

How To Pay For College

ADVICE - Set Up a New Email Account JUST For Scholarships: My advice to you is to create a separate email account JUST for scholarships. Once you start applying to scholarships on these websites you will start getting a lot of emails that you won't want to have to filter through your regular emails. Ideally, you will be applying for scholarships for the next 2-4 years.

BE AWARE: Before you accept any scholarships, review these [scholarship tips](#). In addition, be [wary of any scholarship search companies](#) charging fees, guaranteeing scholarships, and asking for your credit card or checking account information to receive a scholarship. The scholarships that I advertise are legit to help ease your mind.

STEPS to take in applying for Scholarships:

1. **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – Likely open December 2024. They are updating and making changes. Here is a [FAFSA video](#) to get familiar with how FAFSA works. Note: once you want the first video you will see that there are other videos on the right hand side to see the changes that have been made. Meanwhile, stay tuned and read your emails to know when the FAFSA application will open sometime in December. For the most up-to-date information and resources, visit our Anoka-Hennepin Career Center Financial Aid Website [here](#)
2. [Scholarship List](#) - updated regularly and organized by deadline - look ahead so you know what you need for each scholarship. If they ask for a letter of rec(s), you should give teachers/staff at least 2 weeks to write it. You could go back to the same people who wrote you letters of recs for college admissions. Note: letters of rec for scholarships are **NOT** uploaded in Scoir. Every scholarship has different submission requirements.
3. [North Star Promise Scholarship](#) - Be a Minnesota resident, have a family Adjusted Gross Income* (AGI) as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Minnesota Dream Act Application below \$80,000 and planning to attend a Minnesota 2 or 4 year public higher education institution or Tribal College. More detailed information click on link above
4. Several MN private colleges are offering their own promise scholarships similar to the North Star one above. Make sure you check out each MN private college and what they are offering.
5. [Scholarships offered by MN Institutions](#)
6. **Out of State Colleges** - Google each school that YOU have been accepted into.

Example - University of River Falls Scholarships. It will give you links to scholarships available at the schools that you are looking up.

7. **Raise Me** - Earn micro-scholarships from colleges for your achievements as early as 9th grade - <https://www.raise.me/>

8. **Jobs and Churches** - ask your church, your place of employment and your parents' place of employment if they offer scholarships.

9. **Coon Rapids Community Scholarships** – You will be receiving emails in February from Ms. Corneil-Smith informing you on opportunities to apply for the CRHS Community Scholarships. Last year, there were 165 scholarships given to CR Seniors and the community donated over 240,000. Important to keep that GPA up!

10. **How to find scholarships in MCIS**

1. CRHS homepage and Login
2. Scroll down to the MCIS icon
3. Once you are in MCIS, click on "education" at the top
4. Scroll down and click on "scholarships"

11. **Get a Job** - try to get a job that pays well by the hour to help save for college - [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com)

More Opportunities for Scholarships...

Scholarships are awarded based on a student's academic or athletic achievement, cultural or religious background, or special skills and talents.

While you might wonder how to find scholarships, in reality the majority of students receive scholarships given to them from the institution they attend. An institution might offer you a scholarship when you apply. Or, you might need to complete a separate application to receive an institutional scholarship.

[Minnesota Office of Higher Education Resources](#)

[Navigate MN/Unidos MN Education Fund](#)

[Native American Scholarships 101](#)

[College Savings Plan and Financial Aid](#)

Minnesota state government scholarships for specific student groups:

- [Minnesota Indian Scholarship](#)

- [Minnesota Academic Excellence Scholarship](#)
- [Minnesota Educational Assistance for War Orphans](#)
- [Minnesota Veterans' Dependents Assistance Program](#)
- [Education Vouchers for Former Youth In Care](#)
- [Other Minnesota financial aid programs specific to students from special circumstances](#)

Databases for Scholarships:

<https://www.raise.me/>

<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

<https://www.onlineschools.org/financial-aid/disabilities/>

<https://www.fastweb.com/financial-aid/articles/financial-aid-for-students-with-disabilities>

<https://scholarshipamerica.org>

Top Rated National Scholarship Websites

[Fastweb.com](https://www.fastweb.com)

[Collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)

[Niche.com](https://niche.com)

[Scholarships.com](https://scholarships.com)

[Scholarship Monkey](https://scholarshipmonkey.com)

[Cappex.com](https://cappex.com)

[Chegg.com](https://chegg.com)

[Unigo.com](https://unigo.com)

[My Scholly.com](https://myscholly.com)

[Going Merry](https://goingmerry.com)

[Scholarship Owl](https://scholarshipowl.com)

[Bold.org](https://bold.org)

[Dollars for Scholars](#)