

MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS: SOME EXAMPLES

This is not an exhaustive list of merit money available; however, it can be a useful jumping off point in thinking about both independent and school-specific merit scholarships out there. The College Guidance Office can guide you through these applications; many will require a transcript and school profile, which we can provide.

Here is a list of other scholarship search databases for you to utilize:

- <http://www.fastweb.com/>
- <https://www.cappex.com/scholarships>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- <http://www.chegg.com/scholarships>
- <https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>
- <https://unigo.com/scholarships>

INDEPENDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

[American Legion Oratorical Contest](#)

- **Who can apply?** All high school students who are citizens or permanent residents.
- **How do I apply?** This is a speech contest - you must prepare a speech that is 8-10 minutes in length on some aspect of the Constitution. You can request more info using the link above.

[APIA Scholarship Program:](#)

- **Who can apply?** Citizens or permanent residents of Asian or Pacific Islander ethnicity as defined by the U.S. Census. Minimum GPA is 2.7 (B- average). Must have filled out the FAFSA.
- **How do I apply?** Link above has the link to apply, due mid-January.

[City of Boston Scholarship Fund:](#)

- **Who can apply?** Students who have been residents of the City of Boston for at least two years as of January of the application year. Your family must also demonstrate financial need, as this is a need-based scholarship. This scholarship amounts to \$10,000 over four years.
- **How do I apply?** The application will be made available on the site above in April for the following year; you will hear back by the end of May. This does mean you will need to enroll in your future institution before knowing if you will receive this scholarship. You will need to provide your transcript, a recommendation from a teacher or counselor, a Student Aid Report, your Student Award Letter from your college or university, and three short essay responses.

[Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation:](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors with a minimum 3.0 unweighted GPA (B average or better). 150 scholars are selected each year for this \$20,000 award.
- **How do I apply?** The application opens in August and is due at the end of October. Use the link above to find the application (click the “Apply” tab). You will be asked to list your grades, school, and community activities. No essays are required.

[Colleges That Change Lives Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** Students who intend to enroll at a CTCL member college (like, for example, Bard, Clark, Cornell, Ohio Wesleyan, Reed, College of Wooster). The full list of member colleges [can be found here](#).
- **How do I apply?** The application becomes available early in the calendar year. It can be accessed on the site above.

[DAR Good Citizen Award and Scholarship Contest](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors.
- **How do I apply?** The Office of College Guidance has additional information regarding this process. Please contact us.

[Davidson Fellows Scholarship:](#)

- **Who can apply?** See below for information regarding the projects required to be considered for a Davidson Fellows Scholarship.
- **How do I apply?** This scholarship is awarded to students who prepare projects in one of eight categories (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Literature, Music, Philosophy, and Outside the Box). They are looking for projects that are at, or close to, graduate level work. You can find the requirements and project criteria for each category [here](#). You will need to submit the initial portion of your application (project title and description along with nominator’s names and email addresses) ASAP, because when your project is approved, your nominators will receive a form to fill out. The deadline of your project and your nominator forms is mid-February (in 2018 the date was February 14.)

[Don’t Text and Drive Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** All high school through college students are eligible.
- **How do I apply?** The link above is the application - it’s quick. Deadline is end of September.

[Edwards Scholarship Fund](#)

- **Who can apply?** Boston residents with a 2.0 minimum GPA (C average) who can show demonstrated financial need and a commitment to service.

- **How do I apply?** Use the “Apply Here” tab on the site above and submit your application by mid-March.

[Elks National Foundation Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** Students with demonstrated financial need, scholarship aptitude, and good citizenship.
- **How do I apply?** The link to the application can be found on the site above; it is due in mid-January.

[Gates Scholarship:](#)

- **Who can apply?** Pell-eligible, minority high school seniors with a minimum 3.3 weighted GPA (B+ average) and typically in the top 10% of their class. (Gates defines minority students as those who identify as African-American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian and Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American.) This is a selective national scholarship awarded to only 300 students annually. Students receive the full cost of attendance that is not already covered by other financial aid and Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the FAFSA.
- **How do I apply?** The link to apply is on the site above. The deadline is in mid-September (for 2018, the deadline is 9/18). There is a finalist interview phase.

[GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program](#)

- **Who can apply?** US Citizens with a minimum 3.0 GPA (B average) who demonstrate leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship. The foundation awards students \$10,000 each year for four years.
- **How do I apply?** When the application is available you can find it on the site above. Semifinalists must also be nominated by a community leader, which could be our Headmaster, an elected official, or director of a nonprofit.

[Henry David Thoreau Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** Massachusetts residents who show a commitment to the environment.
- **How do I apply?** A link to the online application can be found on the site above. It is due February 1.

[Horatio Alger Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** Students with a 2.0 GPA (C average) or better.
- **How do I apply?** Horatio Alger has a number of scholarships available (state, school-specific, national), and they are all on one application, due near the end of October. See link above for more information.

[Jack Kent Cooke Foundation College Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors with a 3.5 GPA or higher (B+ average or better) and testing of 1200 SAT or 26 ACT or above, with a family income of \$95,000 or less.

- **How do I apply?** JKC Scholarship applications are submitted through the Common App. The application is due in November of your senior year.

[JFK Presidential Library and Museum Profile in Courage Essay Contest](#)

- **Who can apply?** All US high school students.
- **How do I apply?** Write an essay describing and analyzing an act of political courage by a U.S. elected official who served during or after 1917. The winner of this contest wins \$10,000. The deadline is in mid-January.

[Junior Chamber International \(JCI\) Senate Foundation Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** All graduating seniors who are US Citizens are eligible. You must be planning to attend an accredited post-secondary college, university, or vocational school.
- **How do I apply?** The application link is available on the website above. It must be printed and postmarked no later than January 24. Send to Ed & Marilyn Lariviere, 19 Stetson St, Hyannis MA 02601.

[Massachusetts AFL-CIO Scholarship Awards Program](#)

- **Who can apply?** All graduating seniors in Massachusetts are eligible.
- **How do I apply?** The registration link is available on the site above. You must register by mid-December to take a labor history exam in February. The exam consists of 30 multiple choice questions and one written essay. Upon registration for the exam you will receive a study guide.

[Mensa Foundation Scholarships](#)

- **Who can apply?** All students enrolling in college next year are eligible. This is an essay contest, an essay is required.
- **How do I apply?** Link is available on the site above, due mid-January. Scholarship money is awarded to local winners *and* there is the possibility of moving on to receive regional and national money as well.

[Michael and Susan Dell Foundation](#)

- **Who can apply?** Pell-eligible students with a minimum GPA of 2.4 (C+ average).
- **How do I apply?** The application opens at the beginning of October and will be available via the link above. It is due at the beginning of December.

[National Association of Asian American Professionals Boston Chapter](#)

- **Who can apply?** US Citizens or permanent residents of Asian and/or Pacific Islander ethnicity. Applicants must have financial need as defined by the FAFSA.
- **How do I apply?** There is a link on the website (above) to apply. Work with the College Guidance office to send materials like your transcript. You must complete the FAFSA. The deadline is in early February.

[National Catholic College Admission Association \(NCCAA\) Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** Seniors who will be enrolling in any one of the NCCAA member colleges. You can search for member colleges [here](#).
- **How do I apply?** The link to the application can be found on the site above. The deadline is mid-March.

[Niche “No Essay” College Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** All high school and college students are eligible.
- **How do I apply?** There is a deadline on the last day of every month, and you can apply each month if you'd like. Winner selected by random drawing. Create an account using the link above to apply.

[NEACAC Essay Contest](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school juniors and seniors from the New England states.
- **How do I apply?** You must submit a 500-word essay using the application on the site above by early April.

[Omega Scholarships](#)

- **Who can apply?** Juniors and seniors in New England who work in some capacity with older citizens. (We encourage those who do Connected Living to apply for this scholarship).
- **How do I apply?** You can find a link to the application at the site above. The application is due at the end of March.

[Ouimet Scholarship:](#)

- **Who can apply?** Employees of golf courses for 2+ years. This could include caddies or individuals who work in Pro Shop Ops, on-course snack shacks, etc.
- **How do I apply?** Request an online application using the link above by December 1.

[Pilgrim Skating Arena Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors.
- **How do I apply?** You must pick up the scholarship application in person at the pro shop of the Pilgrim Skating Arena in Hingham (75 Recreation Park Drive). You can do so between mid-February and mid-April, and the application is due in mid-April. You must sign a log-in sheet upon picking up *and* dropping off the application.

[Red Pine Scholars Program](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors whose families Adjusted Gross Income is \$80,000 or less.
- **How do I apply?** Use the link above to access the application form. Required documents include (most of these materials already exist from your college applications and can be tweaked for the purpose of this scholarship!): the Online Application Form, Extracurricular Form, Teacher or Counselor Recommendation, General

Recommendation Letter, one long and two short essays, Transcript, and Financial Aid forms including your most recent IRS 1040 tax forms and the Student Aid Report from the FAFSA. The application is due mid-February.

[Richard Patton Melick Foundation Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors who reside in Needham.
- **How do I apply?** Submit the online application (found on the site above) by mid-April of your senior year. The application requires one reference letter (which the College Office will happily provide) as well as an essay.

[Rockland Trust Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school seniors who reside in a Rockland Trust service area (as far as we can tell this should cover Boston and most of its suburbs). Students must be in the top 50% of their class (see Ms. Reynolds with questions about this).
- **How do I apply?** Use the link above to access the online application. It is due in mid-March.

[Ron Brown Scholarship:](#)

- **Who can apply?** Community-minded and intellectually gifted African American students. The scholarship awarded is \$10,000 each year at any four-year institution.
- **How do I apply?** You can [download the application here](#). It must be mailed to the address listed on the form. The deadline is January 9th each year.

[Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school students in New England with a 3.0 GPA (B average) or higher who have demonstrated financial need.
- **How do I apply?** The application becomes available in January and you will be able to find information on the site above. The deadline is May 1st; you will have already enrolled at a college when applying for this scholarship.

[Too Cool to Pay for School Scholarship](#)

- **Who can apply?** High school juniors through graduate students.
- **How do I apply?** There are quarterly deadlines for this \$1,000 scholarship - March, June, December, and September. Apply quickly with link above.

[Union Plus Scholarship:](#)

- **Who can apply?** Dependent children of current or retired members of participating unions. The participating union members must have one year of continuous union membership. They recommend a 3.0 minimum GPA (B average).
- **How do I apply?** Use the yellow "Apply Now" button on the site linked above to apply by January 31. Amounts range from \$500 to \$4,000. You must reapply each year you wish to receive this scholarship.

[VFW Scout of the Year Award](#)

- **Who can apply?** Active members of a Boy Scout troop who have received the Eagle Scout Award. Awards are up to \$5,000.
- **How do I apply?** The application link is available on the site above.

[Wellesley Service League Centennial Youth Service Award](#)

- **Who can apply?** Wellesley residents.
- **How do I apply?** The application can be found using the link above. The deadline is the end of March.

[Yawkey Scholars Program](#)

- **Who can apply?** Massachusetts residents who are enrolling in a competitive private Massachusetts college or have one in their top four “considering” list. You must have a family Adjusted Gross Income of \$100,000 or less and/or an Expected Family Contribution of \$15,000 or less.
- **How do I apply?** [This link will take you to the application portal](#) - the application is due mid-February.

INSTITUTION-SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

VARIOUS Historically Black Colleges and Universities (including Morehouse, not including Howard):

- [UNCF Scholarships:](#)
 - **Who is it for?** Black students enrolling at HBCU’s that are part of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). Their list of member colleges can be found [here](#).
 - **How do I apply?** There are a number of UNCF scholarships. Some are STEM-specific, others are business oriented, etc. You can find a list on the site above, but each will have a different deadline and preferred application platform.

BC:

- [Gabelli Presidential Scholars:](#)
 - **Who is it for?** Select students of outstanding talent and character applying to Boston College.
 - **How do I apply?** Simply apply to BC Early Action by 11/1. There is no separate form.

BU:

- [Presidential Scholarship:](#)
 - **Who is it for?** Approximately 5% of incoming BU freshman, selected by the Board of Admissions.
 - **How do I apply?** Simply apply to BU by December 1. Submit *official* SAT or ACT scores.

- [Trustee Scholarship:](#)
 - **Who is it for?** BU students who show outstanding academic and leadership abilities. Many have perfect high school GPA's and were ranked in the top 5-10% of their class.
 - **How do I apply?** A link to application information is available on the page above. You will need to apply to BU by December 1st and provide two additional essays in your Common Application.

Case Western Reserve University

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Outstanding applicants to Case Western.
 - **How do I apply?** Applicants to Case Western are automatically considered for the University, Bolton, and Michelson-Morley STEM Scholarships. There are twelve other scholarships, however, that require separate applications, the links for which can be found on the site above.

University of Chicago:

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Outstanding applicants to UChicago.
 - **How do I apply?** Simply apply to UChicago; there is no separate application.

Davidson:

- [Belk Scholarship:](#)
 - **Who is it for?** Select students applying Davidson who demonstrate academic excellence and purposeful engagement in the classroom, in student and civic organizations, on the athletic field, or in the arts.
 - **How do I apply?** The RL College Counseling office must nominate you for this scholarship, and you must apply to Davidson by 5pm on December 1.

Duke:

- [Merit Scholarships:](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Select students applying to Duke.
 - **How do I apply?** All applicants to Duke are automatically considered for any available merit scholarships with the exception of the Robertson Scholarship (below).
- [Robertson Scholarship](#)
 - **Who is this for?** There are about 35 Robertson Scholars each year, attending either Duke or UNC-Chapel Hill. They are looking for students who demonstrate purposeful leadership, intellectual curiosity, strength of character, and collaborative spirit.
 - **How do I apply?** [Use this link](#) to apply by November 15. Semifinalists will do a Skype Interview and Finalists will be invited to campus for a weekend.

Emory:

- [Emory Scholars Program](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Select students applying to Emory, regardless of US citizenship.
 - **How do I apply?** There is no separate application for the Emory Scholars Program, but you must submit all of your application materials to Emory by November 15 (or, if you are applying EDI, by the EDI November 1 deadline). You must answer “yes” to the question on the Emory application that asks: “Do you wish to be considered for scholars merit?” If you are a finalist, you will be invited to a Scholar Finalists Visit Program on campus.

Fordham:

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Applicants to Fordham who represent the top of the applicant pool. Fordham also offers full tuition scholarships for some National Merit Semifinalists and Finalists.
 - **How do I apply?** There is no separate application for these merit awards; simply apply to Fordham.

Hobart and William Smith Colleges:

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Outstanding applicants to Hobart.
 - **How do I apply?** Use the link above to learn if the scholarship for which you are applying requires additional materials. Then, use this [Scholarship Application](#) to apply. The deadline is November 15 for Early applicants and January 15 for RD applicants.

College of the Holy Cross:

- [Henry Bean, S.J., Scholarships](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Two enrolling Holy Cross students who will major in Classics.
 - **How do I apply?** Applicants fill out the application form, a personal essay describing their background in Classical studies, and at least two letters of recommendation – one must be from a Classics teacher. Applicants must also submit their SAT score – Math, ERW, and Writing – as well as a Latin SATII or AP Latin score. Holy Cross also encourages an interview during the fall semester.

University of North Carolina:

- [Morehead-Cain](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Applicants to UNC Chapel Hill. Morehead-Cain values leadership, character, scholarship, and physical vigor. Applicants to

Morehead-Cain cannot apply binding ED to other colleges or universities while under consideration for the scholarship.

- **How do I apply?** Roxbury Latin School must nominate students to apply for Morehead-Cain. If nominated, the application deadline is October 1, and semi-finalists will participate in a video interview. 130 finalists are invited to campus for a Selection Weekend.
- [Robertson Scholarship](#) (See Duke)
- [UNC Scholars Program, Old Well and Founders Scholarships, College Fellow Scholarships, and MacDonald Community Service Scholarships](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Select students applying to UNC-Chapel Hill
 - **How do I apply?** Simply apply to UNC Chapel Hill. There is no separate application.

Northeastern University:

- Merit Scholarships
 - **Who are these for?** Students in the top 10-15% of Northeastern's applicant pool. (For perspective, their mid-50% range of enrolling students is 680-750 in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, 690-770 in Math, and 32-34 in the ACT.)
 - **How do I apply?** Simply apply to Northeastern by the January 1 deadline. All applicants are considered.
- [Torch Scholars Program](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Select first-generation college students applying to Northeastern.
 - **How do I apply?** Students must be nominated by Roxbury Latin (either your counselor or a teacher). Finalists interview in February, submit three essays, and participate in a non-cognitive assessment to review emotional, interpersonal, experiential, attitudinal, and motivational styles.

Northwestern:

- [Founders Scholarship](#):
 - **Who is it for?** Select students from middle-income families applying to Northwestern.
 - **How do I apply?** There is no separate application for this scholarship; eligibility is reviewed during the normal financial aid review process. You do need to maintain a 3.0 GPA at Northwestern to renew the scholarship each year.

University of Notre Dame:

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Outstanding applicants to Notre Dame.
 - **How to I apply?** Simply apply to Notre Dame; there is no separate application.

Oberlin College:

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Various students enrolling at Oberlin in the College of Arts and Sciences or the Conservatory. Oberlin also sponsors additional scholarship money for National Merit Finalists.
 - **How do I apply?** Indicate on your Oberlin application that you are applying for merit award money.

Tulane:

- [Partial and Full-Tuition Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?**
 - **How do I apply?** Partial scholarships at Tulane require no additional application; simply apply to Tulane. Full Tuition Scholarships, however, require additional materials. Their Dean's Honor Scholarship requires the submission of a creative project *by December 5*. That application also allows students to be considered for the Stamps Scholarship, although that award is only for students who apply to Tulane Early Action or Early Decision. The Paul Tulane award requires an Early Action or Early Decision application to Tulane along with two additional writing components (students can apply [here](#)). Additional scholarships require a separate scholarship application, found on your application portal, with a deadline of January 15.

Vanderbilt:

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for?** There are three full-tuition awards (Ingram Scholarship, Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship, and Chancellor's Scholarship) given to about 250 entering students who represent the top of Vanderbilt's applicant pool. There are a handful of other smaller scholarships available as well.
 - **How do I apply?** You *must* apply to Vanderbilt *before* December 1 (even if you are applying Regular Decision), and then log in to your application portal and submit the **Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship application by December 1**. You cannot access this application until you've submitted a Vanderbilt application. This application allows you to be considered for all of their merit awards.

University of Vermont:

- [Presidential Scholarship, Trustees Scholarship, Grossman School of Business Scholarship, CEMS Scholars Program, and the College of Arts and Sciences Liberal Arts Scholarship](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Select students applying to UVM
 - **How do I apply?** Simply apply to UVM. There is no separate application and all applicants are considered eligible.
- [Community Service Scholarship](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Students applying to UVM who demonstrate exceptional commitment to service.

- **How do I apply?** Apply separately for this scholarship in addition to applying to UVM. The application deadline is March 9 (or thereabouts – this deadline was from 2018).
- [Simon Family Scholarship](#)
 - **Who is this for?** Students applying to UVM College of Arts and Sciences who demonstrate outstanding academic merit, financial need, leadership and/or volunteering.
 - **How do I apply?** Apply separately for this scholarship in addition to applying to UVM. You must submit the FAFSA as well. Finalists will be invited to interview. The deadline is January 22 (or thereabouts -t his deadline was from 2018).

University of Virginia:

- [Jefferson Scholarship](#)
 - **Who is it for?** Academic high fliers applying to UVA – students who UVA deems “future leaders.”
 - **How do I apply?** You must be nominated by Roxbury Latin School by December 1 in order to be considered. Students then work with their primary counselor to complete an application, which includes two essays. Students then must apply to UVA by the January 1 deadline. 120 Finalists are invited to UVA for Selection Weekend in March. This weekend includes seminars, a written exercise, a math/logic exam, and a personal interview.

Washington University in St. Louis:

- [A list of available scholarships \(both school-wide and program-specific\) is available here.](#)
 - **Who are these for?** Select students applying to WashU St. Louis
 - **How do I apply?** After applying to WashU, you must activate your WashU Pathway Account (you will likely be instructed via email how to do this once you submit your application, but a link is also available on the page above). Then you must submit a separate application for each scholarship you are interested in receiving by January 5. (NOTE: 1/5 was the deadline this past year. Check the website again to see if that date has changed at all.)

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

- [Various Merit Scholarships](#)
 - **Who are these for** Outstanding applicants to WPI.
 - **How do I apply?** There are no separate applications for most of these awards. The exceptions are the [FIRST Scholarship](#) and [VEX Scholarship](#), which require participation in FIRST or VEX Robotics in high school.