



SCHOLARSHIPS

**COLLEGE
SUCCESS**
FOUNDATION

Today's Presenters



Maria Rebecchi

Director, Scholarships & Financial Aid
Education



Trang Tran

Program Officer, Scholarships &
Financial Aid Education

Today's Agenda



- What scholarships are
- How to find scholarships
- The different sources of scholarships
- Why you should apply for scholarships
- How to avoid mistakes and implement strategies
- CSF Scholarships
- Resources for Students
- Survey Monkey Apply Demo

What are scholarships?

FREE MONEY that you apply for and can be used towards your education

Two different kinds of scholarships:



Merit
based

Awarded based on set characteristics such as: academic performance, sports, arts, etc.

Need
Based

Awarded based on household income

Features:

No Cost

Renewable

Portable

How do I find scholarships?



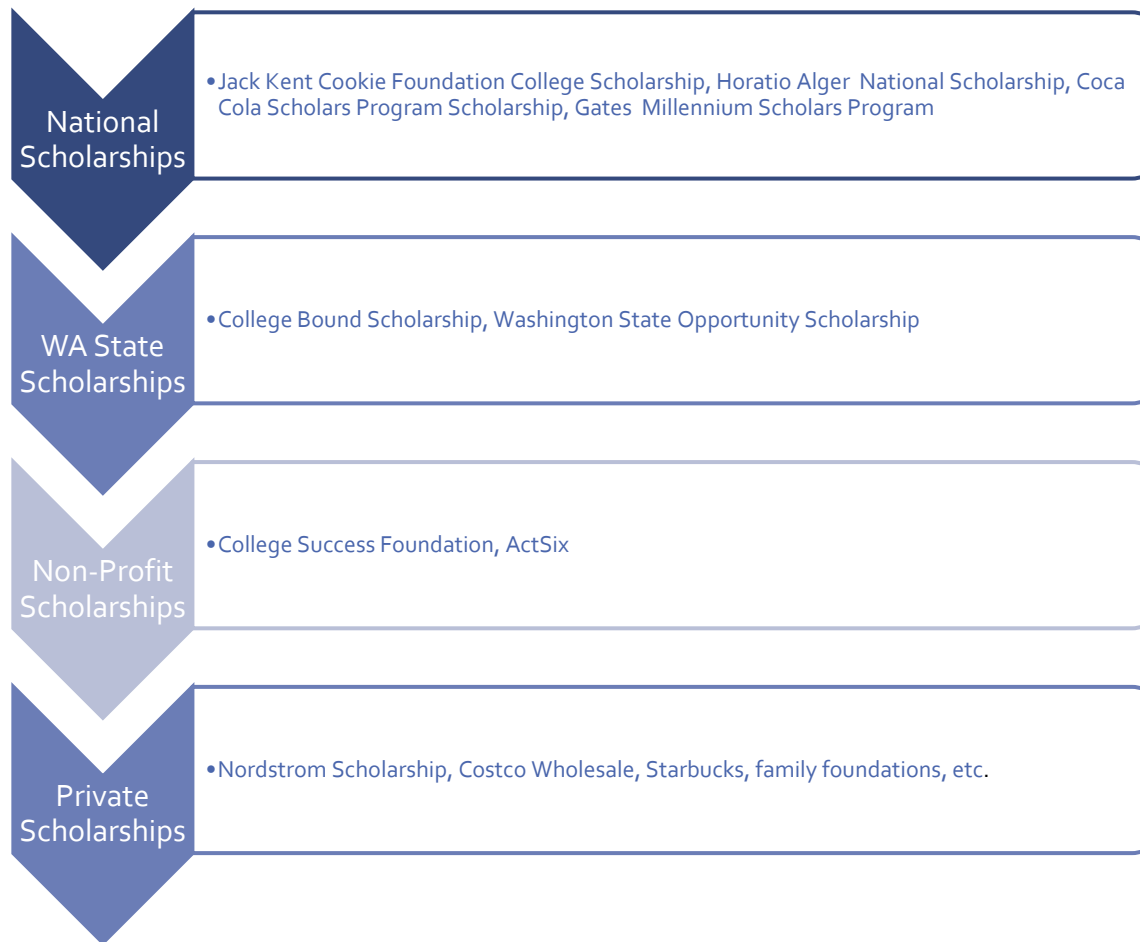
- Guidance Counselors, College Prep Advisors
- Admissions office
 - *Are you automatically considered for scholarships when you apply for admissions? Is there a separate application? Deadline?*
- Financial Aid Office
- Public library or school library
- Jobs/companies
 - *Where do you or family members work?*
- Scholarship databases
- Google

Where do I find scholarships?

These are great sites to get you started:

- www.thewashboard.org
- www.collegegreenlight.org
- www.waopportunityscholarship.org
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- www.fastweb.com
- www.scholarships.com
- www.collegeresourcenetwork.com
- www.chegg.com/scholarships
- www.thedream.us
- www.uncf.org
- www.hispanicfund.org
- <https://scholarshipjunkies.org/>
- www.Gearup.wa.gov
- www.Unigo.com

Research these large scholarships:





Implementing a successful scholarship search

Prepare:

- Know the **application deadlines** and give yourself **plenty of time**.
- Prepare to write about your **past experiences, lessons learned** and **accomplishments**.
- Do you have a draft of a personal essay? Use it to **adapt to each scholarship** you are applying for.
- Some applications require official high school and college transcripts. If they do, **give yourself time to order transcripts** and be prepared to pay a fee for any official transcripts.
- Complete your **2022-2023 FAFSA or WASFA** and have a copy ready.



Implementing a successful scholarship search

Organize:

- Use a calendar app to set **application deadline dates**.
 - Many are due at the **beginning of the year**.
 - Missing a deadline will **eliminate your application**.
- Give your recommender at least **2 – 4 weeks** to write a letter of recommendation.
 - Let them know what **you want** them to **focus on** the letter (*for ex., skills, honors, history, etc.*)
- A letter of recommendation can come from...
 - A professor/faculty member, employer, community leader, mentor, or any college support staff. (No family members, friends, partners)
 - **TIP:** Provide them a copy of your resume, personal essay and scholarship information.
- Keep track of **scholarship names**, amount of **scholarship \$**, **website** and **deadline dates**.



Implementing a successful scholarship search

Apply:

- The #1 reason people make mistakes when applying is they **do not follow all the instructions**.
- Focus on crafting a **personal** yet **authentic** essay.
 - Only share what you are comfortable sharing.
 - Remember you need to make yourself stand out from other applicants.
- **Highlight** your ...
 - Campus involvement
 - Leadership experience
 - Community service
 - Accomplishments (academic, personal or professional)
 - Support of family
 - Work experience



Implementing a successful scholarship search

Get Support:

- College prep advisors/teachers
- Peers!
- Library
- Writing Center
- Student Support Services, Diversity and Equity/ Cultural Centers
- Your department major (i.e.; Social Science Department for Social Science Majors)

Why do I need scholarships?



- College costs are high; financial aid doesn't always cover all your costs. Reduces out of pocket cost for student and their family.
- Even if you receive 'good aid' (free money usually in form of grants), you may still have a gap to fill.
 - *Look for scholarships (also 'good aid'!)*
 - *Reduce your costs (live at home; look for less costly options)*
 - *Avoid loans: BORROWED MONEY, must be paid back with interest!*
- Reduce student loan debt
 - *2020 national average student loan debt: \$38,000*
 - *Average student loan monthly payment: \$400*

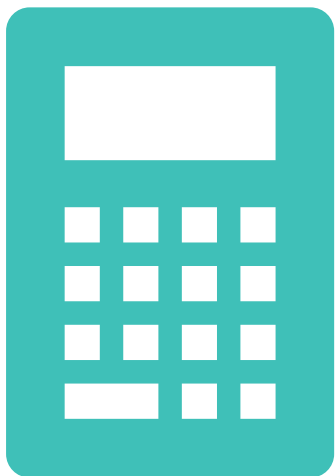
What do scholarships help pay?



Anything relating to your education:

- *Tuition & fees*
- *Room & board*
- *Books & supplies*
- *Transportation*
- *Personal expenses (toiletries, laundry)*
- *Computers/tablets*
- *Study abroad*

“Applying takes so much work...”



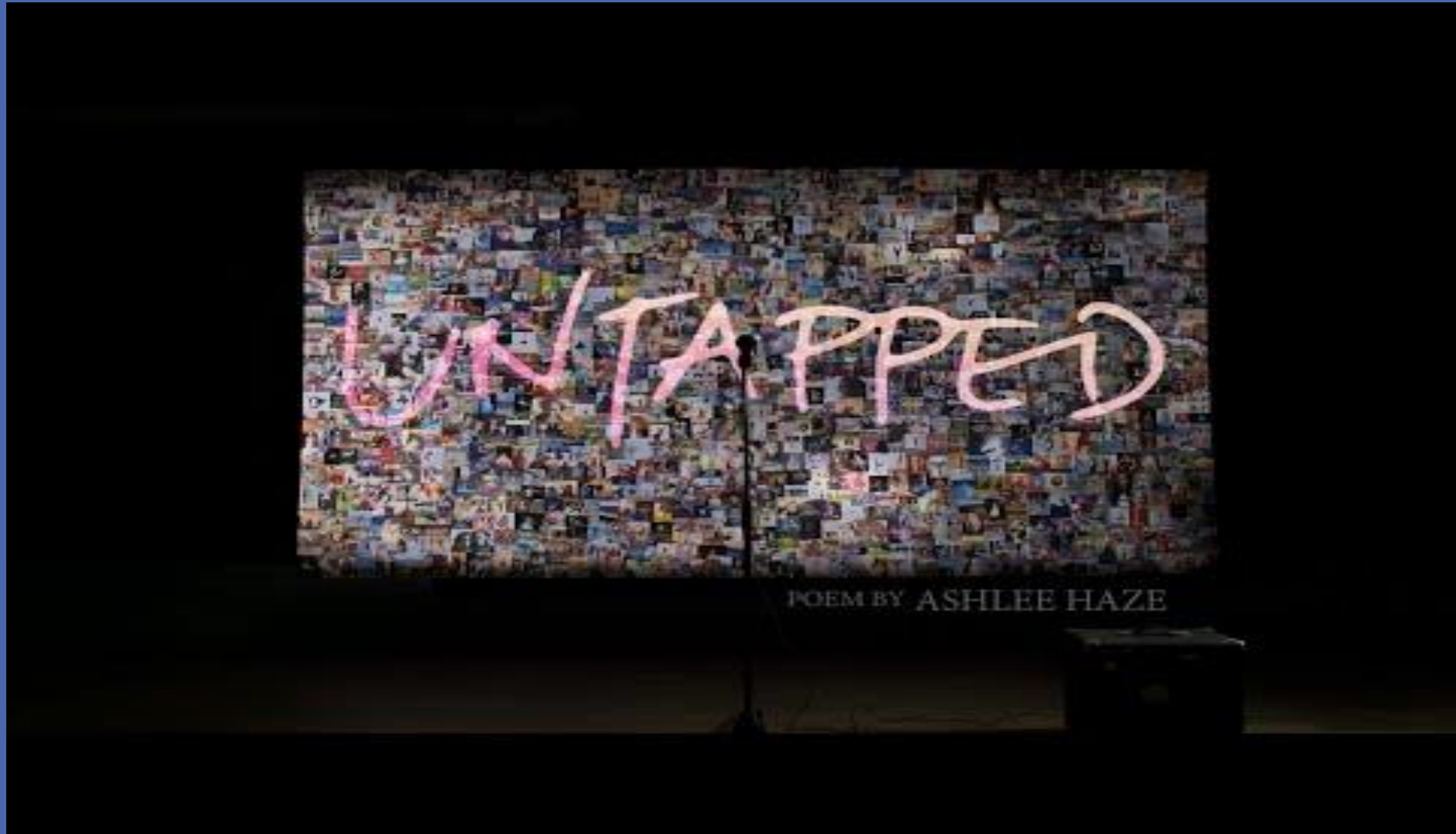
Let's say you need \$20,000 to close your financial gap.
Do you rather spend 4 hours or 2040 hours working towards it?

	Spend	Pay per hour
Apply	4 hours	\$5,000
Work/Save	2040 hours	\$15*

How to avoid mistakes and implement strategies

Common mistakes	Strategies
Missing the deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a spreadsheet and add dates to a calendar. If possible, use an electronic calendar that allows you to set reminders.• Pay attention to deadlines that require mailing an item. Be sure to track any sent mail.
Not following instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read the entire application and instructions before you begin working. • Identify the goal and direct your application towards meeting it. • Know the audience. • Complete the application in full and follow the directions
Typos and omitting requested information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a rubric.• Proofread and ask others to proofread using the rubric.
Not following the word count	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the application asks for a word range, hit the target.• Use Microsoft Word to create draft. Online applications can time out and may not include spell check.• Avoid falling off topic trying to meet the count.
Essay quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure to have a thesis that responds to the prompt• Give concrete examples that illustrate your point• Don't be afraid to show your strengths and explain your personal vulnerabilities• When asked about difficult life experiences, talk less about the specific event, and more about how you dealt with it, what you learned from it, how you overcame it. There's no need to give details about very personal and difficult circumstances if you don't feel comfortable.
Generic letters of recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request letters of recommendation from people who know you well and are able to talk about your abilities and attributes.• Be sure to give the recommender enough time to write a letter.
Not asking for help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get others to proofread your application.• If English is not your first language, have a native speaker proofread.

“UNTAPPED”



<https://youtu.be/6BZyHmbh6Q8>

**COLLEGE
SUCCESS**
FOUNDATION

CSF SCHOLARSHIPS

Important Dates



Application opens: 12/1/2021

Application closes: 1/31/2022

Deadline to submit documents: 2/7/2022

CSF SCHOLARSHIPS

GENERAL CHECKLIST



- Online application
- Unofficial transcript (must include Fall 2021 grades and cumulative GPA)
- Letter of recommendation

Supporting documentation must be uploaded in the application

1. LEADERSHIP 1000

The Leadership 1000 Scholarship provides high school seniors attending certain high schools with scholarships for postsecondary education. Applicants are selected based on **academic promise, personal drive and financial need**.

In addition to the scholarship, scholars have the opportunity to build relationships with their donors and build their networks. In addition to the scholarship, scholars receive guidance related to college, career, financial aid, and networking opportunities through CSF College Services to ensure students graduate with a four-year degree and achieve success in life. Scholarship Services also provide guidance on matters of financial aid and affordability as well as referrals to on-campus support services.

Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per year for up to four years, for a **maximum of \$20,000**

1. LEADERSHIP 1000

ELIGIBILITY

- Be a **high school senior** enrolled at an eligible high school and be on track to graduate by June 2022 –OR–
- Be a **former Achiever** attending a Washington state college/university as a freshman, sophomore or junior
- Plan to enroll **fulltime at an eligible** Washington state college or university starting Fall 2022
- Have resided in Washington state for at least 12 consecutive months prior to college enrollment
- File a **FAFSA or WASFA** – to ensure student applies for all possible aid available
- Have a minimum cumulative **GPA of 2.5**
- Have a **family income** that doesn't exceed the program's requirement



1. LEADERSHIP 1000

GIFTS AVAILABLE THIS COMING YEAR...SO FAR!

- Financial need
- First generation
- Landscape Architecture
- Creative writing
- Finance/Business
- STEM/STEAM
 - Nursing
- Residents of Walla Walla, or graduate of Walla Walla high school or CC
- Foster youth

2. GOVERNORS FOR FOSTER YOUTH

The Washington State Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth is a scholarship program that helps high school seniors from foster care continue their education and earn a college degree. The program is supported by Gov. Jay Inslee, The Honorable Chris Gregoire (former governor), The Honorable Gary Locke (former governor), and other former governors in Washington State.

Proceeds from the Governors' Cup – an annual golf tournament – provide funding for approximately 30-40 new scholars each year.

In addition to the scholarship, scholars receive guidance regarding career, financial aid, and networking opportunities with CSF alumni and current students to ensure students graduate with a four-year degree and achieve success in life.

Scholarships range from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year for up to five years, for a **maximum of \$20,000**

2. GOVERNORS FOR FOSTER YOUTH ELIGIBILITY

- Have a high school diploma or GED by June 2022
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00
- Plan to enroll at an eligible Washington state college or university in fall 2022
- Have resided in Washington state for at least 12 consecutive months prior to college enrollment
- File a FAFSA or WASFA – to ensure student applies for all possible aid available
- Meet one of the following criteria (either currently or until age 18):
 - Placed by a Washington **State** court order in any of the following living situations:
 - Foster Care, Guardianship or Dependency Guardianship (non-relatives, relatives, residential/group care)
 - Placed in **federally**-recognized care (private nonprofit agency in Washington state), classified as unaccompanied minor and rendered legal permanent residency in the United States
 - Placed under a dependency **tribal** court order outside of your home.



3. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund was created by the Mount Baker Foundation in 1985 as a neighborhood effort to honor the work and dreams of Dr. King. Scholarships are awarded to students who live and go to school in our community.

The goal of this scholarship is to help deserving students achieve the dream of a postsecondary education. The scholarship seeks out students who show financial need, academic promise and who have overcome obstacles while contributing to their community. This community's strong support of scholars is one of the most unique and important attributes of the scholarship. Students who receive this scholarship will have access to regional and online support with CSF.

Scholarships range from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year depending on the school of enrollment for a **maximum of \$16,000.**

3. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ELIGIBILITY

- Be a current high school senior at in the Mount Baker area on track to graduate by June 2022
- Be a resident of or attend school in one of the following zip codes: 98104, 98108, 98118, 98122, 98134, 98144; Franklin, Garfield, NOVA, Interagency sites, Rainier Beach, South Lake, Cleveland and independent schools in these zip codes are all eligible
- The scholarship is limited to students from ethnic or racial groups that are underrepresented in higher education, especially the following:
 - American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian (Cambodian, Filipino, Laotian, Vietnamese), African or Black, Hispanic, Pacific Islanders, Multiracial
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 (an ideal candidate will have a GPA between 2.5 and 3.6)
- Plan to enroll at a not-for-profit, accredited college/university
- File a [FAFSA or WASFA](#) – to ensure student applies for all possible aid available
- Have a [family income](#) that doesn't exceed the program's requirement



LETTING REVIEWERS KNOW YOU

How do reviewers evaluate you?

LETTING REVIEWERS KNOW YOU

How do reviewers evaluate you?

- ❑ **Application**
 - Activities
 - Academic plans
 - Special circumstances
 - Short-answer questions

- ❑ **Academics**
 - Transcript

- ❑ **Recommendation**
 - Letter
 - Rubric

LETTING REVIEWERS KNOW YOU

How do reviewers evaluate you?

Application

▪Activities

Please share why you chose to contribute to the well-being of your family, school, community, or place of worship through activities listed. What have you learned about yourself and others from that experience? (120 words min)

▪Academic Information Section

Do you need any assistance securing special accommodations or support services on campus (for example: disability/health concerns, housing, tutoring, etc.)? If this doesn't apply to you, please write 'N/A'.

▪Family and/or Supporting Adult Info Section

Do you or your family have additional circumstances that we should consider (for example, loss of job, housing or food instability, lack of transportation, health concerns, etc.)? As much as you are comfortable, please share these circumstances so that we can better evaluate your application and so that we can connect you with support services. If this doesn't apply to you, please write 'N/A'.

SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

Leadership 1000, Governors, MLK

- Short-Answer Questions

- ❑ College is a stepping-stone to your life and your career. What are your **goals**, what do you **aspire** to be, and how do you see higher education helping you get there? What have you done and what are you doing now to ensure you are **prepared** for the next step?
- ❑ In thinking about your educational and career goals, provide examples of:
 - ❑ A **strength** that will help you achieve your objectives
 - ❑ A **personal vulnerability** that might get in the way of your success and the steps you will take to address them
- ❑ When confronted with a **need for support** or advice, what living person do you turn to for guidance? Describe a situation when that person helped you. If he or she did not have the knowledge to help you, what would you do next?
- ❑ Describe a **challenge** you have faced and share how you dealt with it. Explain how having dealt with that challenge has shaped you, the lessons you learned and if it has influenced your goals for the future

LETTING REVIEWERS KNOW YOU

How do reviewers evaluate you?

NEW this year:

Student will be able to replace one of their essays with something that they've created. It could be a website, an art project, a personal video or other online file that they would like to share. You'll place the link in the answer section. They will have to explain what it is and how it addresses the prompt.

Here are some samples:

- ✓ Marithza (Goals)
- ✓ Vivian (Challenges)
- ✓ Iking (Self-awareness)
- ✓ Emily (Support person)
- ✓ Kelly (Community engagement)
- ✓ Mojo (Multiple)
- ✓ Abigail (Self-awareness)
- ✓ Jari (Goals)
- ✓ Naira (Multiple)

SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

Tips

Minimum of 500 words are required for each essay. We strongly recommend that students do the following:

- ❑ Read all the questions first and outline responses in Word
- ❑ Use different examples throughout their application to build the most complete picture of themselves as a unique applicant. The more details, the stronger the answers.
- ❑ Share drafts with a teacher, advisor, coach or adult for feedback [refer to scheduled sessions]
- ❑ Answers will be evaluated for focus, development of ideas, coherence, organization, substance and appropriate expression.
- ❑ Remember that this is the only chance evaluators will have to get to know who they are and what they hope to do with their education. Make sure it counts!

AFTER SUBMISSION

All programs

Awards:

- ❑ Selected scholars will be notified by April 15
- ❑ Selected scholars will have to accept award by April 30
 - ❑ You must submit your financial aid award letter to complete the awarding process
- ❑ Selected scholars to attend an online orientation in May

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY PROGRAM

	Leadership 1000	Governors'	MLK
Unofficial Transcript	Must include Fall 2021 grades and cumulative GPA		
Letter of Recommendation	1 Letter Required		
Dependency Court Order	N/A	Required	N/A

RESOURCES FOR YOU

- **CSF Essay Brainstorm/Feedback Clinic with Alumni Board Members sessions**
 - Dec 11, 2021 11 AM – 1 PM
 - Dec 16, 2021 6 PM – 7 PM
 - Jan 8, 2022 11 AM – 1 PM
 - Jan 13, 2022 6 PM – 7 PM
- **GetSchooled's essay review: College Application Essay Review |**
- **Student Application Guide – coming soon!**

Promo flyer w/ links to register will be emailed to you

SCHOLARSHIP PLATFORM DEMO

Applicant perspective

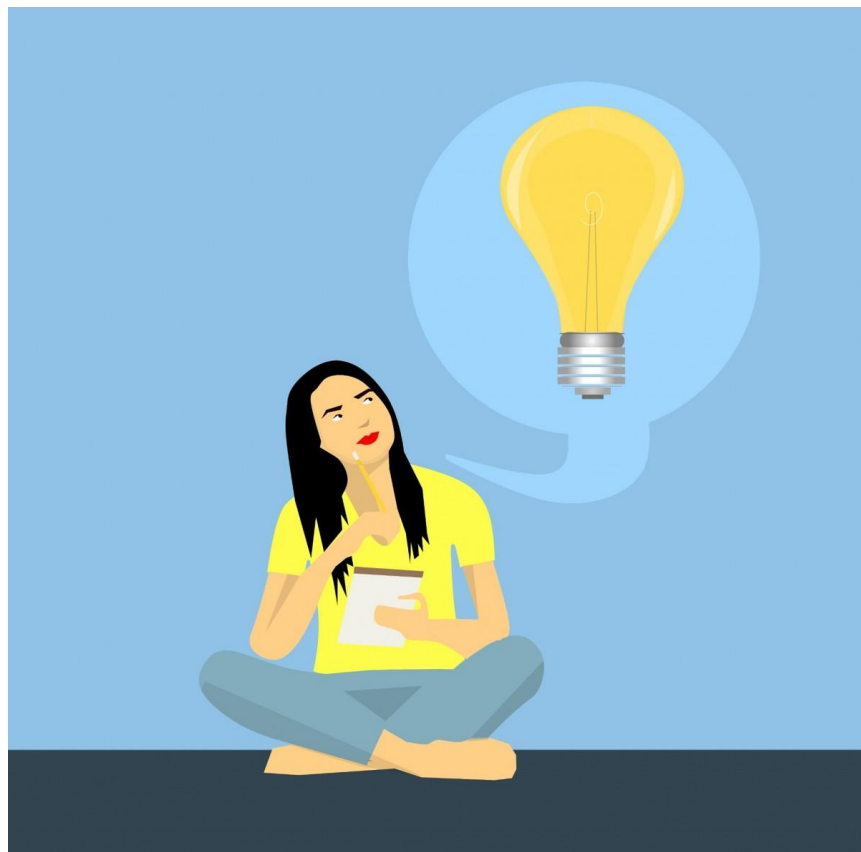
The screenshot displays the 'College Success Foundation Scholarships' platform from an applicant's perspective. The top navigation bar includes 'Programs', 'My Applications', and the user's name 'Trang Tran'. The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Task Progress:** Shows '2 of 11 tasks complete' with a progress bar. It includes a 'Last edited' timestamp (Oct 29 2021 08:40 PM (UTC)), 'REVIEW' and 'SUBMIT' buttons, and a 'Deadline: Feb 1 2022 07:59 AM (UTC)'. Below this, the applicant's profile 'Trang Tran (Owner)' is shown with their email 'ttran@collegesuccessfoundation.org'. A 'Collaborators' section allows adding a 'CSF Advisor' (csfadvisor@test@gmail.com) to 'View & edit'.
- Application Details:** Displays the 'Leadership 1000 Scholarship Pro...' with ID '0000000013'. It has tabs for 'APPLICATION' and 'ACTIVITY'.
- Your tasks:** A list of tasks with their completion status and details:
 - Eligibility: Cannot be modified (Completed)
 - Student Information: Last edited: Sep 29 2021 09:38 PM (UTC) (In Progress)
 - Academic Information: Completed on: Oct 29 2021 04:36 PM (UTC) | Linda Tran (removed) (Completed)
 - Special Accommodation or Support Services: Owner only task (Not Started)
 - Activities: (Not Started)
 - Family and/or Supporting Adult Information: (Not Started)
 - Essay Questions: (Not Started)
 - Agreement/Consent: Owner only task (Not Started)
 - Student Aid Report: (Not Started)
 - Unofficial transcript: Last edited: Oct 29 2021 08:40 PM (UTC) | CSF Advisor (In Progress)
 - Request a recommendation: (Not Started)

Helpful features

- Reusable applicant tasks (for students applying to multiple scholarships)
- Shows applicant progress on tasks
- Informs applicant when recommendations are accepted/declined/received
- Can invite collaborators (advisors) to upload transcripts on their behalf
- Access to Survey Monkey Help team, and site navigation FAQ

Questions? Comments? **Help?**



Maria Rebecchi

Director, Scholarships & Financial Aid Education

Mrebecchi@collegesuccessfoundation.org

Trang Tran

Program Officer, Scholarships & Financial Aid
Education

Ttran@collegesuccessfoundation.org