

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR JUNIORS (AND SOME FOR SENIORS)

We highly recommend starting to look for scholarships early! Finding scholarships as a junior in high school can give you a head start on your college funding. Here are some specific scholarships for juniors followed by some tips to help you get started.

Please visit our CHS School Counseling website for more resources:

<https://www.csdvt.org/chs/guidance/financial-aid.php>

LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS

****The most accurate way to find out the deadlines is to refer to the websites themselves. There are so many scholarships out there, you just need to keep searching. Here are a few to get you started.

FOR JUNIORS (and some for Seniors as well):

Horatio Alger:

https://horatioalger.org/scholarships-and-services/undergraduate-scholarships/?_location=vermont&_class_year=hs-junior (juniors-deadline is late February-March 1st)

College Board Opportunity

Scholarships:<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/bigfuture-scholarships>

[Raise.me](#)

Scholarships.com:

<https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-grade-level/high-school-scholarships/scholarships-for-high-school-juniors>

Fast Web: <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships/articles/scholarships-for-high-school-juniors>

Questbridge: <https://www.questbridge.org/apply-to-college/programs/college-prep-scholars-program>
(juniors-deadline is Mid-March)

Coolidge Scholarship: <https://coolidgescholars.org/> (deadline is early December of your junior year)

Cameron Impact Scholarship: <https://www.bryancameroneducationfoundation.org/scholarship> (early application deadline is middle of May of your junior year, IF there are still spots available, then the regular deadline is early September of your senior year)

Horatio Alger (seniors):

https://horatioalger.org/scholarships-and-services/undergraduate-scholarships/?_location=vermont&_class_year=hs-senior

Scholarship America: <https://scholarshipamerica.org/students/scholarships-for-high-school-students/>

Federal Student Aid: <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/scholarships>

Questbridge: <https://www.questbridge.org/apply-to-college/programs/national-college-match> (late September deadline)

GREAT WAYS TO SAVE MONEY ON COLLEGE/TRAINING

<https://www.csdt.org/chs/guidance/documents/training.pdf>

FULL-RIDE MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Many colleges and universities offer up to **full-ride merit scholarships**, which cover tuition, fees, room, and board. These scholarships are highly competitive, and they are typically awarded based on academic achievements, leadership, extracurricular involvement, and other factors. You can research these on the individual colleges' financial aid websites.

HERE ARE SOME STEPS TO HELP YOU GET STARTED

1. Create a Scholarship Search Strategy

- **Start Online:** Websites like **Fastweb**, **Scholarships.com**, **Cappex**, **Niche**, and **Unigo** allow you to create profiles and search for scholarships that match your personal information (like your location, interests, and GPA).
- **Local Scholarships:** Look for scholarships offered by local organizations such as your school district, community foundations, businesses, or civic groups (like the Lions Club, Rotary Club, etc.).
- **National Scholarships:** Some national scholarships are available for students at all grade levels, like the **Coca-Cola Scholars Program** or **GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship**.

2. Check with Your High School

- CHS keeps a list of scholarships that we receive in a folder in the School Counseling office.
- CHS will go over VSAC Scholarships and Local Scholarships for seniors during senior AT's.

3. Focus on Areas of Interest and Talent

- Look for scholarships related to your interests, hobbies, or career goals. For example, if you're interested in STEM, there are scholarships for students pursuing science, technology, engineering, and math.
- Also, consider scholarships based on extracurricular activities like sports, music, leadership roles, volunteering, etc.

4. Prepare Your Documents Early

- Some scholarships require transcripts, letters of recommendation, or essays. It's a good idea to start gathering these now so you're ready when it's time to apply.
- If you plan to request letters of recommendation, start thinking about which teachers or mentors could write strong letters for you.

5. Stay Organized

- Create a spreadsheet to track the scholarships you find, including deadlines, requirements, and application materials. This will help you stay on top of the ones that interest you.
- Be sure to check the eligibility requirements carefully to avoid wasting time on scholarships you're not qualified for.

6. Look for Essay Contests and Competitions

- Many scholarships come in the form of essay contests, art competitions, or video submissions. These often have fewer applicants, so you may have a better chance of winning.
- Examples of contests include the **The Optimist International Essay Contest** or the **John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Essay Contest**.

7. Sign Up for Scholarship Alerts

- Many websites and organizations send out alerts when new scholarships are posted. Make sure to sign up for these alerts to stay informed about upcoming opportunities.

8. Apply Early and Often

- Some scholarships are available to high school juniors, especially for programs that require early college planning (like summer programs or internships).
- Don't wait until senior year to apply for scholarships. Many are available a year or more in advance, so the earlier you start, the more opportunities you'll have.

By starting now, you'll not only have more time to find scholarships but also avoid feeling rushed later in your senior year. Keep working on improving your GPA, participating in activities, and looking for scholarships that fit your strengths and interests!