

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

TIPS FOR FINDING SCHOLARSHIPS



MYTH: Only high school seniors can apply for scholarships. There are still scholarships available for students earlier in their high school career. Start your search today!

TIP: Don't waste your money on fee-based scholarship matching services. These offers are virtually the same as the searches you can do on your own.

TIP: Take a few hours each week to look for scholarships. A little time and effort now could lead to significant financial assistance for college.

TIP: You can start improving your personal finance knowledge today. Learn more at [LUC.edu/financialwellness](https://luc.edu/financialwellness).

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Loyola offers merit-based awards during the admission process to many applicants, but we also encourage students to pursue scholarships from other organizations. As you read further, you'll get a good idea of where to begin your search, how to refine your search, and what resources might be helpful in your search.

Learn more at [LUC.edu/scholarships](https://luc.edu/scholarships).

SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS ONLINE

The internet can be a great tool as you research scholarships. Search engines and scholarship sites like fastweb.com are an excellent resource when looking for very specific scholarships.

TIPS:

Stay organized and create a separate e-mail account just for your scholarship search.

Apply fearlessly! The trick to securing scholarships is to apply for as many as you are eligible for.

Develop a personal inventory. Take time to brainstorm about some of your attributes; write them down. The more personal characteristics you list, the bigger your pool of potential scholarships.

Make sure you meet all deadlines.

Start your search today. Some scholarships may have early deadlines.

If letters of recommendation are required, give your teachers/ counselors/employers plenty of time to prepare a letter.

Keep your profile up to date on scholarship search engines. Even small changes in your GPA can connect you with new scholarships.

Don't disregard smaller scholarships. They can really add up!

Remember that you can search for scholarships throughout your college career. Awards are not only for high school seniors.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN YOUR BACKYARD

Local scholarships are one of the first resources you can investigate. Here are some ideas:

- Local businesses, big and small
- Civic and community organizations
- Employers of your parent(s)
- Ethnic and cultural organizations
- High school counseling office
- Local governments
- Military associations
- Political parties and politicians
- Private foundations and charities
- Professional or trade associations
- Professional sports teams
- Religious organizations

REFINE YOUR SEARCH

While we list many scholarships on our site, there are many more just waiting to be found. Head to your favorite search engine and start with categories that may represent you, such as:

- African American Student Scholarships
- Asian & Pacific Islander Scholarships
- Latino/a & Hispanic Student Scholarships
- LGBTQIA Scholarships
- Native American Scholarships
- Scholarships for Students with Disabilities

You can also find scholarships based on your major—here are some examples:

- Nursing Scholarships
- Education Scholarships
- Communication Scholarships
- Accounting Scholarships

You may even combine categories for example:

- Nursing Scholarship for Men

Ultimately, there is no right way to search for scholarships. But if you are creative and follow a few of the basic guidelines listed here, you are very likely to uncover additional funds for your education.

Get a better idea of outside scholarships that may be available to you at [LUC.edu/finaid/scholarships/external](https://luc.edu/finaid/scholarships/external).

