

Searching for Financial Assistance Online



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MOSTARS is the student assistance division of the Missouri Department of Higher Education

Keep the following tips in mind when using the Internet or scholarship search organizations to find student financial assistance for education and training after high school:

- ★ First, ask about possible sources of financial assistance in your local community and state, such as businesses, community groups, schools, religious and civic organizations.
- ★ Your local library may have scholarship books available in the reference section.
- ★ Be cautious of scholarship scams. Visit the Federal Trade Commission online at www.ftc.gov for more information.
- ★ You should not be required to provide credit card information to use a free scholarship search.
- ★ Many online financial assistance search services request information about you in order to find financial assistance programs you may be eligible for. Some of these companies may send you information about other services that they provide or even sell your information to another company. Read the fine print carefully.
- ★ Many online financial assistance search services list duplicate programs; however, the more services you use, the greater your chances of finding additional programs.
- ★ If you are interested in federal student loans, do not apply for them online through online financial assistance search services. Instead, contact the financial aid office at the school you are planning to attend and ask about the process to apply for student loans.

American Indian College Fund: www.collegefund.org/faq.shtm; financial aid for tribal colleges

American Indian Higher Education Consortium: www.aihec.org; scholarship information for Native American students

Back to College Resources for Re-Entry Students: www.back2college.com; scholarship information for adult and returning students, minorities, women, and graduate and professional students

College Connection: www.collegescholarships.com; free scholarship information page

College Fund/UNCF: www.unitednegrocollegefund.org; scholarships for students who attend United Negro College Fund colleges and universities

College Link: www.collegelink.com/clnk/scholarship/; database of scholarships that doesn't require personal information

CollegeNet Mach 25: mach25.collegenet.com; database of scholarships

EDUPREP: www.eduprep.com/Default.asp; scholarship database, ACT/SAT preparation, college admissions and tours, and admissions essay assistance

Fastaid: www.fastaid.com; private sector scholarship database

FastWEB: www.fastweb.com; scholarship search, tips on careers and financial aid, finding a college

Free Scholarship Search Information Service (FreSch!): www.freschinfo.com; references 169,938 scholarship awards, special area for adult learners

Fund Finder (by the College Board): www.collegeboard.org/fundfinder; search more than 3,300 national, state, public, and private financial assistance programs

GOCOLLEGE: www.gocollege.com; searches the databases of more than 8,000 funding sources and 600,000 individual awards

Graduate School Fellowship Notebook: www.cornell.edu/Student/GRFN/; database of fellowships for graduate students

Guide to Hispanic Financial Aid Opportunities: www.hispanicscholarship.com; scholarships, grants, and other financial assistance sources for Latino students

Hispanic College Fund: hispanicfund.org; scholarships for Hispanic undergraduate students majoring in business

Military.com Scholarship Search: www.military.com/Careers/Education/ScholarshipSearch/; financial assistance for the military community

Minority On-Line Information Service: content.sciencewise.com/molis/index.htm; scholarship opportunities for minority applicants

Scholarly Societies Project: www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/society/subjects_soc.html; locate scholarships by academic field of study

Scholarship Page: www.scholarship-page.com; search for scholarships by keyword or browse list

Scholarship Resource Network Express: www.srnexpress.com; searchable database of private-sector, non-need-based aid

Scholarship.com: www.scholarships.com; scholarship search and financial aid resource

Scholarships, Fellowships and Postdoctoral Awards: scholarships.kachintach.com; financial assistance for college, graduate school, and postgraduate study by category

Study Abroad Scholarships for Undergraduate Students: www.istc.umn.edu/html/misc_schol.html; financial assistance for undergraduate students studying abroad

Wired Scholar: www.wiredscholar.com; financial aid database; college preparation, selection, and application information