



Scoring Big With Scholarships 2019-2020

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A presentation by the College Funding Project
(with information adapted, in part, from
the U.S. Department of Education)

*The College Funding Project is an initiative of Stand By Me
in partnership with the Delaware Office of Higher Education*



**Stand By Me is a joint project
of the State of Delaware and United Way of Delaware**





Purpose: Get in the game!

- Help you to understand the types of scholarships available.
- Offer tools and advice for finding college scholarships.
- Give you tips on scholarship essay writing.



Let's start with the basics

- Grants and scholarships are money you do not need to pay back. **They are free money.**
- Loans must be paid back.



The Playbook: Sources of grants and scholarships

- Federal Government
- State Government (DOE)
- Colleges and Universities
- Private Donors



Types of Grants and Scholarships

- **Need-based** grants (determined, in part, on information submitted on the FAFSA).
- **Merit-based** scholarships (granted based on SAT scores, GPA, skills, achievements, other non-financial criteria.)



Federal Grants

- Federal Pell Grant (2018-19: \$6,095 maximum)
- Federal SEOG Grant (\$100-\$4,000)
- Submit FAFSA online after October 1.
www.fafsa.gov
- For more info, go to www.studentaid.gov
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to help determine eligibility for need-based federal funding programs, including grants and loans.



Things to Know

- What are the GPA, class rank, SAT scores required?
- Is it renewable? What are requirements?
- Is it need based? What are income limits?
- How many are awarded?
- What is the application process and deadline?



State of Delaware Financial Aid Programs

- To apply for Delaware Higher Education Office (DHEO) scholarships, you first need to create a DHEO Student Account.
- You can create your DHEO Student Account online and apply for scholarships at: delawaregoestocollege.org/state-aid

Delawaregoestocollege.org: Your Scholarship Source

- Create Your Account
- Search/Research Colleges
- Search/Research Scholarships
- Apply for Scholarships
- Learn About the College Investment Plan
- Download Checklists for Grades 9-12

<https://delawaregoestocollege.org/>



State of Delaware Grants and Scholarships

1. Memorial Scholarships-Merit (4 awarded each year) application deadline 4:30 PM March 4, 2019
2. Diamond State (about 30 awarded)-Merit application deadline 4:30 PM March 4, 2019
3. SCIP- Need Based-based on funding levels, must file FAFSA by April 15, 2019
4. SEED (UD, DTCC) Inspire (DSU)
5. DHEO Professional Incentive Programs application deadline 4:30 Pm June 3, 2019



Sample: State of Delaware Memorial Scholarships

Charles L. Hebner:

- Submit application online by 4:30 PM March 4, 2019
- Upper 50%, FAFSA, 1000 combined score on SAT (ACT equivalent)
- Major in humanities, social sciences or political science, preference given to political science
- Full tuition, room, board, fees, books at UD or DSU
- 2 awarded, 1 at UD and 1 at DSU
- Renewable up to three additional years with a min 3.0 GPA



Diamond State Scholarships: Merit Based

- Upper quarter of class
- Combined 1290 on the SAT (or ACT equivalent)
- Enroll and attend full time in any major in any state
- \$1,250 per year
- Renewable for 3 years with a min 3.0 GPA
- Submit application online by 4:30 PM March 4, 2019
- Approximately 30 offered each year



Delaware Scholarship Incentive Program SCIP: Need Based

- Min GPA of 2.5
- Award amount is \$1000
- Financial need threshold based on applicant pool each year
- Student must create a DHEO Student Account and update college enrollment info every year
- Students must be enrolled full time in an undergraduate accredited program in Delaware
 - or enrolled in an accredited program out of State that is not offered in a Delaware public college.
- Approximately 1000 awards each year-based on funding level



SEED (Student Excellence Equals Degree)

UD Associate's degree or DTCC associate's programs

Full tuition for 6 semesters toward AA Degree

No separate application needed for SEED

- 2.5 GPA
- FAFSA
- No felonies
- Delaware resident and graduate from a DE high school
- Attend college full time directly after senior year



Inspire

DSU provides up to \$3,900/year above all other awards if needed for 8 semesters

- 2.75 GPA
- DE graduate
- No felonies
- Full time
- Community service
- Due March 15, FAFSA required

www.desu.edu/admissions/inspire-scholarship



Salisbury University — Delmarva Partnership Scholarship

\$5,000 annually for DE and Eastern Shore VA residents!

- First-time student, full-time BA/BS
- Satisfactory academic progress
- 24 credits per year.
- Renewable 8 semesters

admissions@salisbury.edu



College/Institutional Scholarships

- College/Career School will determine amount of federal funding plus their own institutional aid-May require you to complete the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile
- Schools differ widely on aid amounts-Private colleges tend to offer more free money
- Talk to an admissions or Financial Aid counselor about scholarships you can apply for
- Check out the college's net price calculator on their site or Net Price Center: collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx



Undocumented Students: Resources Available

- Contact the financial aid office at the school you are applying to let them know that you will need assistance in applying for financial aid.
- Many scholarships will tell you in the description if they require citizenship
- Undocumented students are eligible to apply for the SEED and Inspire scholarships and should contact those schools directly
- See the undocumented student section on: www.delawaregoestocollege.org



Athletic Scholarships

- About 4% of high school football players play NCAA ball in Division I or II schools.
- About 3% will play in Division III schools, which do not provide scholarships.
- Scholarships can be FULL or PARTIAL, FAFSA is required by most NCAA schools. FAFSA required!
- Keep in mind that scholarships are only valid while you play.
- Injuries, disciplinary action and coaching changes can affect whether you play and continue to receive funding.

www.ncaa.org/student-athletes

Academic Common Market

Southern Regional Education Board

- If your undergraduate or graduate degree program is not offered by a public college in Delaware, you may be eligible for **in-state tuition** at a participating college in one of the 15 participating states.
- You must be enrolled or have been accepted in the program to apply for the ACM.
- **Must be a Delaware resident and U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.**

<http://delawaregoestocollege.org/step-2-find-state-aid/>

<http://home.sreb.org/acm/choosestate.aspx>



Private Scholarships

The Delaware Scholarship Compendium

- Available online and a book is mailed to every high school senior in a Delaware public or charter school
- Lists local and national scholarships by alphabet and deadline date

www.scholarships.delawaregoestocollege.org



Private Scholarships

Delaware Community Foundation Scholarship Compendium

- Lists over 80 scholarships
- Online application available late fall

www.delcf.org/scholarships

Check out employers, community organizations, corporations and local merchants and service groups that give scholarships.

Counselors have lists of available scholarships.



Surfing for Scholarships

Do not pay for scholarship information!

Internet is the #1 FREE source for scholarships.

Search based on:

- Major
- GPA
- Ethnicity/nationality
- Religion
- Interests and activities
- Location....and more!



Surfing for Scholarships

- www.bigfuture.org
- www.careeronestop.org
- www.collegenet.com
- www.fastweb.com
- www.cappex.com
- www.Scholarshipsandgrants.us
- www.Scholly.org
- Petersons.com



Surfing for Scholarships

- Be specific in your search.
- Read carefully. Don't waste your time.
- Understand the rules!
- Apply for as many scholarships as you can, small amounts can add up. Don't overlook them!



The Application/Scholarship Essay

- Put your best foot forward and let your scholarship reader get to know you as the fantastic person you are!
- They want to know your views and opinions, values.
- What have you learned in life and how you have applied those lessons?



Content: Show Them Your Best Moves!

- Don't use a generic essay.
- Avoid the OBVIOUS response!
- Tell your story. Not your resume.
- Use accepted grammar, punctuation and spelling.



Your Strategies

- Follow instructions! Keep to the length, minimum and maximum.
- Start well in advance.
- Create a support team, including parents and teachers. Let them read and discuss your work with you.



So what's your game plan?

- Complete the FAFSA
- Create your DHEO Student Account at www.delawaregoestocollege.org/state-aid and apply for DHEO scholarships by the deadline
- Review scholarships in the DE Scholarship Compendium and apply for as many as possible
- Remember to submit all applications and supporting documentation by deadline



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