



Scholarship Guide by Denise Sparacino

Finding Scholarships

- ◆ Take advantage of online scholarship searches or visit websites with scholarship information:

www.FastWeb.com	www.finaid.com
www.collegeboard.com	www.studentaid.ed.gov
www.regents.ohio.gov	www.srnexpress.com
www.cashe.com	www.scholarships.com/success
- ◆ Contact the financial aid office of your college of choice for merit, departmental, athletic and private scholarships. Check to see if these scholarships are awarded automatically or if you have to apply separately. Always check your college financial aid website for scholarship information. **Do not miss deadlines!**
- ◆ Check with your home school guidance office for community, private and college scholarships available. Check the TCTC guidance newsletter for scholarship information.
- ◆ Research what might make you unique, such as having asthma, having a disability and search for scholarships through organizations affiliated with these special qualities.
- ◆ Check with parent & student employers.
- ◆ Check local clubs and community groups.
- ◆ Scan local newspaper for scholarship opportunities.
- ◆ Check with your local and national church.
- ◆ Check your local bank and credit unions.
- ◆ Check your local library for scholarship books.

Applying for Scholarships

- ◆ Most scholarships have deadlines - apply on time. Keep a calendar of application deadlines. Remember, the more scholarships you apply for, the greater your chance of receiving one.
- ◆ Start early as a high school junior. More outside scholarships are available to high school juniors than seniors.
- ◆ Get organized. Start compiling lists of your volunteer and community service, including dates and places. Get your resume together to update work experiences. Gather information regarding clubs and organizations which you have been member.
- ◆ Only apply to scholarships that you qualify for—if you do not qualify, do not apply. Unsure? Ask your TCTC guidance counselor to look over the qualifications.
- ◆ Prepare your family income tax forms to document finances for need-based scholarships. Do the FAFSA.
- ◆ Be brief when you request scholarship materials. Request materials early. Provide your name and address and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Many scholarships require resumes, applications, letters of recommendation, and essays. Allow plenty of time to gather and complete the information.
- ◆ Gather scholarship materials needed for many scholarships: official transcripts (only available from home school guidance office), financial aid forms, parent & student income tax returns, ACT and/or SAT scores and letters of recommendation.
- ◆ Apply online whenever possible. You can catch errors, receive confirmation, and it is cost efficient with quick processing time.
- ◆ When writing an essay, think before you write to help generate some creative ideas. Make an outline. Include stories and examples to convey a point. Use specifics. Be original. Be creative. **Make your essay one the reader will remember.** Develop a theme. Don't use the same essay for each scholarship. Make sure your essay is well written. Check spelling and grammar. Proofread. Make sure you

answered all of the questions and included all required documents. Be Neat. Double space on clean, white paper. First impressions count. Turn in a professional looking essay. **Share your essay with your TCTC English teacher. He/she will provide you feedback and check for errors.**

- ◆ Make sure you included all required documents. Did you answer all of the questions?
- ◆ Once you send in your completed application, it takes time for most scholarships to be awarded. Most organizations will not send follow-up correspondence if you did not receive the scholarship.
- ◆ If you win a scholarship, make sure that you thank the donor. Inform your TCTC and home guidance counselors of all scholarships you receive.

10 Tips for Winning Scholarship Applications

By Kay Peterson, Ph.D. posted on FastWeb

Before you submit your scholarship application, check out these tips, provided by scholarship sponsors nationwide.

1. Apply only if you are eligible. Read all the scholarship requirements and directions carefully to make sure you're eligible before you send in your application.
2. Complete the application in full. If a question doesn't apply, note that on the application. Don't just leave a blank. Supply all additional supporting material, such as transcripts, letter of recommendations and essays.
3. Follow directions. Provide everything that's required, but don't supply things that aren't requested—you could be disqualified.
4. Neatness Counts. Always type your application, or if you must print, do so neatly and legibly. Make a couple photocopies of all the forms before you fill them out. Use the copies as working drafts as you develop your application packet.
5. Write an essay that makes a strong impression. The key to writing a strong essay is to be personal and specific. Include concrete details to make your experience come alive: the who, what, where, and when of your topic. The simplest experience can be monumental if you present honestly how you were affected.
6. Watch all deadlines. To help keep yourself on track, impose your own deadline that is at least two weeks prior to the official deadline. Use the buffer time to make sure everything is ready on time. Don't rely on extensions—very few scholarship providers allow them at all.
7. Make sure your application gets where it needs to go. Put your name (and Social Security number, if applicable) on all pages of the application. Pieces of your application may get lost unless they are clearly identified.
8. Keep a back-up file in case anything goes wrong. Before sending the application, make a copy of the entire packet. If your application goes astray, you'll be able to reproduce it quickly.
9. Give it a final "once-over." Proofread the entire application carefully. Be on the lookout for misspelled words or grammatical errors. Ask a friend, teacher or parent to proofread it as well.
10. Ask for help if you need it. If you have problems with the application, don't hesitate to call the funding organization.

Scholarship Scams

According to FastWeb: Victims of scholarship scams lose more than 100 million annually. Do not be a victim, go to <http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/scams.phtml> "to receive advice on how to identify such scholarship scams, how to distinguish between legitimate and fraudulent organizations, how to protect yourself from scholarship scams; and what to do if you are scammed. In general, be wary of scholarships with an application fee, scholarship matching services who guarantee success, advance-fee loan scams and sales pitches disguised as financial aid 'seminars' ".

Previous Scholarships Available

- 3. Oh, the Places You'll Go!** Dr. Seuss's \$5,000 scholarship recognizes a high school senior who understands and values the limitless possibilities that education can offer. \$5000. Applications available in guidance or online at www.ohtheplaces.org Feb 15
- 6. Seven Seventeen Credit Union Scholarship Program** Eight scholarships of \$1500 awarded to graduating high school seniors that are members of Seven Seventeen or are a legal dependent of Seven Seventeen member. Four scholarships are available to students attending one of three colleges: University of Akron, Youngstown State University and Kent State University. Four scholarships are available to members of either Seven Seventeen *cha-ching* or *edge club*. Must have a 3.0 GPA or higher. Applications available in guidance. Apr 1
- 8. Ohio War Orphans Scholarships** Full tuition at public colleges or comparable amounts at private colleges to Ohio residents who are children of deceased or disabled veterans with wartime service (death or disability need not be a result of/or related to military service) For more information: <http://regents.ohio.gov/>
- 9. Ohio Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation** Provides awards for tuition, fees and books to students with a physical or mental impairment which constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment. Contact 330-373-1937.
- 10. AmeriCorps** Program that provides educational awards in return for community service. Contact: Corporation for National Service, 1201 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20255. 1-800-942-2677 www.americorps.org
- 11. Burger King Scholars** \$1000 scholarships available for seniors with a 2.5 GPA, work part-time an average 15 hours per week or 40 weeks per year, actively involved in community service activities, demonstrate financial need, and plan to attend a two or four yr college or vocational/technical school in the Fall of 2009. Apply online at: www.haveyourwayfoundation.org Feb 1
- 12. College Answer Scholarship Sweepstakes** A free scholarship search with a monthly drawing for \$1000. www.collegeanswer.com Parents, enter to win a \$10,000 scholarship at www.collegeanswer.com/parent
- 13. The Christian Connector Inc, Scholarship Drawing** The scholarship recipient must be enrolling for the first time as a full-time student at a Christ-centered Christian college or Bible college within 16 months of being notified by The Christian Connector, Inc. that he/she has won the drawing. \$2500. Apply online at www.christianconnector.com. May also do a Christian college scholarship search with \$150 million in scholarship money available.
- 17. Pittsburgh Technical Institute Scholarships** Scholarship money available for students who are active members of organizations. Deadlines: DECA- Jan 29; FCCLA—Jan 29; BPA- Jan 29; FBIA- Feb 12; SkillsUSA- Mar 5; TSA- Mar 5; HOSA- Mar 5; Ohio Governor's- Mar 5; and JROTC- Mar 5. Applications
- 18. DECA Workplace Scholarships** DECA members who work for Safeway, Sears, Kmart, Finish Line, and TJ Maxx/Marshalls. Please see Ms. Sparacino in guidance for scholarship applications. Feb 12
- 19. IFA Educational Foundation/Don DeBolt Scholarship** Two \$2000 scholarships to qualified applicants who are DECA members at the national level. Will be awarded on the basis of the applicant's DECA activities, community involvement, interest in franchising/entrepreneurship studies, leadership ability and scholastic record. Applications available in guidance. Feb 13
- 20. Marriott/DECA Scholarship** \$1500 will be awarded on the basis of the applicant's DECA activities, Hospitality interest, leadership ability, and scholastic record. Applications available in guidance. Feb 12
- 21. SWIRL/DECA Scholarship** Two \$1000 will be awarded to DECA members who have demonstrated exceptional understanding and skill in sales and marketing. Awards will be based on the applicant's relationship with their local SWIRL dealer, DECA activity, leadership ability and scholastic record. Applications available in guidance. Feb 12
- 22. Harry A. Applegate Scholarship for DECA and/or Delta Epsilon Chi Members** Any current active DECA/Delta Epsilon Chi member who intends to pursue a full-time two- or four-year course of study in marketing, entrepreneurship or management may apply. Applications available in guidance. Deadlines set by state/provincial advisor.
- 23. Walgreens/DECA Scholarship** Five \$1000 scholarships will be awarded to a students who are members at the national level. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of the applicant's community involvement, scholastic record, DECA activity, leadership ability, & pursuing marketing, business or marketing education. Applications available in guidance. Feb 12
- 24. Otis Spunkmeyer/DECA Scholarship** Five \$1000 awarded to DECA senior students who work in their school stores and sell Otis Spunkmeyer products & pursuing marketing, management or marketing education. Applications available in guidance. Feb 12
- 25. NAPA Scholarships for DECA and Delta Epsilon Chi** Nine \$1000 scholarships will be awarded to DECA/Delta Epsilon members on the basis of the applicant's DECA/Delta Epsilon activities, scholastic record, leadership ability - students who have an affiliation with NAPA or students whose career interests are in the automotive industry will be given top priority/consideration. Applications available in guidance. Feb 12
- 27. IIT/Project Lead the Way Scholarship** \$1000-\$2500 renewable scholarships available at Illinois Institute of Technology. Applications available in guidance. Feb 3
- 28. Mahoning Valley Chapter of Credit Union** Open to high school seniors who plan to participate in post-secondary studies, including professional, vocational, or college. One \$1000 scholarship. Winner will be eligible for statewide scholarship program for five scholarships \$5000. Applications available in guidance. Feb 12
- 29. Society of Manufacturing Engineers** Various scholarships available for students pursuing a degree in manufacturing related field of study. Apply online at <http://www.sme.org/cgi-bin/getsmepeg.pl?/html/studentzone.htm&&&SME&> Feb 1
- 30. Educational Office Professionals of Ohio** Open to all Ohio seniors who wishes to pursue an office-related career. \$1000 scholarship. Applications available in guidance. Feb 15
- 31. Imagine America Scholarship** Open to TCTC students who are enrolled in sponsored colleges and technical schools. See Ms. Sparacino in guidance for eligibility requirements.
- 32. The National Co-Op Scholarship Program** 200 renewable scholarships at \$6,000 each. Must have a 3.5 GPA and complete all the required admissions applications material and be accepted for the 2009-2010 academic year at one of the National Commission Partner Institutions: Drexel University, Johnson & Wales University, Kettering University, C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University, Northeastern University, Pace University, Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Cincinnati, University of Toledo and Wentworth Institute of Technology; must be a Co-Op student. Apply online at www.co-op.edu. Feb 15
- 33. GAR College Scholarship** Five high school seniors will receive college scholarships of \$12,500. Must have shown high academic achievement, have financial need, and have a parent/guardian working in the financial services industry (banks, etc). Applications available on-line at www.gordonrich.org Feb 16
- 34. Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium Scholarship** Awards available for students pursuing studies as automotive technicians, as well as in sales, distribution, marketing, engineering and manufacturing. When students complete a GAAS application at www.automotivescholarships.com, the Symposium's affiliation with other industry groups puts students in consideration for nearly ten different scholarships. Mar 31
- 35. Schwallie Family Scholarship** The organization for Autism Research will award \$3000 to qualified persons with autism or Asperger syndrome. Three categories: four-year undergraduate school, two-year undergraduate school, and trade, technical or vocational school. Apply at www.researchautism.org/news/otherevents/scholarship.asp Apr 30

36. Exceptional Nurse Scholarship Several scholarships for nursing students with disabilities; most awards are for \$500. Applicants must be students with a documented disability who have applied to or already been admitted to a college program on a full-time basis. Apply at www.exceptionalnurse.com Jun 1

37. Latino College Dollars: Scholarships for America's Latino Students A booklet on scholarships for America's Latino students is available online at www.latinocollegedollars.org

38. Sam Walton Community Scholarship \$3000 scholarship available for seniors with a 2.5 GPA or higher, and who demonstrate financial need. Applications available at www.walmartfoundation.org Jan 29

39. Scholarships for Military Children Seniors who have a mother or father is active duty, reserve/guard, or retired military personnel or a survivor of a deceased member, and have a military dependent I.D. card you can apply! You must be planning to attend a college or university on a full-time basis. Apply at <http://www.militaryscholar.org/> Feb 17

40. The Ohio Black Caucus of School Board Members Scholarship Program Six \$500 awards. Student must be African-American, graduate from a public high school in 2010, and have a 2.5 GPA. Students must provide proof of acceptance into a two-year or four year college. Apply online at www.osba-ohio.org. Jan 30

41. The Youngstown Chapter of the Links, Inc. One \$1000 and one \$500 scholarship available for students who graduate from a Mahoning Valley high school. Must have at least one parent of African American origin, must be enrolled in an accredited college seeking a bachelors degree, and have a 2.8 GPA. Applications available in guidance. Mar 1

New Scholarships Available

42. USA Funds Access to Education Scholarships USA Funds awards \$1500 scholarships to students who plan to enroll in coursework at accredited two- or four-year colleges, universities or vocational/technical schools beginning fall 2010 through Feb. 1, 2011. The program assists students from households with annual incomes of \$35,000 or less. Information found at www.usafunds.org Feb 15

43. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Check with the financial aid department of your college choice to see if they award grants or scholarships to students majoring in a science, technology, engineering or mathematic degrees. Most schools award money to students majoring in these degrees. You will probably need to apply by a separate application. Make sure you do not miss the deadline for application.

44. Youth Survivor College Scholarship Opportunity Assistance in pursuing higher education from an accredited school. As cancer survivors and role models, scholarship recipients may be invited to serve as American Society volunteers, to train as mentors for future scholarship recipients, and to represent the American Cancer Society on campus and in their communities. Applicants must all of the following criteria: Resident of Ohio; US Citizen; diagnosed with cancer before age 21; under 25 at the time of application; and plan to attend an accredited university or community college in the US. Applications available at www.cancer.org/ohio grants or 1-888-227-6446 ext 8405 or 8409 Feb 27

45. Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship Applicants must be 9-12th grade high school student, and must attend a US college. Must complete an essay. \$1000. Apply online at <http://www.gkscholarship.com/> Jul 31

46. The Ohio Association of Career Colleges and Schools Scholarships More than 275 scholarships available for students attending 27 Ohio career college or school including three local schools (Trumbull Business College, ITT Technical Institute, ETI Technical College). Students must have a "C" or better to apply, must be nominated by a current member of the Ohio Legislature, and must start school in the fall 2010. Applications available in guidance. Apr 1

47. Richard T. Naples, Sr. Education Foundation Inc. Scholarship Available to all graduating seniors in Trumbull, Mahoning and Stark Counties. 25 awards of \$800 each for students attending colleges, universities, institutes for fine and performing arts and trade, and vocational school. Must have a 2.5 GPA or higher. Applications available in guidance. Mar 31

48. TCTC General Scholarship Open to TCTC seniors who plan on attending college or technical school next year. Scholarship type and amount varies. Must have a 2.0 or higher GPA. Applications available in TCTC guidance. Must

attach an acceptance letter from the college or technical school you plan to attend to the application, along with transcripts. Seniors must donate blood to be eligible for the Red Cross scholarship, but not for the other scholarships. Teacher recommendation required - form provided. Mar 26

49. Trumbull County General Scholarship Students can apply to six different scholarships by completing one application— available in guidance. **Loren Hunter** for Warren City seniors only. **Marie Ohl** several scholarships are available. Financial need is a factor. \$1000, non-renewable. **Rotary Club of Warren Two** \$1000 scholarships. Applicants must be have a verified learning disability or physical disability and show financial need. May be renewed. **Stanley L. and Grace A. Woofter** Two \$1500 scholarships; may be renewable. Applicants must have a verified learning or physical disability, demonstrated scholarship, achievement, participation in activities and financial need. **Trumbull County** Eight to ten non-renewable scholarships, amount varies. Preference will be given to deserving students of the Trumbull County Children's Services first, and then to students demonstrating scholarship and participation in activities. **First Place Bank of Warren** Must demonstrate a philosophy of superior performance and commitment to school and community involvement. Twenty-three \$2000 scholarships awarded. **One \$1500 scholarship to a TCTC student.** Must have a 3.0 GPA. After meeting the minimum GPA, all applicants will be evaluated based on their participation in school and community activities. **The application requires a high school transcript and other documents attached; therefore, you need to see your TCTC counselor at least a week before the deadline.** Mar 19

50. Trumbull County Wolves Scholarship Must be a high school senior attending school in Trumbull County and must display financial need. Applicants must display academic proficiency and the ability to successfully perform college work. Amount and number of scholarship varies. Applications available in TCTC guidance. Mar 19

51. Trumbull County ACIM/Wolves Scholarship Open to Italian American high school seniors attending school in Trumbull County. Must have a 2.5 GPA. Applications available in TCTC guidance. Mar 19

52. Tom Holden Memorial Scholarship The 27 First News Caring for Our Community campaign will award one junior or senior high school student from Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana, Mercer or Lawrence county a \$2,000 college scholarship and five runners-up will each receive a \$100 savings bond. The script of the winning entry will be produced and air throughout the year on 27 WKBN. Apply online at www.wkbn.com Feb 12

53. Ohio Newspapers Foundation 2010 Minority Scholarship Must be a graduating senior at an Ohio high school and attending an Ohio college or university in the fall. Must have a 2.5 GPA or higher. Applicants must be African American, Hispanic, Asian American or American Indian. Must provide an autobiography of 750– 1000 words. One \$1500 scholarship will be awarded. Applications available in guidance. Mar 31

64. TCTCEA Senior Scholarship Available to TCTC seniors only. Applications available in guidance February 8, 2010. Deadline: Apr 1

65. Scholar Athlete Milk Mustache of the Year (SAMMY) 2009 Award The Sammy award program recognizes outstanding scholar athletes in grade 12 from high schools throughout the USA. 25 winners will receive a \$7500 scholarship, an invitation for winners, parents and/or guardians to attend a weekend in June at the Disney World Complex in Orlando, Florida and an opportunity to be pictured in a special congratulatory Milk Mustache ad. Applications available online at bodybymilk.com until Mar 5

66. Kent College Tech Prep Consortium Business and Industry Scholarship Must be a senior tech prep student attending TCTC with a minimum 2.75 GPA. An official high school transcript must be provided which reflects courses approved by the home district that count toward the cumulative 7 semester GPA. One scholarship will be awarded per program provided eligible applications are received and student participated in bowl-a-thon fundraiser. Applications available in guidance. Apr 9

58. Ancient Order of Hibernians one or more \$1000 scholarship for Trumbull County high school seniors. Write a 500 word essay on *Why do so many people want to be Irish on Saint Patrick's day.* Applications available in guidance. Deadline in February.

* Scholarships listed in burgundy are local scholarships or available for TCTC students only



330-847-0503

or
1-866-737-6925 (toll free)

Mrs. Cindy Goff, Secretary
Phone Extension 1005

Counselors:

Ms. Maria Len

Phone Extension 1007

Home Schools:

Brookfield
Girard
Hubbard
Liberty
McDonald
Mineral Ridge
Warren (A-L)

Ms. Tina Hentosh

Phone Extension 1006

Home Schools:

Champion
LaBrae
Lordstown
Newton Falls
Niles
Southington

Ms. Denise Sparacino

Phone Extension 1010

Home Schools:

Badger
Bloomfield
Bristol
Lakeview
Maplewood
Mathews
Warren (M-Z)

www.tctchome.com

Editors:

Anna Young
Neal Neuberger
Maplewood

Graphic Communications

TCTC Important Days

Parent/Teacher Conference
Feb 11
2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

February 15
No School

March 26
End of 3rd Nine Weeks

College and Financial Timeline for Seniors

- Start applying for admission. **Check deadlines for applying for admissions and scholarships. With many colleges, if you miss their application deadline, you may not be eligible for financial, scholarship and grant opportunities.** Do not forget to send high school transcripts with admissions applications which you will need to order from your **home school** guidance office. Keep records of everything you submit in a file for easy access. Confirm that colleges have received your admission application and all necessary materials needed for admissions.
- Research scholarship opportunities, write for applications or apply online. Make sure you include all requested materials when submitting the application. Check scholarship opportunities available at colleges you plan on attending. Check the Guidance Newsletters from TCTC and your homeschool for scholarship opportunities. **Check deadlines and procedures for applying.**
- Request teacher, counselor, or employer recommendations if needed for admissions or scholarship applications at least two weeks before due. Supply relevant information regarding achievements, GPA, community service, hobbies and extracurricular activities.
- Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov, and any other institutional aid forms for all colleges you applied. Keep copies of all forms you submit and copies of income tax forms. **Be aware of the deadline dates!** Failure to adhere to deadlines may result in the loss of much needed financial aid.
- Attend a financial aid workshop at your home school if available. Kent State Trumbull has a Financial Aid Day scheduled for February 11 to learn about financial aid—see guidance for further information.
- Take or retake the ACT or SAT **NOW!** Applications are available in guidance. Your admission process is not complete without ACT or SAT scores.
- Continue to work hard all year; do not succumb to senioritis. Grades can affect scholarship eligibility and admissions. Your final senior transcript will reflect your progress your senior year, so do not miss school!

College and Financial Timeline for Juniors

- Search the internet for scholarships now. Most outside private scholarships are offered for high school juniors. Check the Guidance Newsletter for scholarships for those that will allow high school juniors to apply. **Make sure you meet the deadlines.**
- Begin researching colleges that you are considering attending. Start arranging college visits. Make sure you meet with an admissions and financial aid representative during your college visit. If you cannot visit in person, do a virtual visit online at eCampusTour.com.
- Take the ACT and/or the PSAT in your junior year. Taking the test in your junior year will help you to decide if you need to take additional classes summer/senior year in low test areas. Taking the test now will allow colleges to contact you and provide you with more opportunities to retest. You need the test scores to apply for college next year. If you wait until your senior year, you may miss many college financial aid and institutional opportunities.
- Start or continue community service involvement. Many college admissions and/or scholarship applications take notice when students succeed academically while being active in clubs, participating in sports and volunteering in the community. Take leadership roles in activities and clubs.
- Begin developing portfolios, audition tapes, and resume. Keep records or articles of successes.
- Strive for high grades. Do not miss school!

College Planning Presentation: Get Ready, Get Set, Go to College

Join the TCTC Guidance Department
on February 11, 2010 during Parent Teacher Conference Night
7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

TOPICS:

How to Choose a College
College Admission Process
Financial Aid 101

**Schedule for the Presentation and/or
schedule a teacher conference
Call Susy Johnson
330-847-0503, ext. 1035**

**Seating Limited
Make Your
Reservation Today**