

FINDING SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Work:** Have your parents ask their employers if they offer college scholarships to children of employees. Many do, especially large companies.
- **School Networks:** Many high schools offer scholarship opportunities for their graduating students. Also check with the area alumni association of the college you will be attending to see if it offers scholarships.
- **Community Organizations:** Many community organizations sponsor local scholarships that are open to students who live in the area. Check your city's website or call your local community center for lists of organizations in your area.
- **Religious Organizations:** Find out if your place of worship offers any scholarship opportunities. If it doesn't directly, it may partner with other organizations to award scholarships.
- **Field of Study:** Your college may offer scholarships specific to your intended major. Contact your program department at your college or university.

5 WAYS TO SAVE ON COLLEGE COSTS

1. DON'T FALL VICTIM TO "SENIORITIS"

Take advantage of AP courses and dual enrollment options in high school to reduce the number of credits you need to take in college.

2. PLAN AHEAD TO AVOID CHANGING MAJORS

Changing majors (even once) can add on a year or more of college. Explore your interests, values and skills and match them to potential careers to stay on track.

3. CONSIDER SUMMER COURSES

Taking one summer course each year in addition to a regular full-time schedule can help you to graduate a semester early.

4. TAKE A PART-TIME JOB

Working during college can help reduce the amount you have to borrow in addition to providing valuable job experience.

5. RENT YOUR TEXTBOOKS

Many colleges allow you to rent textbooks instead of buying them, saving you hundreds of dollars. Online sites, such as [chegg.com](https://www.chegg.com), [eFollett.com](https://www.eFollett.com), [textbooks.com](https://www.textbooks.com), [neebo.com](https://www.nebo.com) and [bookrenter.com](https://www.bookrenter.com) also allow students to rent or purchase textbooks at reduced amounts.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

The college or university you have chosen may provide scholarships or financial awards from its own institutional funds. Often, institutional scholarships are given to recipients who meet specific eligibility requirements related to particular areas of study, academic achievements, outstanding talent, leadership, athletic ability or other criteria. Contact the financial aid office at the college or university you have selected and inquire about institutional programs available through the college as well as through other on-campus organizations.

PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available from a variety of sources including businesses, foundations, religious organizations, community groups and fraternal organizations. High school counselors are excellent resources for scholarship information, as are libraries and college and university financial aid administrators.

Web searches also allow students and families to explore a broader pool of scholarship possibilities. Reputable education organizations will NOT charge fees for the scholarship searches they offer. Be wary of questionable claims and avoid fee-for-service offers.



“You're going to get frustrated; buckle up and commit!”

Taylor Smith, sophomore
at Iowa Lakes Community College