

Scholarship Strategies (How to Get a Piece of the \$2.91 Scholarship Pie?)
Updated October 27, 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

Starting February 1, 2015, you will be able to apply for the Tennessee State University Foundation Scholarships through the scholarship portal, ACADEMIC WORKS.

If you are an entering freshman, this is the portal by which you will apply for certain scholarships.

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 2014 have passed, consider that those deadlines will most likely repeat themselves in 2015.

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 2015 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 1-800-4-FED-AID
<https://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa>

Informative page about applying for Federal Student Aid

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

Federal Student Aid at a Glance

Information about applying for 2015-2016 has not been posted yet.

The best dates for receiving funds are January 1, 2015-Feb 5, 2015. You should complete your FAFSA form during these dates and submit them online, according to sources in financial aid.

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, was the deadline to receive awards if you are eligible for 2014-2015.

March 1, 2015, will most likely be the deadline to receive awards if you are eligible for 2015-2016.

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

Resources from the Office of 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. 2015-2016 will most likely be listed here when the information comes out.

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

Some of these ideas will carry over for 2015-2016

College Goal Sunday 2015

<http://www.collegegoalsundayusa.org/Pages/default.aspx>

All across the country in early January and February 2015 various states and cities will sponsor a College Goal Sunday, giving help to fill out your FAFSA. Study the link above for a state or city near you.

Since the best time to receive funds is completing your FAFSA from Jan 1, 2015-Feb 5, 2015, paying attention to the dates and the material you need to bring to a College Goal Sunday event can help you and/or your parents immensely.

Other helpful information is posted also.

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 2014).

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, 2015

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://www.cof.org/community-foundation-locator>

Community Foundations across America Locator

Just as the CFMT administers scholarships for this local region, you can click on the link above, finding a community foundation near where you live and see what scholarships may be available that you knew nothing about.

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

Bryan A. Collins Memorial Scholarship, D: Mar 1, 2015

<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://hbcuconnect.com/scholarships/>

HBCU Scholarship/Grant Directory and Other information

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

Mass Mutual Scholarship Program, D: May 2, 2014—information will most likely be posted for this sometime this year

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

Do Something Scholarships (some deadlines in Nov or Dec)

Google scholarship November 2014 or scholarships December 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.

ADDENDUM: More Scholarship Information

1. <http://www.scarlettfoundation.org/middle-tennessee/scholarships.htm>

Scarlett Family Foundation Scholarships

Scholarships for Students Pursuing a Business Degree

From webpage:

“Application period is September 15th (12:01am), 2014 to December 15th (11:49pm) for the 2015-16 school year.

Each year, the Scarlett Family Foundation will award scholarships in varying amounts based on financial need, that is directly tied to the cost of the college the student attends. The minimum scholarship award is \$2,500 per academic year. The maximum award is \$15,000 per academic year. Scholarships are renewable awards for up to 4 years or until the recipient completes their undergraduate degree, whichever comes first.

Scarlett Family Foundation Scholarships are open to high school seniors and college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who will graduate or have graduated from high school in 1 of 40 Middle Tennessee counties. Also eligible are individuals who have obtained a GED in the previously named counties prior to June 1, 2015.

Qualified applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Graduated high school (or GED) from one of the eligible counties.
2. Demonstrate financial need via 1040 tax return.
3. GPA of 2.5 or higher.

4. Pursuing a business degree at a 4-yr, non-profit college or university.
5. Planning to enroll full-time in the fall of 2015.

List of Middle Tennessee Counties:

http://www.scarlettfoundation.org/umages/QUALIFYING_COUNTIES.pdf

Partial List of Majors: http://www.scarlettfoundation.org/umages/QUALIFYING_MAJORS.pdf

2. <http://www.buickachievers.com/>

Ended in Feb 2014. New program will be listed most likely in Jan and Feb 2015.

“In 2014, we awarded 100 renewable scholarships of up to \$25,000 per year.”

<http://www.buickachievers.com/faq/#majors>

List of eligible majors

FAQ: <http://www.buickachievers.com/faq/>

3. Nashville Athena Scholarship Award Program

Google Nashville Athena Scholarship Award Program about every few weeks to determine when the application period begins.

From past scholarship programs

- “Two “Return to the Workforce Scholarships” will be awarded to women who are pursuing an associate or bachelor’s degree later in life.
- One “Supporting Technology Scholarship” will be presented to a woman who is currently in the workforce but who has chosen to pursue a degree in science, technology, engineering, or research.
- One “Supporting Healthcare Scholarship” will be awarded to a woman currently in the workforce but who has chosen to pursue a degree in a healthcare-related field.

4. <http://www.foreclosure.com/scholarship>

Foreclosure Essay Contest, D: Dec 15, 2014; Top prize \$5,000; Second through fifth place will receive \$1,000 each.

5. <https://www.scholarshipexperts.com/>

Don’t click on the ads; scholarship database rated by Forbes.com as one of the best--Has monthly scholarships, such as \$2000 Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship (Deadline: Oct 31, 2014) and the \$5,000 Education Matters Scholarship (Deadline: Nov 30, 2014)

6. <http://www.genkellyscholarship.com/>

\$1,000 Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship—Deadline: Dec 31, 2014; you can use one of the answers you gave above to enter this scholarship if you wish.

7. http://www.sreb.org/page/1304/academic_common_market.html

Academic Common Market

From webpage: “Study in a specialized field at an out-of-state college, while paying in-state tuition rates. Is a degree program you'd like to pursue not available in your state? Have you found a degree program at an out-of-state institution, but the higher tuition is a barrier? Looking for options with lower tuition?

You're in the right place. For more than 35 years, the SREB Academic Common Market has enabled students to pursue out-of-state college degrees at discounted tuition rates, through agreements among the states and colleges and universities.

Search from more than 1,900 undergraduate and graduate degree programs available in the 16 SREB states. It's quick and easy.

To qualify you must:

Be a resident of one of the 16 SREB states.

Select a program eligible for residents of your home state.

Complete the admission process at the institution offering the eligible Academic Common Market program.

Be certified as a resident of your home state by contacting the ACM coordinator for your state of residence.”

8. http://www.tn.gov/collegepays/mon_college.htm

The Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC) does more than administer the lottery scholarships. Check out the various programs and scholarships.

Check out these programs in the loan forgiveness section, where you can get up to \$5,000 a year if you wish to become a teacher or a medical professional. You usually agree to one year of service for each award year:

Minority Teaching Fellows Program,

Tennessee Teaching Scholars Program

Graduate Nursing Loan-Forgiveness Program

Tennessee Math & Science Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program

Tennessee Rural Health Loan Forgiveness Program

9. Contests for Performing Arts

A. <http://www.ascapfoundation.org/>

From webpage: “The ASCAP Foundation is a public charity dedicated to supporting American Music creators and encouraging their development through music education and talent development programs. Included in these are songwriting workshops, grants, scholarships, awards, community outreach and humanitarian programs for songwriters, composers and lyricists.”

B. <http://www.bmifoundation.org/>

From webpage: “The BMI Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1985, is dedicated to encouraging the creation, performance and study of music through awards, scholarships, internships, grants and commissions.”

Check out the Programs on the right hand side of the webpage, including the John Lennon Scholarship Program, The Pete Carpenter Fellowship, and the Student Composer Awards, among others.

C. <http://www.glennmiller.org/>

From webpage: “Clarinda's Glenn Miller Birthplace Society is offering scholarships of \$4,000, \$2,000 & \$1,000 to instrumentalists. The vocal scholarships will also be \$4,000, \$2,000 & \$1,000. These scholarships, which are awarded without regard to any other award, may be used for any education-related expense. Applicants must have submitted an audition CD and application postmarked by March 1, 2014.”

The new deadline will most likely be March 1, 2015.

To find more art competitions and scholarships, you can read *1001 Ways to Pay for College* by Gen and Kelly Tanabe. The latest edition can be checked out from the Nashville Public Library; you can get a library card for free by going to Hadley Park Library (or another branch) and bringing a driver's license and TSU ID card.

10. <http://www.jkcf.org/>

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation—This is worth studying; various Foundation programs include Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, College Scholarship, and Young Scholars.

11. <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarship-programs/graduate-arts-award/resources/>

Arts Resource list

12. <http://www.tylenol.com/news/scholarship>

Tylenol Future Care Scholarships—look for updates in late 2014 or early or mid-2015

From webpage: “The Tylenol Future Care Scholarship awards 30 scholarships of \$5,000 each and 10 scholarships of \$10,000 each. Applicants must be residents of the 50 United States, Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia; they must have completed at least one year of undergraduate or graduate course of study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or technical school; and must have one or more years of school remaining.”

Description from this source: <http://www.discovernursing.com/scholarship/tylenol-future-care-scholarship>

Deadline: Most likely May 27, 2015 of next year

13. <http://www.discovernursing.com/scholarships#no-filters>

Nursing Scholarships database

14. <http://scholarships.worldstudioinc.com/>

From webpage: “. . . Worldstudio AIGA Scholarships allow young people from minority and economically disadvantaged backgrounds not only to realize their artistic dreams, but also to give back to their communities.”

Deadline was Mar 2014, so most likely will be March 2015.

15. <http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/jefferson/index.htm>

Jefferson Science Fellows

16. <http://www.awis.org/>

Association for Women in Science has two programs: the Science Undergraduate Award and the Association for Women in Science Graduate Award. The aim of this group is to encourage more women to enter the sciences.

17. <http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3subject.htm>

Grants for Individuals page, updated and maintained by Jon Harrison, contains a breakdown of “funding opportunities for individuals, such as financial aid or scholarships for students.”

Funding is broken down by subject, by population group, and by academic level (precollege, undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctorate).

I found this website linked on a section of Jim Cooper's website under Action Center, Student Resources.

<http://cooper.house.gov/services/additional-services-and-resources/student-financial-aid>

Above, you will find information for more information about Student Aid for College Students, including information about legislative interns.

For more student resources aimed at high school or below, go directly to Jim Cooper's page <http://cooper.house.gov>, go to the Action Center, and click on Student Resources.

18. <http://www.nassp.org/Awards-and-Recognition/NASSP-National-Advisory-List>

For High School Students

The 2014-2015 National Association of Secondary School Principals maintains this list of approved contests and activities for high school students. The list will provide you with a secret weapon as you apply for and try to find money to go to college. All high school students are prospective Tiger Scholars.

19. <http://careers.microsoft.com/careers/en/us/collegehome.aspx>

Microsoft General Scholarships—several scholarships are offered for students, minorities, and women.

From website: "How cool would it be if you got to explore different roles in software development in your freshman or sophomore year? If you aspire to be a software developer and are currently majoring in Computer Science, Electrical or Computer Engineering, we invite you to apply for the Explore Microsoft program."

20. Glamour's Top 10 College Women Competition—google this to find the 2015 deadline.

21. <https://www.scholarshipexperts.com/scholarships>

Directory of Scholarships brought to you by ScholarshipExperts.com

22. Professional Associations—there are basically more than "135,000 professional associations in existence" (59), according to Gen and Kelly Tanabe in their book, *1001 Ways to Pay for College*. This book lists some of these opportunities, starting at about page 59.

They recommend their other book, *The Ultimate Scholarship Book*, which you can check out from the Nashville Public Library or find in its reference section.

Many of these associations will award scholarships.

They also recommend checking out the *Encyclopedia of Associations* published by the Gale Group, found in the TSU library or the Main Branch of the Nashville Public Library.

23. <http://www.afsascholarship.org/>

American Fire Sprinkler Association Scholarship Program

A. \$ 5,000 Second Chance Scholarship Contest

“Open to anyone who has graduated high school or equivalency and wants to pursue a college degree or trade school education. Enter for the chance to win 1 of 5 \$1,000 Scholarships.”

Entries will be accepted from 12:00 p.m. (noon) CDT April 9, 2014 until 12:00 p.m. (noon) CDT August 27, 2014. (Deadline for next year most likely will be Aug. 27, 2015.)

B. 2014 - 2015 High School Seniors may enter this contest for the opportunity to win 1 of 10 \$2,000 Scholarships (still open)

Entries Accepted:

Noon - (CT), Sept. 10, 2014

Contest Ends:

Noon - (CT), Apr. 1, 2015