

Scholarship Strategies (How to Get a Piece of the \$2.91 Scholarship Pie?)

Feb 3, 2014

This handout found at <http://tigerscholars.wordpress.com>

1. http://www.tnstate.edu/financial_aid/scholarships.aspx

Frequently visit the Scholarship and Financial Aid Webpage of TSU

In about the next two weeks, you will be able to apply for the Tennessee State University Foundation Scholarships through Mytsu.

One of the things you will need to create is a personal statement. You can get assistance for this type of writing through the Writing Center, located in the Student Success Center (LRC), 310. You can make an appointment to brainstorm ideas, go over the grammar and “flow” of your statement, and to further assist you in creating the personal statement that will “sell” you.

Also, find more scholarships and internships featured on different TSU webpages by typing scholarship or internships into the Search box found at upper right hand corner of the main TSU webpage, <http://www.tnstate.edu>

If you find any deadlines in 2013, consider that those deadlines will most likely repeat themselves in 2014.

2. Fill out your FAFSA early as possible

Many of the TSU Foundation Scholarships and private scholarships require need as one of the criteria for choosing applicants, and they determine that need by your FAFSA.

Waiting until March to fill out your FAFSA can jeopardize millions.

Two steps to online financial aid

If you don't already have a PIN for FAFSA, register for your PIN at <http://www.pin.ed.gov>

Apply for aid—Fill out a FAFSA at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>

For more information, you can log on to <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov> or call 1-800-FED-AID

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2014-15-fafsa-worksheet.pdf>

2014-2015 FAFSA Financial Aid Worksheet

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2014-15-do-you-need-money.pdf>

Federal Student Aid at a Glance

TN-“State Grant - Prior-year recipients receive award if eligible and apply by March 1, 2014. All other awards made to neediest applicants who apply by March 1, 2014, until funds are depleted.”

March 1, 2014, is the deadline to receive awards if you are eligible.

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/resources>

Resources from the Office of Federal Student Aid

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/funding-your-education.pdf>

Funding your Education: The Guide to Federal Student Aid

2014-15 FAFSA line-by-line Help

<http://www.fafsaonline.com/fafsa-guide-ebook.php>

Here is a guide to help you fill out the FAFSA. There will be no need to hire anyone to help you fill out the FAFSA.

<http://mappingyourfuture.org/services/webinararchive.cfm>

Here you can find several webinars; check out these two: **“2014-15 FAFSA line-by-line training for financial aid professionals and others”** and **“Now it's getting interesting! Five things you should know when looking at tax returns”**

Interesting article: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/troyonink/2014/01/31/2014-guide-to-fafsa-css-profile-college-aid-and-expected-family-contribution/>

Free Income Tax Assistance

Many times people are reluctant to fill out the FAFSA because they have not finished filling out their income taxes.

However, the waiting game can be harsh to those who wait later.

You can get income tax assistance to help you with your income tax if you make low to moderate income (less than \$59,000 in 2013).

http://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/

This link will help you find a VITA tax site to help you fill out your taxes.

You don't have to be older to use the AARP tax volunteer sites. (I used one about two years ago to get assistance on my taxes).

<http://tn211.mycommunitypt.com/>

You can click the link above to locate other VITA sites in Davidson County. The link above provides information for all kinds of help. You can also dial 2-1-1 for assistance in Tennessee and elsewhere. (If you want community help in your region, I would google 211 and whatever state you are located in).

What should I bring to the VITA tax site?

<http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Free-Tax-Return-Preparation-for-You-by-Volunteers>

In this article, you can read what to bring with you to the VITA tax site.

3. Scholarships You Might not Know About

http://scholarshipamerica.org/open_scholarships.php

National scholarships managed by Scholarship America (some with deadlines in Feb or March)

<http://www.cfmt.org/request/scholarships/>

Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee Scholarships, D: March 15, 2014

CFMT administers over 70 scholarships for the local Middle Tennessee community. Look at some of the following scholarships offered, especially at the Jerry Newson Scholarship, Drue Smith/Society of Professional Journalists Scholarship, Emmett H. Turner Scholarship, Teddy Wilburn Scholarship, The Woman's Club of Nashville Scholarship, and John W. Work III Memorial Foundation Scholarship.

Some of these are very specific, pertaining to what high school you went to, what county you resided, and what particular university you are attending.

<http://bryancollinsscholarship.org/AboutBACS.htm>

Bryan A. Collins Memorial Scholarship, D: Mar 1, 2014

<http://www.thesalliemae.org/financial-aid/scholarships/search/default.aspx>

Various scholarship search strategies

http://go.salliemae.com/scholarship/default.aspx?dtd_cell=SMBRSHWBSSOTN010000

SallieMae's Scholarship Search

<http://hbcuforever.org/2013/11/16/hbcu-news-and-events/hbcuconnect-scholarship-information-and-offerings/>

HBCU Scholarship/Grant Directory and Other information

<http://massmutual.scholarsapply.org/pdf/ProgramInfo.pdf>

Mass Mutual Scholarship Program, D: May 2, 2014

<http://www.dosomething.org/scholarships>

Do Something Scholarships (some deadlines in Feb or Mar)

Google scholarship February 2014 or scholarships March 2014 (also put date or demographic information)

Google your career or major, including the word, scholarship or scholarships

Mr. Mike Turner is also available to Tennessee State University students for Tiger Scholars scholarship coaching.

He can be emailed at mjturner@tnstate.edu

Also, students can set up Tiger Scholars coaching sessions by stopping by SSC 117 computer lab and making an appointment.

<http://tigerscholars.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/scholarships-how-to-get-a-piece-of-the-2-91-billion-scholarship-pie.pdf>

For a listing of other scholarships not featured in this handout, you can refer to the first handout for **Scholarships: How to Get a Piece of the 2.91 Billion Scholarship Pie** at the link above. Anything out of date, just google to see when the new deadline will be.