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Scholarships

- A scholarship is money given by individuals, companies or organizations based either on need, merit, or some other qualification.
- Considered “gift aid”, which means free money
- Does not usually require you to file a FAFSA® (check with donor)

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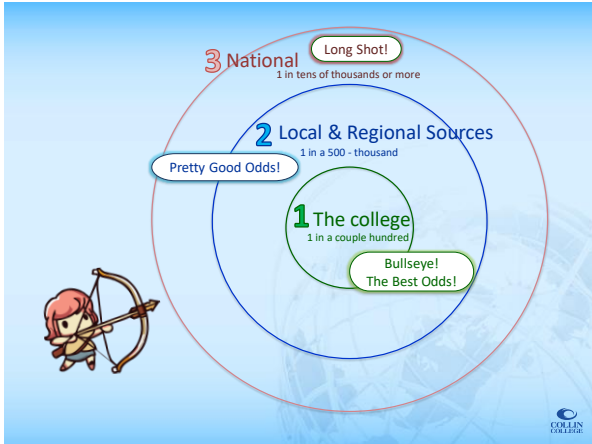
Scholarship Strategy

- There's a strategy to applying for scholarships
- It's a numbers game; the more you apply for the more money you are likely to get
- But no one wants to fill out 50 scholarship applications

So how do you prioritize your scholarship search and application process to get the most bang for your buck? (meaning; the most effective use of your time and energy)

Just follow our three easy steps!!

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The Winning Strategy

- 1 The College(s)** you're going to attend. Don't forget to also apply separately to the department of your major at the college (e.g., Music, Education, IT, Nursing, etc.) The best odds at 1 to a couple of hundred.
- 2 Local & Regional sources.** A Gallup Organization study found that 85% of scholarships received by college students are from the local community. The second-best odds at 1 to between 500 - a thousand or so.
- 3 National Scholarships.** Very competitive. You'll have to really knock their socks off to be a contender. The worst odds at 1 to tens of thousands or more!

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Where Are the Scholarships?

Common sources of scholarships in the community include:

- Businesses
- Civic Organizations (Rotary Club, Lions, Jr. League, etc.)
- ISD Foundations
- Houses of Worship & Faith Based Organizations
- Community Foundations
- Utility Companies
- Veteran Organizations (VFW, American Legion, etc.)
- Fraternities/Sororities
- Places where you volunteer
- Social Groups (Book club, Garden club, etc.)
- Texas Interscholastic League Foundation

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Who Do You Know?

Start making a list of who you know:

- Parents
- Siblings
- Relatives (Grandparents, Aunts/Uncles, Cousins, etc.)
- Neighbors
- Boss/Co-workers
- Teachers/Career Counselors
- Friends
- Other students

Ask each of them to check with their place of employment, house of worship, civic club, etc.



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WDYK Worksheet

Your job	Your College(s)	Friends
_____	_____	_____
Your groups & clubs	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Neighbors
_____	_____	_____
Your Family	_____	Places You Volunteer
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	Teachers/Career Counselor
House of Worship	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Other



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Scholarships at Collin College

- At Collin, scholarships are awarded through the Foundation Office in Fall (for Fall & Spring) and Spring (for Spring Only students).

Foundation office - (972) 599-3145
scholarshipcoordinator@Collin.edu

Find more information about Collin scholarships, go to:
www.collin.edu/foundation/students/index.html



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Scholarship Scams



Be alert for the following red flags:

- A scholarship is guaranteed or your money back
- Credit card or bank information to “hold” scholarship
- Vague or no contact information
- “You’ve been selected” or “You’re a finalist” in a contest you didn’t enter
- “You can’t get this information anywhere else”
- Masquerading as a government agency

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Scam Alert (Continued)

Scholarship scams are against the law!

If you encounter any of these situations, report them to the:

- Federal Trade Commission @ www.ftc.gov
- National Fraud Information Center @ www.fraud.org

Also visit:

www.finaid.org/scholarships/scams.phtml


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Questions



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GOOD LUCK!



Collin College
Financial Aid and Veterans Services Office
972-881-5760
FinancialAid@Collin.edu
<https://www.collin.edu/financialaid/index.html>

