signup.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search/>
- <https://www.edvisors.com/scholarships/college-scholarships/>
- <https://www.dosomething.org/us/about/easy-scholarships>

*Places of employment: Check to see if your employer or your parents' employer offers scholarships

*Perform a Google search like "scholarships for high school students" or a search that focuses on your strengths/interests like "scholarships for high school students and gaming".