

SCHOLARSHIPS a-Z

You have the DREAM. We have the resources.

Paying for College

Financing & Preparing for College

- Grants & Scholarships (do not need to pay back).
- Work-study (job opportunity to earn money)...open to students who qualify for federal aid.
- Loans (money borrowed that *must* be repaid).
- Students who lack proper legal documentation can borrow money but will require a legal co-signer with a credit line to borrow funds. You may want to research your options and ask questions first.
- Use creative ways to fundraise (e.g., raffles, donations, lunch or dinner benefit).
- Apply for scholarships that do not require U.S. citizenship or residency.
- Evaluate your personal situation and make decisions based on your realistic needs.
- Use technology to your advantage and ask for donations (MySpace, Facebook, etc)...Remember, anything you post on these and other social networking sites is PUBLIC information.

If I am an undocumented student, can I apply for financial aid?

- Students who lack proper legal documentation are not eligible for federal aid under the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) of 1996 sec 505.
- Students who lack proper legal documentation in the state of Arizona, are not eligible for state funds under Proposition 300.
- HOWEVER, some private scholarships and grants are available. Speak to your high school counselor about what's available and review the list of scholarships listed on www.scholarshipsaz.org and www.maldef.org.
- If you or your parents filed an application with INS and are in the process of obtaining residency, you may be eligible to receive resident fee status and may also be eligible to receive federal financial aid. Please speak to a licensed immigration attorney for further details.

Legal Warning

Utilizing any public benefits while lacking proper legal documentation can be deemed grounds for automatic deportation and prosecution the day you are able to adjust your immigration status. Making up a SSN to access FAFSA based funding or full/part-time work is considered a federal crime. Don't do it!

A TIN (Tax Identification Number) is not a Social Security Number and should never be used for college admission.



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Be Aware of SCAMS

Students and parents are being scammed if a company or scholarship source promotes its offerings with:

- "The scholarship is guaranteed." No one can guarantee anything...this is a lie.
- "You cannot get this information anywhere else." Legitimate scholarship information is available through public sources.
- "I need your credit card or bank account number for this scholarship." This is a common method to get money out of parents' or students' accounts in the future without permission. Be careful!
- "We will do all the work." The student still has to fill out applications, write essays, and fulfill requirements. It is not possible for anyone else to do the work.
- "The scholarship will cost money." Always use free references. Scholarships should not require the purchase of products or services.
- "We save money by not having an address." Legitimate scholarship sources have contact information and a physical address.
- "Come to [event] on Sunday afternoon.".....Be wary that these free seminars or interviews may be sales pitches for expensive and unnecessary products or services.
- Finally, check with your school counselor if you have any questions about information you have received.