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To:
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July Spotlight: Scholarships

It's summertime and the perfect opportunity for students to apply for scholarships! Scholarships are available year-round for students of all ages, and [UCanGo2.org](https://ucango2.org) offers a variety of resources that help students find them. This month's newsletter provides helpful tips on how to make your scholarship journey a success!



Tips for Scholarship Success

Start with FAFSA. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after Oct. 1 of your senior year and every year you need financial aid. Many students don't realize they are qualified for federal and state aid each year. Scholarships, work study or low cost student loans. Learn more at www.fafsa.org.

Start now. Don't wait until your senior year of high school to start applying for scholarships. Many are available to students starting as early as 9th grade. Check out the scholarship sections at UCanGo2.org and Collegeboard.org to review awards for students at all ages.

Be prepared. Start making all of your important college planning documents like report cards, ACT and/or SAT scores, letters of recommendation and documentation of community service projects and volunteer activities. These documents will come in handy when completing college and scholarship applications and listing your achievements. Don't forget when you create an account on Collegeboard.org you have access to a life-long portfolio that stores all of your important college planning documents.

Do your research. Set up an appointment with your school counselor to talk about your scholarship options or contact the financial aid office at your local college or university online campus for free resources. You can also call the "Hot Topics" Student Information Helpline at 800.877.5233 (toll-free) or email studentinfo@info.edu to learn more about financial aid. Select the Scholarships link at UCanGo2.org and visit the numerous other websites that offer free resources and scholarship searches, including:

Brightstorm.com	FastWeb.com	Scholarships.com
College.com	DCCU.org	Scholarship360.org
College.com/scholarships	Collegeboard.org	StudentScholarshipBank.com
CollegeScholarships.com	Payscale.com	Study.com
Collegepress.com	TutorMe.com	Verge.com

Go local. Many clubs, city organizations and churches offer scholarships. If you aren't sure, ask your local library for scholarships means you're competing against fewer people.

Do the "win" thing. Many scholarships require an essay, but don't let that discourage you. Preparing scholarship essays can often be a fun experience, because it gives you the opportunity to articulate how you'll bring your future goals or interests to life. Also, statistically, scholarships that require essays have fewer applicants, which means you have a greater chance of winning the award. Read the application thoroughly and read your essay to get personal approval from the critics. Keep a log of all essays you've written for future scholarship applications.

Don't miss the boat. There's nothing worse than writing a great scholarship essay only to realize you've missed the deadline. Apply for as many scholarships as possible, complete the applications thoroughly and keep track of the requirements for each one so you don't lose out on the money by missing the deadline or forgetting to include your transcript or recommendation letter.

Take it to the next level. Check up your social media. "Like" social media sites that offer scholarship information, such as Facebook.com/UCanGo2, which provides information on scholarships every week. Set up a Google alert to find scholarships. Use an email address that looks professional. Send a written thank you note if you're awarded a scholarship.

Watch out. Scholarship scams are real. Beware any request for your bank account, credit card or Social Security number. A guarantee that you win a scholarship sounds good, but if you're to be cautious, learn more about scams at www.fafsa.org.

Publication Feature

Scholarship Success Guide

The [Scholarship Success Guide](#) can provide the motivation and self-assurance students need to begin their scholarship search. This publication offers tips on the application process, including meeting and tracking deadlines as well as successfully writing essays. The guide also features a list of scholarship resources and websites, plus information about the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). Many scholarships require FAFSA completion so it's important to submit the FAFSA as soon as it becomes available.

Resources

Finding Scholarships

Students can find scholarships organized by deadline and category at UCanGo2.org which will help them quickly identify their best opportunities! Scholarship details are monitored and updated regularly, and a Scholarship of the Week is highlighted each Monday.

Home | Educators | Publications & Tools | Scholarships

News & Events | Contact Us | Find Us on Facebook

Scholarships by Deadline

- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December
- Ongoing

Scholarships

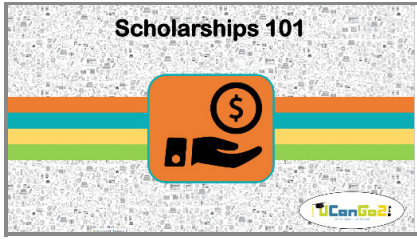
The nature of our work with students, parents and educators leads us to an abundance of scholarship resources. Use our [Scholarship Success Guide](#) below for help with submitting scholarship applications. Keep in mind all scholarship information listed is subject to change.

Scholarship of the Week

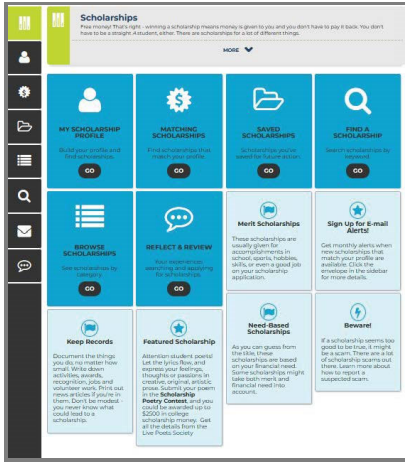
Supporting STEM Scholarship

B & G Refrigeration in Jacksonville, Fla., offers an annual scholarship for the spring and fall semester to support students involved in science, technology, engineering, and math-focused fields of study. They know that encouraging our youth to pursue these areas of study will create college graduates who are prepared to work in fields that enhance the economy and complement the business industry.

Award Amount: 1 award; \$1,000
 Deadline Date: June 30, 2023
 Learn more and apply for the Supporting STEM Scholarship.



Scholarships 101 is an informative PowerPoint that walks students through the scholarship search and application process and provides helpful tips for success. Students will find information about being organized, the various types of scholarships available, writing successful essays and more!



Last Word

Okcollegestart.org

Students can build a scholarship profile with a free account at OKcollegestart.org. Students will answer questions and provide information about their academics, interests, test scores and more to find scholarships that match their profile. Students can also sign up for a monthly notification when new matching scholarships are added. OKcollegestart offers over 20,000 scholarships for students to pursue.

Contact Us

We offer webinars for educators, students and parents on planning, preparing and paying for college, including financial aid, the FAFSA and finding scholarships. If you would like to schedule a webinar for your students, fill out our [Event Request Form](#) and we'll contact you to plan the details.

Have specific questions about our services or resources?

Email us at UCanGo2@ocap.org.



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