



SCHOLARSHIPS

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

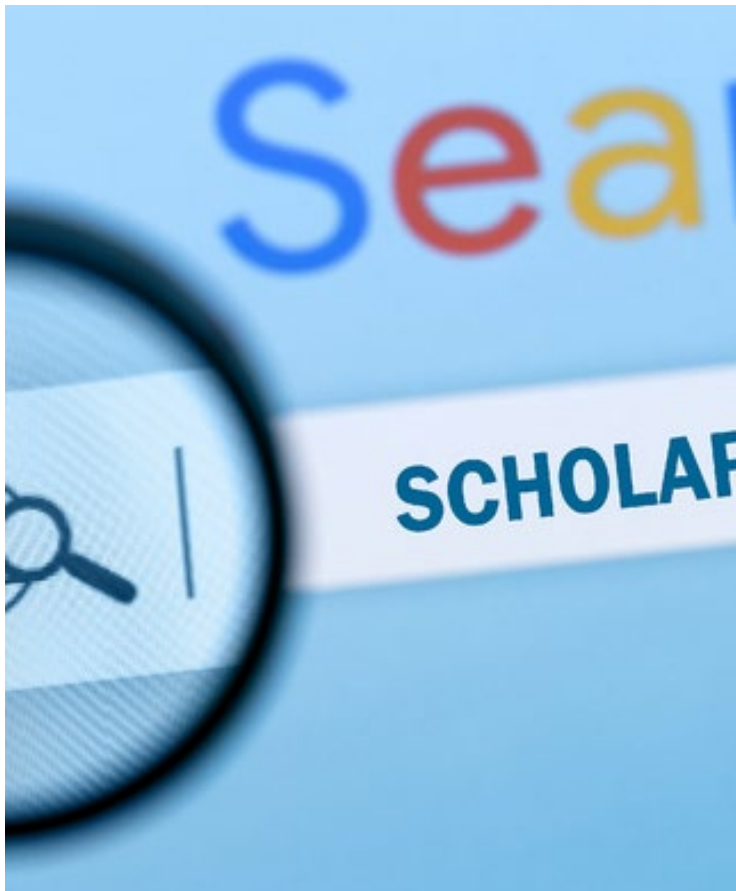
Features:

No Cost

Renewable

Portable

How do I find scholarships?



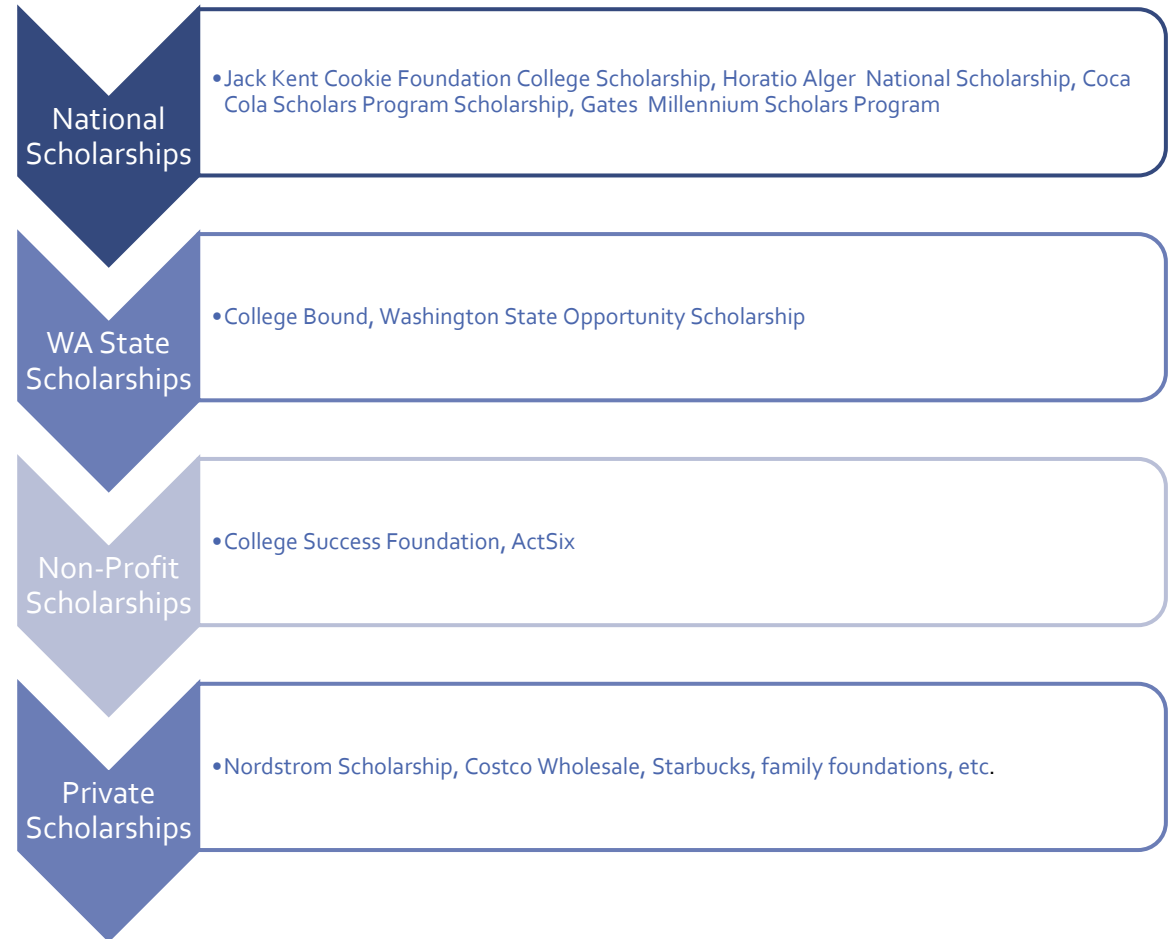
- Guidance Counselors, College Prep Advisors
- Admissions office
 - *Are you automatically considered for scholarships when you apply for admissions? Is there a separate application? Deadline?*
- Financial Aid Office
- Public library or school library
- Jobs/companies
 - *Where do you or family members 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 **2023-2024 FAFSA or WASFA** and have a copy ready.

Activity: The many facets of you!

High school

- Where do you attend
- What's your favorite classes
- Cumulative GPA

Where you are from/where you call home

What you like to do on your free time

- Extracurricular activities
 - Clubs/organizations/sports you were involved in
- Hobbies/interests
 - Causes/interests you are passionate about
- What you like to do on your free time

Your strengths/talents/passions

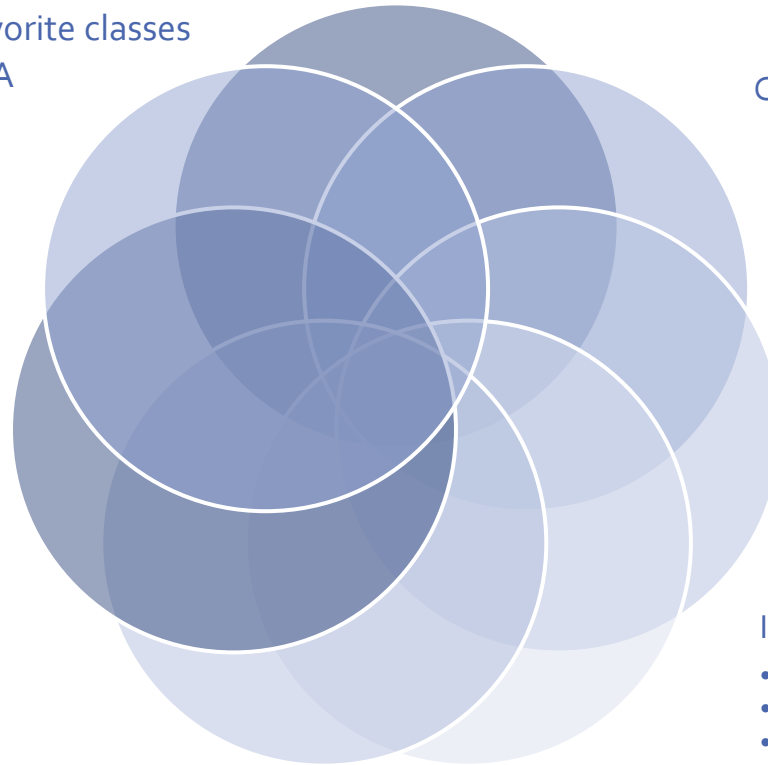
- What are you most proud of?
- What are you passionate about?
- What do you excel at?
- Topics that interest you

Colleges you are applying to

Career fields/Majors you are interested in

Identities that you hold

- Gender identity
- Race/ethnicity
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Languages you speak
- Are you first in your family to go to college?
- Communities that you belong to





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 mistake when applying is to **not follow 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*

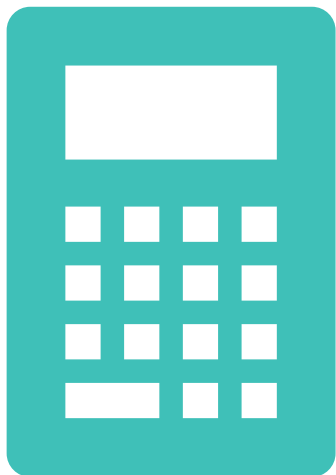
What do scholarships help pay?



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** working on an application or **2040 hours** working a job?

	Spend	Pay per hour
Apply	4 hours	\$5,000
Work/Save	2040 hours (85 days)	\$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

L1000 & Governors'

Application opens:

10/1/2024

Application closes:

11/30/2024

**Deadline to submit
documents: 12/7/2024**

Award Notification:

4/15/2024

MLK

Application opens:

10/1/2024

Application closes:

1/31/2025

**Deadline to submit
documents: 2/7/2025**

Award Notification:

TBD

Costco & BECU

Application opens:

12/1/2024

Application closes:

1/31/2025

**Deadline to submit
documents: 2/7/2025**

Award Notification:

4/15/2025

CSF SCHOLARSHIPS

GENERAL CHECKLIST



- Online application
- Unofficial transcript (must include 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. This program is funded by dollars raised by individual donors and corporations to fund between 70-100 new scholars every year. 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 2025

—OR—

- Have graduated from a CSF high school and enrolled in CSF College Services (includes all former CSF Achievers) attending an eligible Washington state college or university as a freshman, sophomore or junior in fall 2025
- Plan to enroll at an eligible Washington state college or university starting Fall 2025
- 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
- Finance/Business
- STEM/STEAM
- Foster youth

1. LEADERSHIP 1000 CHECKLIST



- ❑ Due 11/30/2024:
 - ✓ Online application

- ❑ Due 12/7/2024:
 - ✓ Unofficial transcript (must include Spring 2024 grades and cumulative GPA). *If your GPA is below 2.5, you will be able to turn in a transcript with your Fall 2024 grades showing you meet the GPA requirement at a later time.*
 - ✓ Letter of recommendation

Supporting documentation must be uploaded in the application

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 related to college, career, financial aid, and networking opportunities through CSF College Services to ensure students graduate with college 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 2025
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00
- Plan to enroll at an eligible Washington state college or university in fall 2025
- 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.



2. GOVERNORS FOR FOSTER YOUTH CHECKLIST



- ❑ Due 11/30/2024:
 - ✓ Online application

- ❑ Due 12/7/2024:
 - ✓ Unofficial transcript (must include Spring 2024 grades and cumulative GPA). *If your GPA is below 2.0, you will be able to turn in a transcript with your Fall 2024 grades showing you meet the GPA requirement at a later time.*
 - ✓ Letter of recommendation
 - ✓ Copy of your Dependency Court Order

Supporting documentation must be uploaded in the application

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. Funds raised by the Foundation typically fund 12 new scholars every year.

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 on-campus 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 2025
- 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 3.0 (an ideal candidate will have a GPA between 3.0 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



3. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CHECKLIST



- ❑ Due 1/31/2025:
 - ✓ Online application

- ❑ Due 2/7/2025:
 - ✓ Unofficial transcript (must include Fall 2024 grades and cumulative GPA).
 - ✓ Letter of recommendation

Supporting documentation must be uploaded in the application

4. Costco Employee

Costco Employee Scholarship is open to all permanent employees in the U.S. who meet the eligibility criteria.

This scholarship is available in amounts of up to \$2,500 per academic year for up to four years. Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited, nonprofit U.S. college or university.

4. Costco Employee

ELIGIBILITY

- Be a part-time or full-time, permanent Costco Wholesale Employee who resides in the United States (College Retention employees are eligible to apply).
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent by June 2025
- Plan to pursue a 2-year or 4-year undergraduate degree or certificate at a nonprofit, accredited college or university in the United States starting fall 2025
- Not have obtained a bachelor's degree yet

4. COSTCO EMPLOYEE CHECKLIST



- ❑ Due 1/31/2025:
 - ✓ Online application

- ❑ Due 2/7/2025:
 - ✓ Recommendation form/rubric

Supporting documentation must be uploaded in the application

5. BECU Foundation

The BECU Foundation Scholarship brings to life BECU's **core principle of people helping people**. Every year, this scholarship provides us the opportunity to recognize and honor members who devote their time helping others while also pursuing post-secondary education.

The BECU Foundation is looking for member candidates who embody the people helping people philosophy by **actively giving back to their community**, whether through volunteering or through other meaningful contributions of time, effort, and care. If this describes you, we encourage you to apply.

This renewable scholarship can be awarded for up to two years. **Sixty-four students** will be selected to receive 2-year awards worth \$2,500 per year for up to \$5,000. Eligible students may attend 2-year or 4-year colleges or universities.

5. BECU Foundation

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be a member of BECU and be the primary account holder at the time of application. The account can be joint with a parent/guardian, but the applicant must be listed as the primary on at least one account.
- Applicants must be a graduating high school senior, or a student currently enrolled in a credit-bearing, accredited, nonprofit technical, two-year, or four-year college or university. Students of graduate programs are not eligible.
- Applicants must have a **minimum 2.5 GPA** through Fall 2024
- All scholarship recipients must **attend school full-time** and enrolled in an accredited, nonprofit post-secondary institution in the United States for the academic year following the scholarship award.
- Relatives of any member of the BECU Foundation, the BECU Board of Directors, the BECU Supervisory Committee, the BECU Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee, or the BECU Executive Management Team, the BECU Scholarship Selection Team or any family members of the above-mentioned groups are not eligible to apply.

5. BECU CHECKLIST



- ❑ Due 1/31/2025:
 - ✓ Online application

- ❑ Due 2/7/2025:
 - ✓ Unofficial transcript (must include Fall 2024 grades and cumulative GPA).
 - ✓ Letter of recommendation

Supporting documentation must be uploaded in the application



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

- ❑ 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
- ❑ 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

SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

Tips

Minimum of 300 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	Governor	MLK	BECU	Costco Employee
Unofficial Transcript	Must include Spring 2024 grades and cumulative GPA		Must include Fall 2024 grades and cumulative GPA		N/A
Letter of Recommendation	1 Letter Required				
Dependency Court Order	N/A	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A

Resources for you

- **Scholarships webinars:** This webinar will give you an insight on how to prepare to apply for your scholarship search and learn about the upcoming CSF scholarship cycle, their eligibility requirements, important dates, required documents, and essay questions.
- **Flyers and application guides** for both Leadership 1000 and Governors
- **Training documents** for Survey Monkey Apply
 - Applicants
 - Advisors & Collaborators

SCHOLARSHIP PLATFORM DEMO

Applicant perspective

The screenshot displays the 'College Success Foundation Scholarships' platform from an applicant's perspective. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Header:** 'College Success Foundation Scholarships' on the left and navigation links for 'Programs', 'My Applications', and the user 'Trang Tran' on the right.
- Progress Bar:** A progress indicator showing '2 of 11 tasks complete' with a blue bar and a 'Last edited: Oct 29 2021 08:40 PM (UTC)' timestamp.
- Buttons:** 'REVIEW' and 'SUBMIT' buttons.
- Deadline:** 'Deadline: Feb 1 2022 07:59 AM (UTC)'. Below this is a 'Collaborators' section with an 'Add' button.
- Owner Information:** 'Trang Tran (Owner)' with email 'ttran@collegesuccessfoundation.org'.
- Collaborator Information:** 'CSF Advisor' with email 'csfadvisor@test@gmail.com' and a 'View & edit' link.
- Application Details:** 'Leadership 1000 Scholarship Pro...' with ID '0000000013' and tabs for 'APPLICATION' and 'ACTIVITY'. A 'Preview' link is also present.
- Your tasks:** A list of tasks with status indicators (checkmarks, green circles, or empty circles) and chevron arrows:
 - Eligibility (Completed, Cannot be modified)
 - Student Information (In Progress, Last edited: Sep 29 2021 09:38 PM (UTC))
 - Academic Information (Completed, Completed on: Oct 29 2021 04:36 PM (UTC) | Linda Tran (removed))
 - Special Accommodation or Support Services (Not Started, Owner only task)
 - Activities (Not Started)
 - Family and/or Supporting Adult Information (Not Started)
 - Essay Questions (Not Started)
 - Agreement/Consent (Not Started, Owner only task)
 - Student Aid Report (Not Started)
 - Unofficial transcript (In Progress, Last edited: Oct 29 2021 08:40 PM (UTC) | CSF Advisor)
 - Request a recommendation (Not Started)

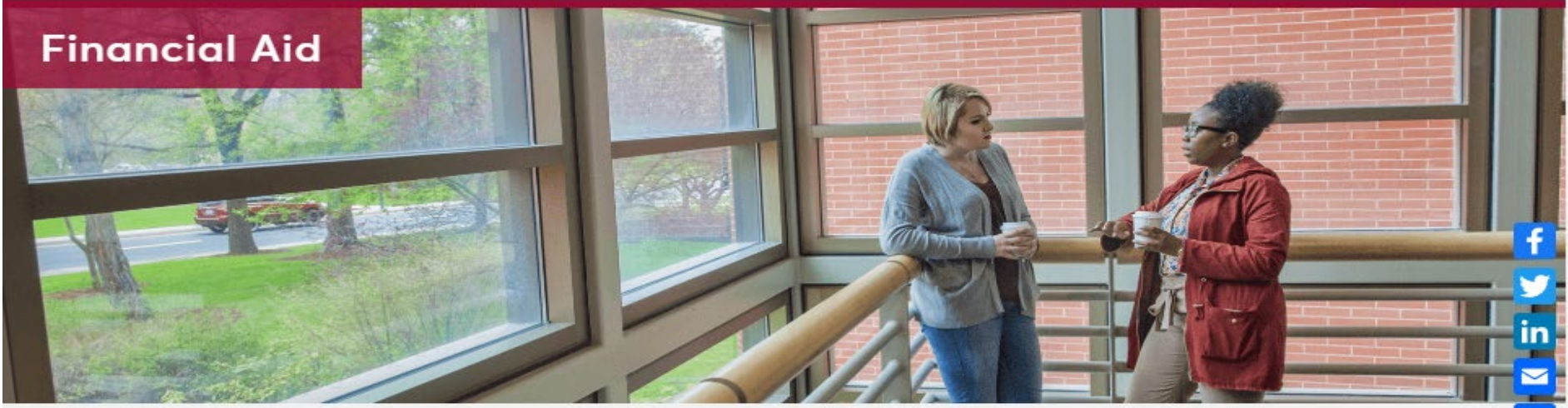
Helpful features

- 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

DON'T FORGET! FINANCIAL AID HUB



Financial Aid



Home » Our Approach » Financial Aid

We have tons of resources in our financial aid hub:

1. Recorded presentations
2. PowerPoints
3. Handouts & Tools

<https://www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/our-approach/financial-aid/>

Questions? Comments? Help?



ScholarshipServices@collegesuccessfoundation.org

