Parents,

You are the first teachers of your children and you can be empowered to take the responsibility of assisting your sons and daughters using the information, tools, and support of this parent guide and www.Edudaris.com.

At last parents, here is the guide you have been looking for that is specifically written to prepare, guide, and empower you and your children to successfully apply to college and for scholarships.

Endless opportunities are available for ALL students, but a strong foundation for success with the Five Steps must first be built as soon as possible.

NOW is the time to begin preparing for your children’s future!

Dare to Dream Great Dreams!

June McBride, M.A.
This guide is a vehicle that:

motivates ALL parents and students
to dare to dream great dreams,
plants the seed of hope within students,
guides students to set goals that stretch them,
inspires students to discover life purpose,
guides students to turn obstacles
into character and strength,
teaches the value of hard work
through the college and scholarship process, and
empowers students with all the tools to
successfully reach their dreams!

June Pichardo-McBride, M.A.
Dare to Dream Great Dreams with Five Steps
2014 First Condensed Edition
SAN 853-8522
ISBN 978-1-934581-30-8
I dedicate this guide with love and gratitude to my God, my loving husband, my family, to all the migrant staff, directors, educators, counselors, parents, and students I have met on my journey of over 300,000 miles since the year 2000, while conducting educator, parent, and student workshops in over fifteen states.

You are my heroes! You are tireless, self-sacrificing, and always giving. You have touched my life, inspired me, and changed me forever!

My life purpose is to serve, encourage, and influence the future leadership of this nation by teaching, motivating, and inspiring educators, young people, and their parents through my workshops and resources. My desire is to help them to build character in their lives, to identify their life purpose and goals, and to serve their communities and our nation in every profession.

Their influence will be far reaching, impacting, and life changing on a national level. Their voices will be heard and produce fruits of change within our families, the government, the educational system, medicine, churches, business, and our laws.

I am very proud to be a first generation Hispanic.

I am a teacher.

I touch the present and the future!

June Pichardo-McBride, M.A.
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Introduction

The Path to Scholarships® Parent and Student Guide is a condensed edition, which provides the Five Steps to successfully apply to college and for scholarships, which prepare, guide, and empower parents and students to believe that they have a choice and the right to dare to dream great dreams! Path to Scholarships® is a career, college, and scholarship, planning guide that empowers, inspires, and motivates students giving them hope for a better future with all the tools to reach and pay for their dream!

June Pichardo-McBride, founder and author of Path to Scholarships® has been traveling nationally since the year 2000 training educators, parents, and students with the foundational, basic principles of the Five Steps to successfully apply to college and for scholarships.

Why do most students fail to properly organize the materials and documents necessary to successfully apply to college and for scholarships? A majority of parents and students do not know when, how, or where to begin the process to complete and organize everything to successfully apply to college and for scholarships.

What are the Challenges?

One of the biggest challenges facing parents and students is to believe and know they do have a choice, the right to dare to dream great dreams of a college education, and the money to pay for it. The second challenge is starting early enough with the Five Steps because the preparation for college and scholarships starts as early as possible, but no later than the 9th grade or wherever the student is, they should START NOW!
The third greatest challenge for parents and students is how to organize everything needed to successfully apply to college and for scholarships!

An additional challenge is researching opportunities for college and scholarships before building the strong foundation for success with the Five Steps, then becoming overwhelmed with the mass of information!

Endless opportunities are available for ALL students, but a strong foundation for success with the Five Steps must first be built as soon as possible. Now is the time to begin preparing for the future!

Path of Hard Work and Organization

The Five Steps begin with the path of hard work and organization! This is the most difficult part of the journey.

Many students are looking for colleges and for long lists of scholarships, but without a strong foundation built with the Five Steps; a majority of the applications will never be completed successfully!

Many students want the rewards without the hard work, but the greatest rewards and opportunities come to students who are willing to work hard and invest their time to first build a strong foundation with the Five Steps.

- Preparing for college and winning scholarships is like building a house.

- You must first build a strong foundation with the Five Steps, before you can add the walls (college & scholarship research) and the roof (college & scholarship applications).
• Will opportunities for college and scholarships be automatically awarded to students? No! A strong foundation of hard work and organization using the Five Steps must be built first, which greatly increases the opportunities.

• This process takes hard work, organization, and time, but the rewards are for a lifetime of opportunities and success!

What is a Scholarship?

A scholarship is FREE money used for school tuition, fees, and living expenses and does not have to be repaid. Scholarships are available for almost every type of post-secondary study including vocational, technical, college, university, and graduate studies. Scholarships come in the form of grants, work study, internships, allowances, graduate assistantships, and fellowships.

What are the Different Types of Scholarships?

There are many different types of scholarships. Some are based only on merit (grades/testscores), while others are based on leadership, community service, financial need, race/ethnicity, family heritage, and/or a combination of two or more of these factors.

Available scholarships include: private, college-based, financial need-based, state and federal government grants, merit-based, faith-based, athletic, special talent, military, study abroad, and international.

International Students

There are many opportunities for international students to study in their home country, in other countries, or in the United States of America. www.NeedCollegeMoney.com
Who is Eligible for Scholarships?

ALL students are eligible for scholarships regardless of income level, grade point average, age, grade level, or immigration status, including international students.

Students who will not qualify for financial need-based scholarships need to begin as early as 9th grade to build a strong foundation that will qualify them for community service, leadership, faith-based, special talent, athletic, and/or merit-based scholarships, www.NeedCollegeMoney.com.

Scholarship committees are looking for the well-rounded student who has grades around a “B” average or higher; the highest grade point average (G.P.A.) possible is best, which will increase the opportunities.

Scholarships and special awards are available for students as young as five (5) years of age based on leadership and community service! www.NeedCollegeMoney.com

Dare to Dream Great Dreams with Five Steps!

This condensed edition is specifically written to prepare, guide, and empower parents and students to successfully apply to college and for scholarships with the information, tools, and support using the foundational Five Steps.

What are the Five Steps to Successfully Apply to College and for Scholarships?

1. Community Service
2. Résumé
3. Essays Easy as 1-2-3
4. Recommendation Letters
5. Official Transcript
Parents and Students,

You can be empowered to take the responsibility using the resources, information, tools, and support given in this parent and student guide.

Dare to Dream Great Dreams with Five Steps to make college and scholarships a reality for your family! It is your choice; make it your choice. Choose to make the difference for your future and your future generations!

What are the Benefits?

- Makes college and scholarship opportunities more accessible once students build a foundation of hard work, organization, and good character, allowing them to successfully apply to college and for scholarships.

- Encourages parents and students to dream and empowers them with all the tools necessary to make their dreams a reality.

- Builds parental and student community involvement and support in the development of the students’ character, community service activities, and both present and future educational goals and dreams.

What are the Results?

- Increases high school and college graduation rates

- Increases college enrollment and completion with scholarships to pay for the dream!

- Builds family foundations for future generations in our nation with rewards for a lifetime of opportunities and success!
Paying for College with Path to Scholarships®
the Best Alternative to Student Loans!

*Path to Scholarships® Parent and Student Guide* is a condensed edition of the career, college, and scholarship, planning high school and college workbooks that empower, inspire, and motive students giving them hope for a better future.

*Path to Scholarships® High School and College Student Workbook Editions* w/portfolio pack are career, college, and scholarship planning guides that empower and assist students to organize and apply successfully to college and for scholarships with organizational tools, checklists, and planning forms to reach and pay for their dreams! (Available in English and Spanish)

BOOKSTORE, www.PathToScholarships.org

High School Students
CLICK HERE!

College Students
CLICK HERE!

*Path to Scholarships® Five-Steps Mini Course for High School and College Students*

Create an online college and scholarship e-portfolio.
Search and be matched to **Offers**, including scholarships.
www.Edudaris.com

Like us on **Facebook**. Follow us on **Twitter** and **LinkedIn**.
Subscribe to our **YouTube Channel**. Join us on **Edudaris.com**.

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Step One – Community Service

Community service is investing time in the community through a variety of activities as a volunteer, which gives students the opportunity to explore careers and areas of interest.

- Begin as early as possible, but no later than the 9th grade or wherever the student is, they should START NOW!
- Required for most college and scholarship applications
- Gives the opportunity to make a commitment over time with the priority of quality over quantity
- Establishes a life purpose allowing students to discover their gifts and talents
- Builds confidence in choosing a career path and real-life experience
- Teaches leadership and organizational skills with self-initiated projects to resolve real problems in the community

Questions about Life that Parents and Students Ask:

- Why am I here?
- Why was I born?
- What does my future hold?

Purpose in Life

We need to believe that we were born for a purpose, unique, with special gifts and natural talents for a special purpose, a plan, and a mission.

Parents, nationality, birth order, ability to learn, disabilities, appearance (height, bone structure, hair, eyes, skin, nose, ears), and your birth were not an accident or mistake, no matter the circumstances!
Obstacles are good! They build character making young people stronger and better. Circumstances and decisions made in the past cannot be changed; but each young person has a choice to make a decision to change their future with new wise decisions.

**Young people have a choice! Life is not made up by the dreams they dream, but by the choices they make!**

Many young people today lack a sense of purpose. They are not sure what they want to do in life and they are not sure that they would be successful if they knew what they wanted to do!

**What is Life Purpose?** How do we find it? How do we assist our children to find their purpose in life? Life purpose is the reason they were born and who they are meant to be; their life’s calling.

Is it simply choosing a vocation and working to be successful at it? Purpose in life comes by getting involved and investing in the real needs of people in the community. Young people can experience the joy that comes from serving others.

When they discover and pursue their life purpose it provides a motivation to establish life goals, make wise decisions, to overcome obstacles, discover who they are, and experience fulfillment and satisfaction. Community service is the first step to establish a purpose in life and future success.

**Research Career Interests before Planning Community Service Activities**

• U.S. Department of Labor, My Next Move; *What do you want to do for a living?* Search careers with key words, browse careers by industry, and/or answer questions about the type of work you might enjoy. [www.mynextmove.org](http://www.mynextmove.org)

**Planning Community Service**

After career exploration and research students should plan to volunteer in career interest areas.

• Such volunteering can include: service in a clinic, local hospitals, Red Cross, churches, public libraries, nursing homes, elementary and middle schools, high schools, recreation centers, sports complexes, and sports teams.

• Some volunteer jobs available for students include: bilingual interpreter, neighborhood cleanups, tutoring, reading to younger children, collecting goods, youth work, coaching youth teams, mentoring, and countless other possibilities.

• Information on volunteer opportunities can be found at your school and on [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org).

• Record all community service and update regularly.

• Students should complete no less than a minimum of one hour per month. Set a goal for at least one hour per week.

**How Many Hours are Required?**

It is not about the number of hours; quality is more important than quantity. Quality is defined as a dedication, commitment, or devotion to one or more community service activities, how the activity changed the student as a person, and the difference that was made for others.
What are the Benefits?

- Establishes a life purpose with a vision and dream for the future
- Emphasizes career awareness, vocational training, and leadership development through community service
- Gives students valuable real-world experience and skills
- Increases the students’ opportunities for awards, scholarships, and future employment

What are the Results?

- Encourages family involvement in the community
- Improves students’ attitudes and behaviors as they invest in the lives and true needs of others
- Builds confidence in pursuing a specific career path
- Allows students to discover their talents, develop their skills, and network with community leaders
- Builds leadership and organizational skills with self-initiated projects to solve real problems in the community

Resources for High School and College Students

BOOKSTORE, www.PathToScholarships.org

- **Path to Scholarships® High School and College Student Workbook Editions** w/portfolio pack are career, college, and scholarship planning guides that empower and assist students to organize and apply successfully to college and for scholarships with organizational tools, checklists, and planning forms to reach and pay for their dreams! (Available in English and Spanish)
- **Private Coaching** for High School and College Students for Career, College, and Scholarship Planning
Step Two – Résumé

A résumé is usually a one-page brief written summary of personal, educational, and professional qualifications and experience.

Completing a Résumé

Complete a résumé by making a list of school and community activities, awards, and recognitions. This is a timesaver to be used as an organizational tool for you to record all the basic information that most college and scholarship applications require. As you complete new applications the résumé can be used as a quick reference for:

- Grade Point Average
- Class Rank
- Standardized Test Scores
- Community Service
- Leadership Activities
- Extracurricular Activities
- Job Shadowing
- Internships
- Work Experience
- Awards and Honors

Résumé Uses

- For a job application
- For an internship application
- To complete college and scholarship applications
- As an attachment to request a recommendation letter
Building Your Résumé with Planning and Goal Setting

The key is to start planning as early as the 9th grade when a student’s grade point average (G.P.A.) begins to count toward the student’s future success in applying to college and for scholarships.

- Students should maintain a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative G.P.A. from 9th through 12th grade and in college.

- The higher the G.P.A., the more opportunities will be available to students.

- Each student is an individual, and short-range and long-range goals will vary according to individual circumstances, strengths, weaknesses, and needs.

- With the assistance of parents and a counselor/advisor, outline a plan with action steps in order to develop and record short-range and long-range goals.

- This plan should be reviewed on a regular basis throughout high school and college.

- A great truth for all students to remember is, “If you fail to plan, plan to fail.”

Resources, Tools, and Support

The following organizational forms are available in the Path to Scholarships® High School & College Workbook Editions. BOOKSTORE, www.PathToScholarships.org

- Planning Community Service & Community Service Form
- Planning My Life and My Future
- Résumé/Scholarship Application & Student Activities Form
Step Three – Essays Easy as 1-2-3

The essay is **Your Story**, which can be used for most college and scholarship applications.

- Answer all the questions below as a guide to organize your main ideas.
- Each section of the body should have only two to three sentences.
- The final essay should be one page only, double-spaced, font size 12, Arial or Times New Roman.
- Have someone else evaluate and edit your essay.
- This foundational essay, which is **Your Story** can now be “tweaked” and used over and over again to complete a majority of all required college admission and scholarship essays.

**Foundational Essay for College Admission and Scholarship Applications**

**Introduction**

- Never start the essay with, “*Hello, my name is ________.*”
- Create an introduction that captures the reader’s attention and interest.
- It can be a description of an engaging scene; it can ask a question, state a fact, be a quote, be positive, or be related to your obstacle.
- Use at least two of the five senses. It must be unique and stand out above all others.

**Body of the Essay**

**Family** - Write a brief description of your family including ethnic background, parents’ level of education and present occupation, number of family members, and any special circumstances.
Obstacle

- Describe your most challenging obstacle and how you overcame it.
- What character qualities have you learned, are presently learning, or need to learn from your obstacle?
- Has this obstacle made you a stronger, better person, and more determined in the direction, purpose, and plan for your life?
- How will this obstacle help you to become the successful person you want to become in the future?

Community Service

- When and where have you served others through volunteer work in the community?
- How has it made you a better person?
- What impact did you make?
- What did you learn about life, yourself, or other people?

Life Purpose, Dreams, and Goals

- Explain your dreams for the future in terms of your educational and career goals.
- What are your reasons for seeking this field of study?
- How can you contribute to society or make a difference in the lives of others?

Conclusion

- Why do you need the scholarship (money)?
- Describe in detail any special family and/or personal circumstances that will affect your ability to reach your goal of a college education.
- Example: “Without a scholarship I would not be able to attend college because______.”
- The last sentence should contain a clincher, strong statement, showing determination and strength.
What are the Benefits?

- Develops writing skills aligned to state reading and writing standards
- Motivates students to dream, overcome obstacles, invest in their academics, and participate in community service and extra-curricular activities
- Empowers parents and students with the motivation and the tools to dream as well as a way to pay for a college education by winning scholarships

What are the Results?

- Increases state exam scores and passing rates
- Improves writing and communication skills
- Guides students to make wise decisions that positively impact their present and future decisions
- Improves school attendance; dropout prevention
- Increases high school and college graduation rates

Resources, Tools, and Support

The following organizational forms and writing guides are available in the Path to Scholarships® High School & College Workbook Editions. BOOKSTORE, www.PathToScholarships.org

- Winning Scholarship Essay Examples
- Life Purpose Statement, Pre-Write
- Essay for Scholarship Applications, Outline Guide
- Forty-Nine Qualities for Success, Character Building
- Brainstorming Using Linking, Mapping Guide
- Five Senses, Essay Pre-Write
- Writing the Winning Scholarship Essay, Rough Draft
Step Four – Recommendation Letters

A recommendation letter is a letter that someone writes on your behalf explaining your strengths, character, and potential.

- Three types of recommendation letters are needed for college and scholarship applications: teacher/professor, counselor/advisor, and a person in your community outside of your school.
- Never ask a family member to write a letter of recommendation.
- You need a plan before requesting them. Make a list and schedule an appointment.
- Request early in September and October and/or at least two to three weeks in advance of all college and scholarship application deadlines.
- Documents needed to submit with request: Request Cover Letter, Résumé, Scholarship Essay, and Thank You Note
- You should request as many recommendation letters as possible.
- Ask for at least five originals on letterhead and a signed scanned copy.

Resources, Tools, and Support

The following organizational forms are available in the Path to Scholarships® High School & College Workbook Editions. BOOKSTORE, www.PathToScholarships.org

- Planning for Requesting Recommendation Letters
- Request for Recommendation Letters forms
- Tips for Writing Recommendation Letters
- Tips for Writing Thank You Notes/Letters
Step Five – Official Transcript

A transcript is an official record of all the high school or college courses taken with the credits earned, grades, class rank, and test reports.

- All colleges and a majority of scholarships require a copy of an official transcript and/or test reports.
- Keep sufficient copies ready to meet every deadline.
- College preparation begins as early as possible and in the 9th grade with a college-prep graduation plan, advanced courses including Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), honors, and/or dual-credit, college enrollment.

Recommended College-Prep Graduation Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 Units (With substantial writing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4 Units (Algebra II and above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>4 Units (With substantial labs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>4 Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>2 Units (In the same language)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Electives</td>
<td>4 Units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic Planning

- Schedule an appointment with your counselor/advisor to review your high school graduation or college degree plan annually.
- Plan in advance, if copies are to be sent directly from the school for a college admission or scholarship application.
- Request and send only the most recent transcript.
Complete the College Application
Successfully Apply to College!

Follow an Action Plan

Planning for college and graduate school involves following an action plan as early as the 9th grade, deciding where you will attend, and completing the FAFSA starting January 1st of your high school senior year and renew it each year thereafter.

Decide Where to Attend

- Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between two or more colleges/universities: Majors or programs offered, cost, size, location, financial aid, and scholarships available.
- Compare and research admission considerations: Number of applicants and percent admitted, G.P.A., test scores, coursework, and graduation/retention rates.
- Schedule an appointment with a high school counselor or college advisor to discuss college plans.
- Attend a college fair.
- Schedule an appointment with a college admission counselor and visit the college campus.
- Apply early in September/October of the senior year.
- Prepare, take, and retake college entrance tests.
High School Student Tests

• Take the **PSAT/NMSQT** in the fall of the 10th and 11th grade.
• Take the **SAT** and/or **ACT** in the spring of the 10th and 11th grade.
• Retake the **SAT** and/or **ACT** in the fall of the 12th grade.

College Student Tests

• Take the **GRE, LSAT, MCAT**, or other college graduate test in the spring of the junior year.
• Retake the **GRE, LSAT, MCAT**, or other college graduate test in the fall of the senior year.
• International students: Take the **TOEFL** test.

College Application Tips

• Verify that you meet the qualifications.
• Follow the directions exactly.
• Type all applications.
• Double-check the submission deadline.
• Verify the application was received.

College Admission Essays

• Revisit **Step Three – Essays Easy as 1-2-3**.
• This foundational essay, which is **Your Story** can now be “tweaked” and used over and over again to complete a majority of all required college admission essays.

Minimize Student Loans with Path to Scholarships®

FAFSA considers student loans a part of the federal financial aid package used to assist students meet the financial need of college costs. Student loans for post-secondary education come in many different packages with a variety of plans for students and parents that must be paid back with interest.
Complete the FAFSA  
*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*

The *FAFSA* is a free application to apply for federal student aid in the form of grants, work-study, and low-interest loans. Virtually all forms of financial aid assistance use the *FAFSA* to determine eligibility.

- Complete the *FAFSA* online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) starting January 1st of your high school senior year and renew it each year thereafter.
- U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, U.S. permanent residents, and eligible non-citizens are eligible to apply.
- A student with a legal status can complete the *FAFSA*, even if the parent(s) do not have a legal status.
- Check the priority deadline for your state and submit your *FAFSA* no later than this date.
- **Complete the FAFSA, regardless of the family income.**
- **For questions or clarifications call:** 1-800-433-3243

**DACA Students - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**

The *Financial Aid and Undocumented Students U.S.A.* government fact sheet is available for more information. Although DACA students are not eligible for federal student aid, they may still be eligible for state or college aid, and submitting a FAFSA can help them access those other types of financial aid.

The DACA students assigned social security number will be used to begin the FAFSA application. The question “Are you a *U.S. citizen?*” must be answered as “No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen.” After submitting the FAFSA, the school’s financial aid office has the information as to what types of financial aid are available.
All Students Without a Social Security Number

**Texas Students Only:** Watch video, “Your Guide to the TAFSA”.

Students without a social security number should complete the FAFSA (PDF fillable form), a paper version of the FAFSA on the computer or by hand. The printed form should be mailed directly to the college financial aid office. *The FAFSA application should not be completed online for submission to the federal government.* For more information **CLICK HERE**.

**SAR - Student Aid Report**

After completing the FAFSA, this is the official summary of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The results are contained in the Student Aid Report (SAR).

The SAR contains the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Schools will use the SAR to determine the student’s eligibility for federal and nonfederal student aid funds.

**EFC - Expected Family Contribution**

The dollar amount that a family is expected to pay toward a student’s educational costs. This federal calculation is based on family earnings, assets, the number of students in college, and size of family.

**COA - Cost of Attendance**

The Cost of Attendance is the total amount it will cost students to go to school – usually expressed as a yearly figure. It is determined using rules established by law. The COA includes tuition and fees, on-campus room and board (or housing and food allowance for off-campus students), and allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees, and if applicable, dependent care.

It also includes miscellaneous expenses, including an allowance for the rental or purchase of a personal computer. Costs related to a disability are also covered.
Complete the Scholarship Application
Successfully Apply for Scholarships!

Follow an Action Plan

Planning for scholarships involves building a strong foundation starting in the 9\textsuperscript{th} grade with the \textbf{Five Steps}.

- Research: Local, state, and national scholarships, state scholarship programs, and prepaid savings plans
- Complete the \textit{FAFSA} (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) \url{www.fafsa.ed.gov}.

Finding Scholarships: Where do I look?

- \textbf{Start Here First}: Local high school and college
- \url{www.NeedCollegeMoney.com}
- Personalized matched offers on \url{www.Edudaris.com}
- Community: Businesses, churches, and civic clubs
- Library: Scholarship books and magazines
- Internet searches

Scholarship Essay

- Revisit \textbf{Step Three – Essays Easy as 1-2-3}.
- This foundational essay, which is \textit{Your Story} can now be “tweaked” and used over and over again to complete a majority of all required scholarship essays.

College and Scholarship Resources

- \textit{Path to Scholarships\textsuperscript{®} Five-Steps Mini Course for High School and College Students}
  Create an online college and scholarship e-portfolio. Search and be matched to \textbf{Offers}, including scholarships. \url{www.Edudaris.com}
- \url{www.NeedCollegeMoney.com}
Create a Scholarship Application Log
The information should include:

- Name and address of scholarship applications completed and received
- Award amount
- Date sent and date due
- Verification that the application was received
- Contact information
- Thank you note/letters sent
- Instructions for receiving the award

Completing the scholarship application is now easy since you have built a strong foundation!

Scholarship Application Tips

- Verify that you meet the qualifications.
- Follow the directions exactly.
- Organize applications according to deadlines.
- Mark on a calendar each scholarship deadline.
- Type all applications making sure they are neat and legible.
- Complete as many scholarship applications as possible, 20 – 40 or more, regardless of how small the award.
- Keep a log of all scholarship applications sent and awards received.
- Send a handwritten thank you note within two weeks of receiving an award notification.
- Check with college financial aid office that awards have been received and the student account has been credited.
Scholarship Interview Tips

Some scholarship providers require an interview with the scholarship candidates before making their award decision.

If you are selected, do not worry; it is a good sign, but you must be prepared! An interview is your opportunity to expand on what the scholarship committee already knows about you.

- Prepare in advance by practicing questions with a friend, a parent, or a teacher.
- Dress appropriately: business-casual with no more than two colors: black/white or navy/white (no light colored suits).
- Make a good first impression by being at least five to ten minutes early.
- Body language is important; lean slightly forward and keep your hands on the table during the interview.
- Avoid touching your face or hair and avoid playing with a pen or pencil.
- Give a firm handshake and make plenty of eye contact with everyone in the room.
- Answer all questions with complete sentences, even yes/no questions.

Resources, Tools, and Support

The following organizational forms are available in the Path to Scholarships® High School & College Workbook Editions. BOOKSTORE, www.PathToScholarships.org

- Scholarship Application Log
- Scholarship Interview Tips
Dream It, Plan It, Work Hard, Achieve It!

You are now ready! A strong foundation must be built first with the Five Steps before you can successfully apply to college and for your first scholarship. With your organized portfolio you are now ready to research colleges and scholarships and begin applying successfully.

Once a Path to Scholarships® foundation has been completed and the college and scholarship applications have been submitted, have confidence that you are on your life journey of success to fulfill your life calling, life purpose; the reason you were born and who you are meant to be!

Path to Scholarships® High School and College Student Workbook Editions w/portfolio pack are career, college, and scholarship planning guides that empower and assist students to organize and apply successfully to college and for scholarships with organizational tools, checklists, and planning forms to reach and pay for their dreams! (Available in English and Spanish)

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