WORKSHOP 5B: COMPLETING COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS
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WHAT I WILL LEARN

Todays' workshop will assist you in the following ways as you plan for your next steps:

• Researching scholarships
• Writing the scholarship essay
• What to do after receiving an award
WHERE TO BEGIN...

Where do I search?
How can I increase my chances of getting a scholarship?

Those questions and more will be answered. Keep reading 😊
Researching Scholarships

Make a list of all the things that make you a unique student to begin your scholarship search

Example Terms for your search:
• Non-traditional scholarships
• First generation scholarships
• Minority Scholarships
• Transfer Student Scholarships
• Phi Theta Kappa Scholarships
• Scholarships for Women
• STEM Scholarships
• Single-parent scholarships
And this is just the start...
You will want to know how much college will cost so you can plan your finances.

Scholarship Search Resources

[UNIGO](https://www.unigo.com/)

[Net Price Calculator Center](https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/netpricecalculator/#/)

[CollegeBoard](https://www.collegeboard.org/)

[City Colleges of Chicago](http://www.ccc.edu/departments/Pages/Transfer-Scholarships.aspx)
Jack-Kent Cooke Foundation

A Little Bit About the Scholarship

It’s for Undergraduate Transfer students from the nation’s top community colleges

The Foundation provides up to $40,000 per year to each of approximately 55 deserving students selected annually

It’s best to have a GPA of at least 3.75 and a compelling story of how you contribute to your community

City Colleges of Chicago students have a history of becoming recipients of this award!!!
As you Prepare...

• Read the instructions thoroughly and that you understand them before you begin

• Let people know you are applying to scholarships. They may be able to refer you to some good opportunities

• There are deadlines to scholarships—know what they are. It’s even better to submit early!

• Apply to a variety of different types of scholarships for which you are eligible, including small award scholarships
As you Prepare…

• Be a Scholarship winner before you apply- Join clubs, volunteer, give back and take challenging courses

• Take the time to apply to scholarships that require a lot of work. They have lower applicant pools and increases your chances

• Apply to as many scholarships as possible. It increases your chances of getting awarded

• You should never have to pay for a scholarship!!

• Make copies of all your documents before submitting
Scholarship Essays

You have found several scholarships for which you are eligible and now you need to write your essays. Below are some tips for writing a quality essay:

• Personalize the essay
• Don’t be afraid to say great things about yourself
• Stay on topic and be clear and concise in your language.
• Know your audience—understand the organization/company that is awarding the scholarship
• Don’t reuse essays—Use your own words and make sure that you specifically answer the essay question. No “one-size-fits-all” essay allowed!
• Proofread your essay before you submit
• Find an editor—it’s easy to miss mistakes. Find someone who has never seen the essay, look and give feedback.
Writing the Essay Format

Unless specified otherwise, scholarship essays should always use the following formatting:

• Double spaced
• Times New Roman font
• 12 point font
• One-inch top, bottom, and side margins

Don’t forget to create an outline before writing the essay
EXAMPLE SCHOLARSHIP ESSAYS

Click here to read sample scholarship essays of winning students:
https://brightspace.ccc.edu/d2l/le/content/34052/Home
KEY POINTS

Plan! Apply early to scholarships and don’t wait until the day before the deadline.

Be thankful-Once you receive a scholarship award, send a thank-you note to the organization to show your appreciation of getting an award.

Essays are important-sometimes more important than your transcript and the application, so take the time to write it well.
You have now learned what you need to file the CSS Profile. Next, you will learn about additional ways to fund your education in Workshop 5C: Grants, Loans and Work Study.