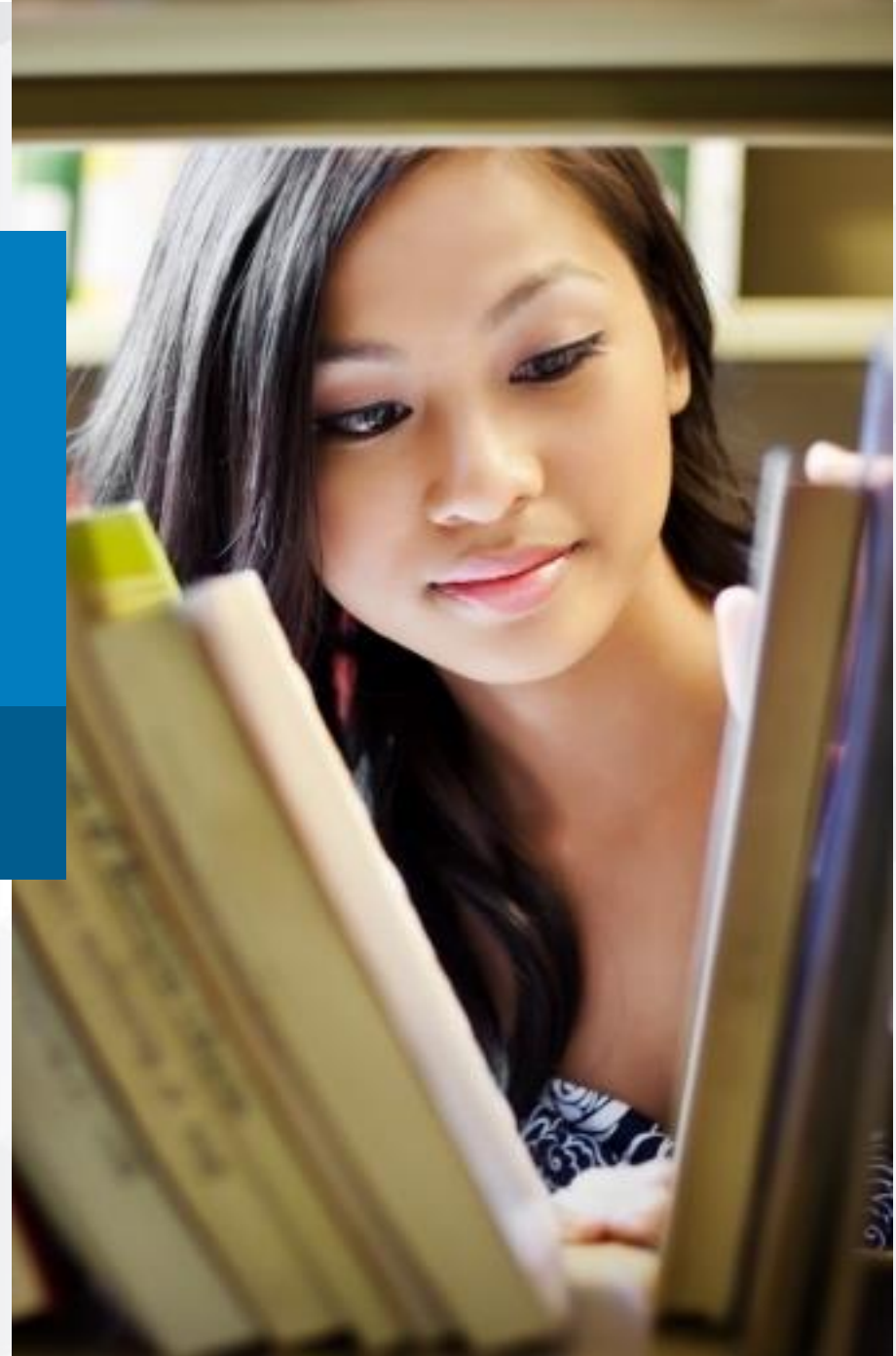


Let Others Pay!

Tips On Searching For Scholarships



Presenters



Amy Sloan

Higher Education Access Partner

Crawford, Erie, McKean, Mercer, Potter and Warren Counties



Julie Fontana

Higher Education Access Partner

Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Huntingdon, Indiana and Somerset Counties

Questions ?



We will be taking questions using the Chat feature. Click the chat bubble to see the feature box on the right of your screen. Please address all questions to everyone.

Money for School

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- **Grants**- FREE Money
- **Work Study**- have to work to earn money
- **Loans**- must be repaid

Scholarships - Financial Aid Award- not required to be repaid



Why apply for Scholarships?

- ✓ It is like using coupons!
- ✓ It is FREE money that does not have to be repaid!

\$1000 Scholarship

- $\$8.00 \times 125 \text{ hours} = \$1,000$
- Requires 15 hours of work a week for 8 weeks
- Two hours of work to complete a scholarship application = \$500 per hour



What is the magic formula
for getting a scholarship?

Qualifications for Scholarships

- Athletics, Esports
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Art
- Community and volunteer service
- Academics
- After-school or summer jobs
- Ethnicity
- Special interests (hobbies, club membership, activities, church, etc.)
- Leadership qualities





Where to Search for Scholarships?

- Postsecondary Schools
- Locally
- National



Scholarships from Postsecondary Schools

- Scholarships differ from school to school
- Can be awarded based on merit or financial need
- Renewable or non-renewable
- Understand the application process for each school and deadlines.
- Test Scores (SAT/ACT) maybe optional for Admission, however schools may require to award scholarship money.

- DEWALT Trade Scholarship
- National Association of Women in Construction Scholarship
- Lockheed Martin Vocational Scholarship Program
- Imagine America Foundation
- Women in Trades
- Mike Rowe Work Ethic Scholarship Program

Scholarships for Trade or Vocational School



Local/Regional Scholarships

Local organizations

banks, credit unions, stores, restaurants, religious affiliations; clubs/organizations in which parents or students are involved, employers

Regional/state-wide organizations

labor unions, associations, foundations and non-profit groups

Guidance office

Scholarships specific to students at that school, county or region



Pittsburgh Foundation.org/scholarships

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diversity, equity, inclusion donors nonprofits our community scholarships professional advisors

For our community, for good, forever.

Scholarship opportunities available to students in our five county footprint of Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lebanon, and Perry Counties.

Partnering with donors to achieve their charitable goals and support local communities by investing in them now and for future generations.



Donors



Nonprofits



Community



Scholarships



Advisors

urbanleaguephila.org



**Urban League of
Philadelphia**

Community Scholarship Program

Since 2003, the Urban League of Philadelphia (ULP) has provided over 540 Philadelphia-area high school seniors with scholarships. Through the generosity of our donors, ULP has awarded nearly \$1,000,000 in scholarship dollars.

Double your Scholarship Money!

Through Partnerships for Access to Higher Education (PATH) Program, qualifying students who have already been awarded a scholarship or grant by one of our PHEAA PATH Partners and are receiving a PA State Grant, may be eligible for additional money.

- PHEAA matches scholarships up to \$3,500
- Check out [PHEAA.org/PATH](https://www.pheaa.org/PATH) for more information.

National Scholarships

There is increased competition for national scholarships.

- Mike Rowe Works Foundation
- Live Mas Scholarship –Taco Bell
- Cameron Impact Scholarship
- Equitable Excellence Scholarship
- Coca Cola Scholars
- QuestBridge
- BigFuture Scholarships
- Doodle4Google



Online Scholarship Search Engines



A silver laptop is shown from a front-facing perspective, slightly angled. The screen is dark gray and displays a list of eight online scholarship search engines in white text. The text is centered and arranged in a vertical list. The laptop has a thin bezel and a small camera lens at the top center of the screen.

Fastweb.com
GoingMerry.com
Scholarshipowl.com
Scholarships.com
Cappex.com
Collegeboard.org
Scholarshipamerica.org
Bold.org

Scholarship Application Tips





Prepare

- Start searching before your senior year
- Learn the process
- Take advantage of volunteer opportunities
- Join clubs, activities and sports you are interested in
- Work toward a leadership (officer of a club) or captain role
- Don't wait until senior year to sign up for everything
- Clean up Social Media accounts

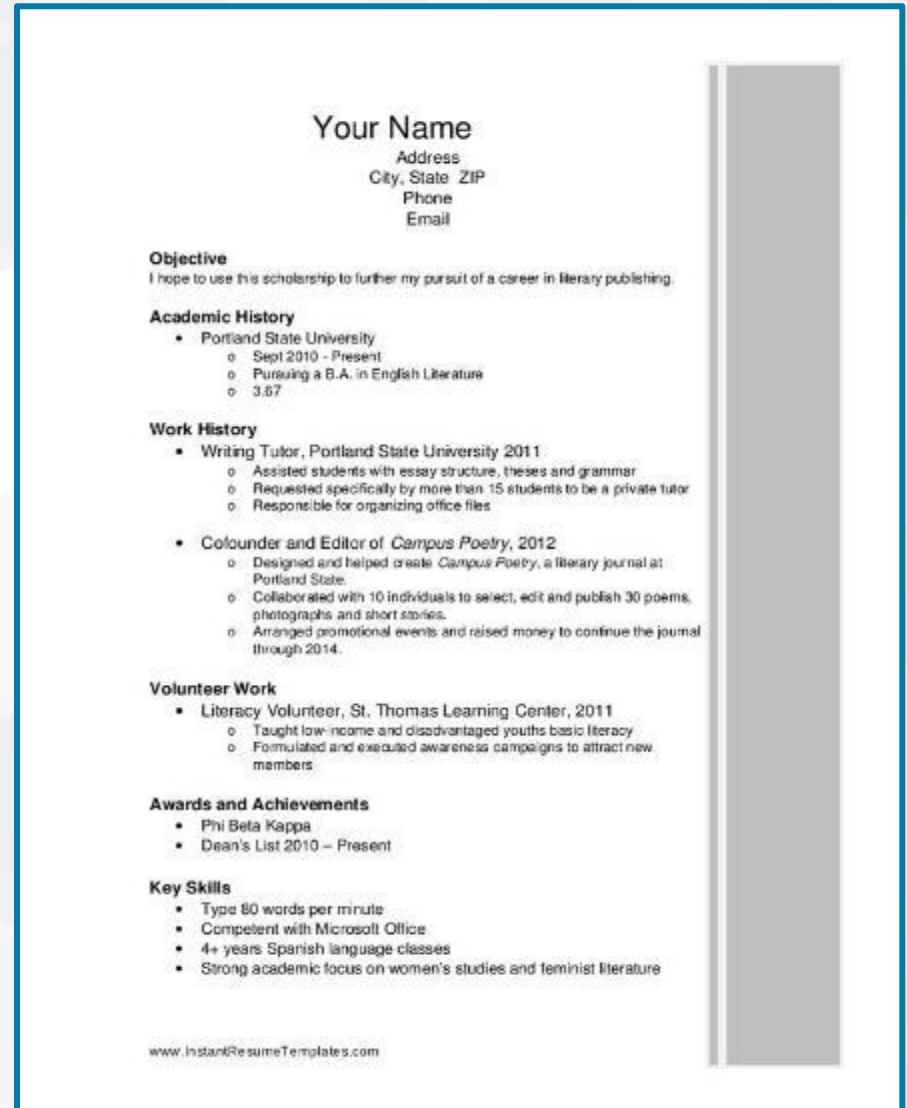
Scholarship Resume

Create a Resume

- Academics – Honor/AP courses, grades, GPA, class rank, test scores
- Personal / Performance – sports, music, art, leadership, achievements
- Extra Curricular Activities – jobs, hobbies
- Volunteerism, Community Activities, Employment

What makes you stand out?

- Besides grades, class rank, test scores



Your Name
Address
City, State ZIP
Phone
Email

Objective
I hope to use this scholarship to further my pursuit of a career in literary publishing.

Academic History

- Portland State University
 - Sept 2010 - Present
 - Pursuing a B.A. in English Literature
 - 3.67

Work History

- Writing Tutor, Portland State University 2011
 - Assisted students with essay structure, theses and grammar
 - Requested specifically by more than 15 students to be a private tutor
 - Responsible for organizing office files
- Colounder and Editor of *Campus Poetry*, 2012
 - Designed and helped create *Campus Poetry*, a literary journal at Portland State.
 - Collaborated with 10 individuals to select, edit and publish 30 poems, photographs and short stories.
 - Arranged promotional events and raised money to continue the journal through 2014.

Volunteer Work

- Literacy Volunteer, St. Thomas Learning Center, 2011
 - Taught low-income and disadvantaged youths basic literacy
 - Formulated and executed awareness campaigns to attract new members

Awards and Achievements

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Dean's List 2010 – Present

Key Skills

- Type 80 words per minute
- Competent with Microsoft Office
- 4+ years Spanish language classes
- Strong academic focus on women's studies and feminist literature

www.InstantResumeTemplates.com

Create a list of Unique Traits

- Personal interests and passions
- Extracurricular activities
- Career interests or goals
- Hardships you or your family have endured (sickness, cancer, loss of a family member, natural disaster)
- Sex/Gender
- Personality traits – sense of humor, leadership
- Ethnicity
- Academic Accomplishments



Write an Amazing Essay

- Be familiar with the essay prompt and stick to it
- Don't repeat what is already in the scholarship application
- Tell a story with your essay – who you are, where you've come and where you are going
- Make it personal
- Sell yourself but also be humble
- Proofread
- Get feedback from a teacher
- Recycle essays for other scholarship applications





Common Scholarship Essay Questions

- Why do you deserve this scholarship?
- Describe a time you demonstrated leadership.
- What person do you admire the most? Why?
- Where do you see yourself in ten years from now?
- Describe a challenge you have overcome.



Build a Scholarship Toolbox

- Letters of recommendation from teachers, mentors, employers (give adequate notice and copy of scholarship applying for)
- Proof of Volunteer/Community Service hours
- Know where to get class rank and current GPA
- Know your SAT or ACT scores
- File your FAFSA and have a copy of your Student Aid Report (for scholarships based on financial need)
- Copy of essays written

Scholarship Scams – Watch for Red Flags

A red flag is shown flying on a pole, set against a background of a blue sky and a body of water with whitecaps. The flag is the central visual element on the left side of the slide.

- Asking for money or credit card information
- “Guaranteed” or your money back
- The offer includes no contact information, such as a valid email address, phone number, and mailing address (a P.O. Box doesn't count).
- You must attend a free seminar to be considered for the scholarship.
- The offer is filled with typos and spelling errors. For example, "scholarship" is spelled "scholorship”

Scholarship Application Tips



- Read the directions
- Devote 2-3 hours a week searching for scholarships
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships every year you attend school
- Don't write your essay or answer questions as if you are texting a friend
- Don't ignore scholarships with smaller award amounts
- Proofread the application
- Don't miss deadlines!





Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship

'Imagine that your high school/college has been overrun with Zombies. Your math professor, the cafeteria ladies and even your best friend have all joined the walking dead. Use your brain to flesh out a plan to avoid the Zombies, including where you would hide and the top 5 things you would bring with you to stay alive.'

\$2,000 award



Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship

REAL

'Imagine that your high school/college has been overrun with Zombies. Your math professor, the cafeteria ladies and even your best friend have all joined the walking dead. Use your brain to flesh out a plan to avoid the Zombies, including where you would hide and the top 5 things you would bring with you to stay alive.'

\$2,000 award



The Chick and Sophie Major Memorial Duck Calling Contest

**The Chick and Sophie
Major Memorial Duck
Calling Contest is
available to high school
seniors who demonstrate
talent in duck calling.**



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REAL

Apps and Game Scholarship

Strong academic performance, desire to attend a four year college or community college and interest in video games.

\$35 Application Fee



Apps and Game Scholarship

Strong academic performance, desire to attend a four year college or community college and interest in video games.

\$35 Application Fee

NOT REAL





The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes

A program of the nonprofit organization Young Heroes Project, celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young people from diverse backgrounds all across North America.

The Barron Prize annually **honors young leaders ages 8 to 18** who have made a significant positive impact on people, their communities, and the environment.

Each year, 25 winners receive \$10,000 scholarships for community service.



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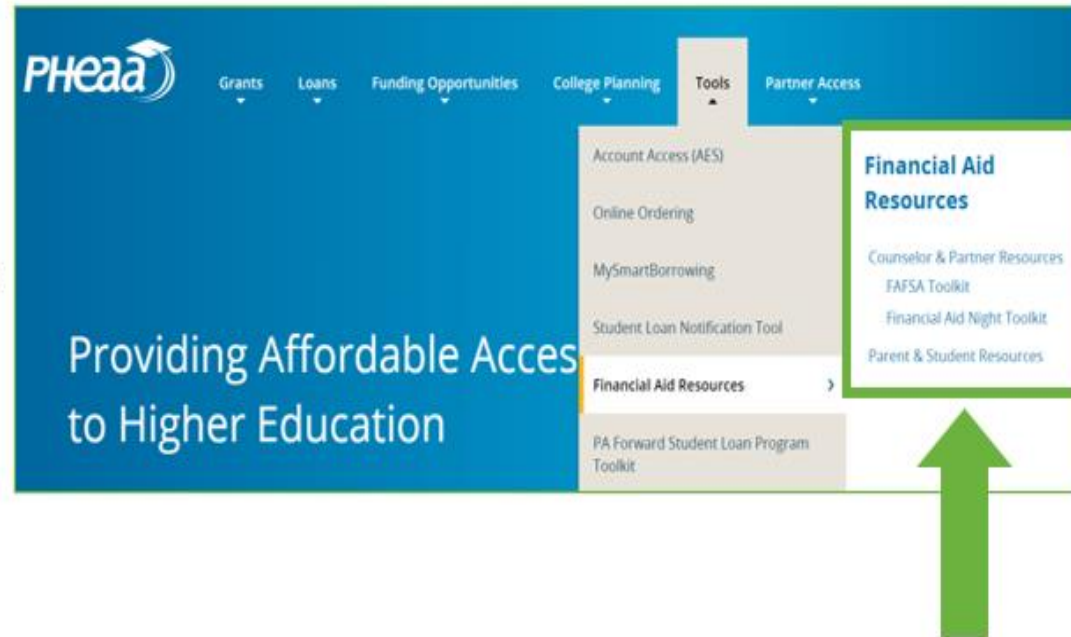
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REAL

Resources and Toolkit Links

Quick links to pages:

- pheaa.org/ResourcesStudents
- pheaa.org/ResourcesCounselors
- pheaa.org/ResourcesFAFSA
- pheaa.org/ResourcesNights





Scholarship Success Story

Mikayla Dokos

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftxnrBOw-LE

Questions?

Amy Sloan

amy.sloan@pheaa.org

Julie Fontana

julie.fontana@pheaa.org



Thank You!



Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency