

Tips for scholarships & saving money for college

1. To search for scholarships online, you can use **personal identifiers** (things that are unique to you) and then **combine them with terms** like fund, trust fund, foundation, denomination, fellowship or other terms. E.g. just googling "Blind Scholarship Foundation" brings up the Scholarship Program portion of the National Federation of the Blind's website.
2. You can search for scholarships from **community or national brands**- Target, WalMart, Chik-Fil-A, Taco Bell, etc.
3. There are many **scholarship websites** you can use to search and apply for scholarships. Look at the "scholarship websites", "scholarship information", and "internet resources for students and families" documents.
4. If any scholarship website is asking for really personal information (SS#) or payment, **stay away**.
5. **Two questions** to ask when applying for a scholarship is when does the application become available and when is it due?
6. You can write a **proposal letter** (give them to churches or businesses, asking them for financial support), explaining why you want to go to college, and what you would do with your degree. The first paragraph is important, to catch their attention... and then you go on to tell a story that explains your heart, goals, investment in your education, etc. and explain why you want this!
7. You can save money just by **improving ACT & SAT scores** (merit scholarships).
8. **CLEP testing**- if you are proficient in a language other than English, etc. (it's not just for language) you can take a CLEP exam to try to test out of a required course for college.