



**Wednesday Webinar**  
**Scholarship Tips From The Students' Perspective**  
**February 2018**

# Wednesday Webinar

## Scholarship Tips From The Students' Perspective

- Top 6 Student Scholarship Tips
- Top 10 Scholarship Searches

“I went to college on a classical piano scholarship. My grandmother made me practice one full hour a day. Every day. Man. I thought all she wanted was for me not to have any fun. Next thing you know, you have a career in music.”

Jamie Foxx



Jessica Whittier  
College Access Counselor

# Scholarship Tip #1

## Start Early

- Scholarships for young students (elementary & middle school)
- Lots of scholarships for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade
- Spread out your time commitment
- More time to become the students that scholarships are looking for
- Plan a regular time to work on scholarships

# Scholarship Tip #2

## Bulk Up Your Student Resume

- Take challenging classes
- Join Clubs – lots of them
- Take charge!
- Volunteer

“Three of the four scholarships I was awarded at graduation were for being part of clubs or sports in school. I was doing those things already, so I didn’t need to take extra time for those.”

Joey K.

## Scholarship Tip #3 Search Smarter

- Search for scholarships you know you can win
- Play to your strengths
- Think of your personal qualities: religion, ethnicity, disability, first generation

“My sister found me a scholarship for students with diabetes. I was the only one in my class, so there were probably not many others applying for this scholarship.”

Kelsie E.

*Works for ME* ✓

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# Scholarship Tip #4

## Pay Attention to Requirements

- Read all the details
- Know when the application needs to be sent
- Ask questions if something is confusing

# Scholarship Tip #5

## Get Organized

- Keep copies of your application pieces
  - Convert hard copies to electronic
  - Keep an electronic file of everything
- Build a spreadsheet
  - Include the direct webpage for the scholarship

“I kept track of what essays and letters o  
recommendation I sent to each scholarship.  
That way, if I applied for a second year, they  
didn't get exactly the same thing.”

Amy H. *Works for ME* ✓

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## Scholarship Tip #6 Focus on Your Essay

- Make it personal
- Show your enthusiasm
- Know your audience
- Proofread
- Tweak your essay and send it to other scholarships

“I had three essays I used for my scholarships. I used one of them a lot. It was about why I wanted to be a nurse and included a personal story about a nest of birds outside my window as well as thoughts about my dreams for the future.”

Molly C.



# Top Scholarship Searches

❖ 10 – Chegg.com



❖ 9 – Careeronesop.org



Find their scholarships under the Toolkit Training tab

❖ 8 – Unigo.com



❖ 7 – ScholarshipMonkey.com

# Top Scholarship Searches

❖ 6 – FAMEMaine.com

❖ 5 – Cappex.com



❖ 4 – Petersons.com



❖ 3 – Financial Aid Office at your College

“I found two scholarships through my college’s financial aid webpage that were specifically for students in my major. I don’t know if any others students really knew they were there.”

John T.

# Top Scholarship Searches

❖ 2 – [CollegeBoard.com/BigFuture](https://CollegeBoard.com/BigFuture)

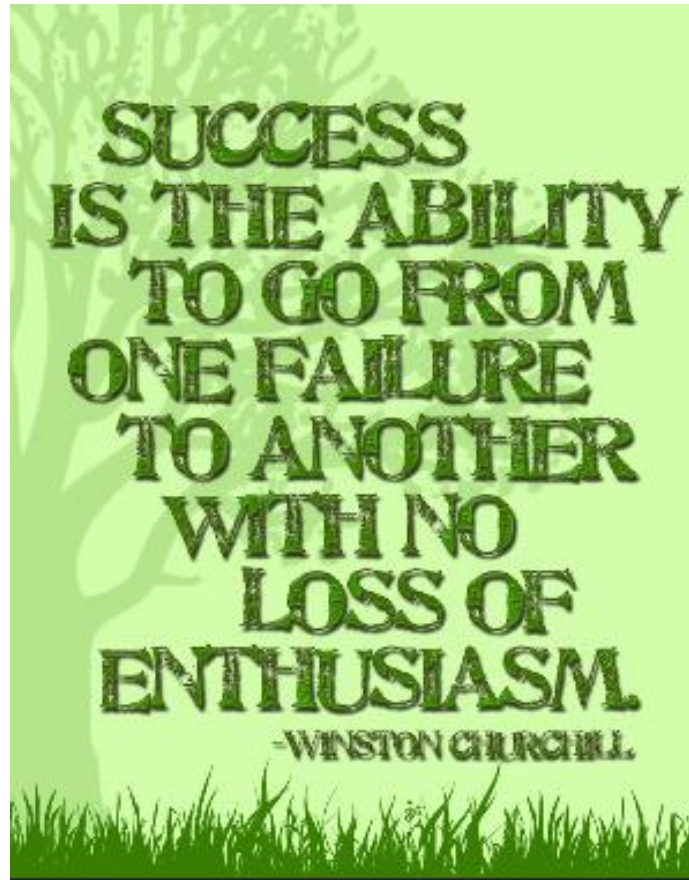


❖ 1 – School Guidance Office

“The scholarships through my school were the easiest to apply for and I was only competing against other kids in my class.”

Savannah P.

## Wednesday Webinar Scholarship Tips From The Students' Perspective



“I sent at least 30 applications in before ever getting a response and their response was to tell me I didn’t get the scholarship.”

Kelsie E.



# Thank You for Attending

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Next Month's Wednesday Webinar:  
March 14 - 10am

Maine's Workforce Challenges:  
What Counselors and Advisors  
Need to Know About High Wage,  
High Demand Jobs and the Future  
of Maine's Workforce



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