



February 2015 Scholarship Newsletter

Remaining 2014-2015 test dates

SAT		ACT	
<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Register by</u>	<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Register by</u>
March 14	February 13	February 7	January 9
May 2	April 6	April 18	March 13
June 6	May 8	June 13	May 8

To sign up for the SAT: www.collegeboard.com / To sign up for the ACT: www.actstudent.org

*Remember to bring Ms. Bimson your acceptance letters and scholarship notifications as you receive them!
YES, we want copies of them even if you aren't going to go there or accept that scholarship.*

The 2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now OPEN at www.fafsa.gov

This is the online form that you must fill out in order to be eligible for ANY federally funded need-based grants and/or loans to help pay for college. It is FREE to fill out. If you are attending college next year, you should fill it out. You will need your parents' tax information to fill it out, and you should fill it out ASAP!

Remind your parents that they should complete and turn in their W2's as soon as possible.

A complete, step-by-step guide to completing the FAFSA can be found at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2014-15-completing-fafsa.pdf>

Do you think you will need help completing your FAFSA? CFNC is sponsoring FAFSA DAY on February 28, 2015. Financial aid representatives will be on hand at local bank branches to help you complete and submit your FAFSA.

For more information and to register for this FREE opportunity, go to CFNC.org/FAFSADAY

There is no deadline to fill out the FAFSA, but you should do it as soon as possible so that you can be eligible for as many financial aid opportunities as possible!



next to a scholarship means that this is a NEW scholarship listing for this month.

Western Carolina University Endowed Scholarships

Amount: varies

Criteria: Western Carolina University awards many endowed scholarships to incoming freshman. Some are merit-based and some are need-based; if you are applying for need-based scholarships, make sure you complete your FAFSA by March 1. For more information on available scholarships visit: <http://www.wcu.edu/current-students/scholarships/>

To apply: complete the scholarship application at <https://scholarcat.wcu.edu/Default.asp>

Deadline: Varies but your FAFSA must be completed by March 1, 2015 to qualify for need-based scholarships.

WACE National Co-op Scholarship Program

Amount: \$6,000 per year at applicable colleges and universities

Criteria: These scholarships are available to high school seniors who plan to participate in college cooperative education at one of the partner institutions: Clarkson University, SUNY Oswego, Drexel University, University of Cincinnati, Johnson and Wales, University of Mass at Lowell, Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Toledo, Wentworth Institute of Technology or Merrimack College. Applicants must have a min. 3.5 GPA, be accepted to one of the institutions listed above, and complete an essay.

To apply: <http://waceinc.org/scholarship/index.html>

Deadline: Varies based on college but begins November 2014-February 2015. Early applications are encouraged.

Elon University Watson Scholars Scholarship

Amount: Fourteen \$21,000 scholarships are awarded

Criteria: These scholarships are geared towards students who will bring cultural or socioeconomic diversity to Elon. Applicants should be first generation college students, have achieved success despite hardship or unusual challenge, have not have the opportunity for enriching educational or personal experience due to personal circumstances or socioeconomic factors, and have excellent potential to benefit from an Elon education. Students should have strong academic and leadership potential. For more information visit: http://www.elon.edu/e-web/admissions/FinancialAid/watson_odysey.xhtml

To apply: Complete your application for admission to Elon University by January 10, 2015 www.elon.edu/apply
Complete your Watson and Odyssey Scholarship Application at the same website.

Deadline: Apply to Elon by January 10th; complete Watson Scholars application by February 10, 2015

SportsQuest Playing with a Purpose Program

Amount: Four \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded

Criteria: Christian Student Athletes who are in 10th-12th grade, maintain a "C" grade average or higher and play at least one varsity level sport are eligible to apply.

To apply: Visit www.playingwithpurpose.org

Deadline: February 1, 2015

NCSEAA Jagannathan Scholarship

Amount: Variable

Criteria: Given to a graduating high school senior who will attend one of the UNC system schools. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement (usually a 3.5 GPA or higher and SAT scores of 1100 or above), financial need, extracurricular activities, leadership and community service.

To apply: You will need a copy of your transcript, SAT scores, an essay, and a letter of reference. You must apply through your CFNC account at www.cfnc.org/jag

Deadline: You must complete the electronic application AND submit your FAFSA by **February 1, 2015.**

America's Farmers Grow Ag Leaders Scholarship Program

Amount: multiple \$1,500 scholarships available

Criteria: Students must reside in an eligible county (Union County qualifies), have a 2.5 GPA, and be planning on majoring in an agricultural or agriculturally related program. You will need 3 farmers to endorse your application. You do not need to be an FFA member to apply.

To apply: www.growagleaders.com

Deadline: February 1, 2015

Crumley Roberts Founder's Scholarship and Next Step Scholarship

Amount: \$2,500

Criteria: Any North Carolina high school senior who is planning on attending a four year college or university (Founder's Scholarship) or community college (Next Step Scholarship). Applicants must have a min. 3.2 weighted GPA and two letters of recommendation. They must also write an essay of 1,000 words or less on the topic of the dangers of distracted driving.

To apply: Complete online applications at: <http://www.crumleyroberts.com/community/founders-scholarship-form.php> or <http://www.crumleyroberts.com/community/next-step-scholarship-form.php>

Deadline: All materials must be in by **February 1, 2015**.

NCAE Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship

Amount: varies

Criteria: Applicants should be a NC resident enrolled in public high school and should have a minimum unweighted GPA of 2.5. Application includes extracurricular activities, honors and accomplishments, a one-page essay on why you deserve the scholarship and a one-page essay on Dr. King's influence on your life. Based on financial need and academic achievement. You will also need two letters of recommendation.

To apply: www.NCAE.org, or www.NCFPSC.org, or a paper application in Ms. Bimson's office

Deadline: Postmarked by **February 2, 2015**.

Herff Jones Believe in You Scholarship

Amount: 47 state level scholarships valued at **\$2,000** and the chance for national level scholarships

Criteria: The selection of winners is based strongly on leadership qualities. Academic records, standardized test results (ACT, SAT), school recommendations, work experience, outside interests and co-curricular activities are also taken into consideration. Each student is also asked to answer an essay question: "Please explain how a person believing in you has had a positive impact on your success. What did he/she do and how did it help?" *U.S. Citizenship is NOT required to be considered for this scholarship.*

To apply: Go to <http://www.herffjones.com/biuscholarship>. Complete your application online and make sure to put Ms. Bimson's email address in the counselor form: stephanie.bimson@ucps.k12.nc.us. One student will be nominated from Forest Hills to compete for this scholarship.

Deadline: Principal recommendation is necessary so please begin this process by **February 1, 2015** if interested! Applications must be completed by February 8, 2015.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Scholarships

Amount: Varies

Criteria: The National Society of DAR has multiple scholarships available. Criteria for each scholarship differ but may include GPA, financial need, and college course of study. Some of the specific areas of study include: American History, American Government, Historic Preservation and Medical & Nursing. There is also a scholarship awarded to Native American students.

To apply: For full details on any of these scholarships and to apply, visit: <http://www.dar.org/national-society/scholarships/general-info>

Deadline: Postmarked by February 15, 2015

Create a Greeting Card Scholarship Competition

Amount: \$10,000

Criteria: Browse their website for examples. Submit any photo, artwork, or computer graphic for the front of a greeting card. Photo, art, or graphic must be your own original creation. Only 1 entry per person. National winner gets \$10,000.

To apply: <http://www.gallerycollection.com/greeting-cards-scholarship.htm>

Deadline: February 18, 2015

North Carolina High School Athletic Association Endowed Scholarships

Criteria: The NCHSAA offers a variety of scholarships, three of which are listed below.

To apply: For more information about each and to apply to any of them, visit: www.nchsaa.org and click on Scholarships and Awards.

Deadline: All NCHSAA scholarships are due February 14, 2015

- **Jerry MccGee Endowed Scholarship**

Amount: two \$1,000 scholarships – one male and one female

Criteria: This scholarship honors student-athletes who have distinguished themselves by overcoming adversity and returned to excel beyond expectations in their sport

- **Charlie Adams Endowed Scholarship**

Amount: two \$15000 scholarships

Criteria: There will be two winners of this scholarship – one male varsity wrestler and one female varsity cross country runner

- **Clary Student Medal**

Amount: \$2,000

Criteria: Any varsity athlete. Other conditions may apply – check website for full details.



Gordan A. Rich Memorial Scholarship

Amount: up to \$12,500 per year for four years

Criteria: This scholarship is open to children who are dependents of full time employees in the financial services industry (commercial banks, investment banks, securities brokerage firms, insurance companies, etc). Applicants need to be enrolling full time in a 4 year college or university in the fall of 2014, have a minimum 3.5 GPA, and demonstrate financial need.

To apply: Visit: www.gordonrich.org

Deadline: February 18, 2015



Regions Riding Forward Scholarship

Amount: \$3,500 or \$5,000

Criteria: Interested high school seniors with a min. 2.0 GPA should complete an application on-line and submit an essay of 500 words or less written about an African-American of their choice.

To apply: Visit: www.regions.com/ridingforward

Deadline: February 26, 2015

Buick Achievers Scholarship Program

Amount: 50 scholarships will be given out nationwide for up to **\$25,000 per year**

Criteria: High school seniors who plan to enroll full time at a four year college or university in 2015-16. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement, financial need, and participation and leadership in community in school activities. Applicants should plan to major in a field of study that focuses on science, technology, engineering, or math.

To apply: www.buickachievers.com

Deadline: 5 p.m. on February 27, 2015



The Gordon Hay Scholarship Fund (Blumenthal Performing Arts)

Amount: \$5000 (for non-tuition expenses)

Criteria: Open to students who show exemplary academic performance, strong pursuit of excellence, community & school involvement, acceptance into a four-year college to study a career in a non-performance area of the performing arts (music composition, arts administration, etc.). Preference given to students with financial need. Applicants must submit FAFSA, essay, references and transcript. Portfolio presentation will be April 11.

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: February 28, 2015



CMARC Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Applicants should be high school seniors who have relocated to the Charlotte area sometime between grades 9 and 12. Students will be evaluated based on academic performance, extra-curricular activities, and on their response to an essay addressing the challenges associated with relocating to a new high school. All applicants should be seniors who moved more than 50 miles and changed schools due to their families relocation, and should have a min. 3.0 GPA.

To apply: Application is available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: February 28, 2015

North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs (NCDVA) Scholarship

Amount: Four-year scholarship at N.C. approved schools

Criteria: Student's parent must meet qualifying criteria. For more information visit:

<http://www.doa.nc.gov/vets/benefitslist.aspx?pid=scholarships>. Applications must include birth certificates, financial questionnaire, essay, recommendations, transcripts, and disciplinary and attendance records in addition to other items.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for application. NOTE: The application is extensive! Please be sure to start well enough in advance to complete it before the deadline.

Deadline: Before March 1, 2015

UNC-G Guarantee

Amount: Covers the full cost of all unmet need at UNC-G

Criteria: UNCG Guarantee helps in-state students graduate from UNCG in four years with little or no debt as well as provides a support program to encourage academic and personal success. The university will make every attempt to meet the rest of the recipients' financial need through a combination of federal, state, university, and private grants and scholarships. Applicants must be high schools seniors accepted to UNC-Greensboro, received a combined reading/math SAT of 1000 or an ACT composite of 21. You must complete the FAFSA and qualify for federal financial aid.

To apply: <http://guarantee.uncg.edu/apply/online.shtml> . Remember, you must have completed the FAFSA before you are considered eligible.

Deadline: March 1, 2015

North Carolina Farm Bureau R. Flake Shaw Scholarship Program

1. Community College Scholarship

Amount: Two scholarships for \$1,000 per year for 2 years will be awarded.

Criteria: Any current high school senior that is going to attend community college to pursue a career in agriculture or an agriculturally related field. Student should demonstrate financial need, satisfactory grades, an evident understanding of the agricultural and/or agribusiness community, and leadership potential. Preference is given to Farm Bureau members.

To apply: Applications available online at: www.ncfb.org/Programs/RFlakeShawScholarship.aspx

Deadline: March 1, 2015

2. University/College (4-year) Scholarship

Amount: Six scholarships for \$3,750 per year for 4 years will be awarded.

Criteria: Any current high school senior that is going to attend a 4-year college/university to pursue a career in agriculture or an agriculturally related field. Student should demonstrate financial need, satisfactory grades, an evident understanding of the agricultural and/or agribusiness community, and leadership potential. Preference is given to Farm Bureau members.

To apply: Applications available online at: www.ncfb.org/Programs/RFlakeShawScholarship.aspx

Deadline: March 1, 2015



Union County Principal's and Assistant Principal's Association (UCPAPA)

1. Administrative Scholarship

Amount: \$750

Criteria: This scholarship is awarded to a senior who is the child of a UCPS school administrator and currently enrolled in UCPS. Applicants must plan to enroll in a four-year college full time in fall 2015 and must have a min. 2.0 GPA, exhibit leadership qualities and extra-curricular activities. Three letters of recommendation are required.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for an application.

Deadline: March 2, 2015.

2. UCPAPA Scholarship for Education Majors

Amount: \$1000

Criteria: This scholarship is awarded to a senior who plans to major in education. Applicants must have a min. 2.0 GPA, exhibit leadership qualities and extra-curricular activities. Three letters of character recommendation are required.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for an application.

Deadline: March 2, 2015

Triangle Pest Control Scholarship Fund

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Merit-based scholarship fund for students displaying academic excellence. Students must plan to attend an accredited college or university and plan to study environmental technology or environmental engineering.

To apply: For more information and to complete the application, visit: <https://www.trianglepest.com/triangle-pest-control-scholarship-fund>

Deadline: March 2, 2015



The NC Retail Merchants Association (NCRMA) Scholarship

Amount: \$2,500

Criteria: This scholarship is open to any senior who works for a CFIC member or whose parent works for a CFIC member (if you need to verify that an employer is a member, you can call (919) 832-0811. Most retail companies are members!). Scholarship winners will be chosen based on academic record, test scores, and extracurricular activities.

To apply: www.ncrma.org

Deadline: A complete application packet must be received or post marked by **March 2, 2015**.



Doris Ross Hinson Female Medical Scholarship Program

Amount: \$1000

Criteria: This scholarship is designed for a female student **who attends Forest Hills High School**. The student should have a minimum 3.0 GPA, intend to enroll in a two-year or four-year college full time to pursue a degree in the medical field (including nursing) and demonstrate substantial need for financial assistance through filling out the FAFSA and obtaining your Student Aid Report. The student must be accepted at an accredited college and exhibit scholastic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities and good character.

To apply: Applications available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office. Essay and 3 teacher references are required.

Deadline: Return all application materials to Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office by March 9, 2015



The Cattleman's Association Scholarship

Amount: \$1000

Criteria: Union County high school seniors accepted into an agriculture or animal science program at a college of their choice. Leadership qualities, honors/awards and financial need will be taken into consideration. Two letters of recommendation, transcript and test scores are required.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for an application

Deadline: March 15, 2015



Henry S. and Carolyn Adams Scholarship Fund (Foundation for the Carolinas)

Amount: \$4000

Criteria: This scholarship is designed for students who are residents of Union County and have financial need. Should have a minimum 3.0 GPA, and demonstrate substantial need for financial assistance through filling out the FAFSA and obtaining your Student Aid Report.

To apply: www.fftc.org. Turn in all application materials in one envelope to Ms. Bimson.

Deadline: March 16, 2015

Union Power Cooperative Scholarship

Amount: (6) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded

Criteria: These scholarships are given to outstanding graduating high school seniors who live within Union Power Cooperatives' five county service areas. Applicants should be a child of a Union Power Cooperative Member or live in homes served by Union Power Cooperative. Applicants should be planning to attend 2 or 4 year college or university. Criteria for awarding the scholarship to an individual is based on 40% financial need, 30% scholastic achievement, and 30% extracurricular activities in school, civic, and community functions.

To apply: Applications can be found online at <http://www.union-power.com/mainNav/myCommunity/collegeScholarships.aspx> or see Ms. Bimson in the counseling office.

Deadline: Application must be **postmarked by March 20, 2015**



Michael A. DeMayo Scholarship

Amount: \$2,500

Criteria: Current high school senior who is planning to pursue a degree at a 4 year college or university; should have a minimum 3.0 GPA and have taken the SAT or ACT. You will need to complete the scholarship application, including a recent photo of yourself, a high school transcript, your SAT and/or ACT scores, and two letters of recommendation. You will prepare a presentation (video, PowerPoint, brochure, website, or essay) that encourages fellow teens to abstain from underage drinking and driving, or that highlights the dangers of drinking and driving.

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson or at www.DeMayoLaw.com (click on Community Service, and then Scholarship Program). All application materials must be mailed together in one package.

Deadline: **March 23, 2015**



The Mary Doctor Performing Arts Scholarship (Blumenthal Performing Arts)

Amount: Two \$10,000 annually renewable scholarships

Criteria: Open to students who show above-average ability and who will be pursuing an undergraduate degree in a field directly related to the performing arts. A min. weighted 2.5 GPA, financial need, academic performance, personal achievements, and school/community involvement will all be considered. Essay, references, transcript, SAR and college acceptance are needed. Auditions/portfolio presentations will be held April 18.

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson.

Deadline: **March 26, 2015**



Atlas Greenhouse Horticulture Scholarship 2014

Amount: \$1500 awarded to three high school seniors

Criteria: Any senior who has purchased an "Educator" Greenhouse from Atlas Manufacturing, Inc. between 1/1/14-12/31/14. This student must also have a nomination from his/her horticulture teacher. Student must desire to further his/her education in the field of horticulture, have good character and work ethic, participate in high school horticulture program and extra-curricular activities.

To apply: Download an application from www.atlasgreenhouse.com or get an application from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: **March 31, 2015**

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Awards

Amount: \$500-\$10,000

Criteria: Students in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in this national art contest. Art must be on paper or canvas. Water color, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen-and-ink, or oil may be used.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for an application.

Deadline: March 31, 2015



Kathleen Stewart Hargett Memorial Scholarship – Marshville Presbyterian Church

Amount: between \$500 and \$1500

Criteria: *This scholarship is specifically for Forest Hills High School students.* Selection is made based on academic achievement, commitment to community service, faculty recommendations, and a short essay on any topic of your choice. You must provide evidence of church membership and college acceptance to apply.

To apply: Applications are available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: Applications and ALL supplemental material should be returned to Ms. Bimson by **April 1, 2015**



Carrols LLC (Burger King) Community Scholarship Fund

Amount: Varies

Criteria: Any high school senior or Burger King employee can apply. Applicants will be chosen based on high school activities, employment history and recommendation, counselor or principal recommendation, and community service. Application form, transcript and test scores (if available) are required.

To apply: Applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: April 1, 2015



Los Bravos Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: African-American or Latino-American seniors with a GPA of 2.0 or higher who will be attending two-year, four-year or technical college. The scholarship is geared towards students who are well rounded, show progression throughout school, have overcome obstacles to succeed and who have financial need. Application, transcript, test scores, two letters of recommendation, essay, college acceptance, FAFSA and photo must be submitted.

To apply: Applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: April 1, 2015



Union County Association of Educators/Retired Educators of Union County

Amount: \$1750

Criteria: Any current senior planning on majoring in education

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: Applications should be postmarked by **April 14, 2015.**



J.H. McAfee Educational Scholarship

Amount: \$1000

Criteria: This local scholarship is open to students entering a historically black college leading to a B.A., B.S. or A.A. in any educational field of study. Students must have a 2.5 GPA or higher, show a commitment to community service/volunteer experience, be committed to furthering their education and be first-generation college students. Applications include a 300 word essay, three letters of recommendation, and a transcript.

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: April 15, 2015.

State Employees Association of North Carolina Scholarship Foundation

Amount: Varies

Criteria: Applicants must be the son or daughter of a member of SEANC in order to be eligible for scholarships. There are need based and merit based scholarships available. Merit based scholarships are based on academic performance, financial need, community involvement, personal statement, and recommendations. Need based takes these same things into consideration, as well as financial need. Scholarships are available for 2 year and 4 year colleges in addition to trade and technical schools.

To apply: Applications and full details are available at www.seanc.org/membership/scholarship

Deadline: Postmarked and mailed to the SEANC district chairman by April 15, 2015



HotelsCheap.org Scholarship

Amount: \$1,500

Criteria: Scholarship winner is chosen based on answers to four short essay topics. No GPA minimum required.

To apply: <http://www.hotelscheap.org/scholarship/apply>

Deadline: April 15, 2015

SECU People Helping People Scholarship

Amount: \$10,000 over 4 years - *One student from each NC public high school receives a scholarship!*

Criteria: Applicants must have a minimum unweighted 2.5 GPA and be accepted into and *planning on attending* one of the 17 UNC schools. The recipient of this scholarship should be a student who exemplifies the philosophy of "People Helping People" and demonstrates leadership, integrity, community involvement, and academic achievement. Preference is given to students whose parents, guardians, or family members are public sector employees in North Carolina (i.e. teachers, police officers, etc.).

To apply: Local applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office and must be returned to her in April before the scholarship committee meets. The scholarship committee will determine the scholarship recipient from Forest Hills.

Deadline: Completed application from the selected senior must be postmarked by **May 1, 2015**

Sun Trust Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes

Amount: \$500 (two winners every two weeks from Oct-May)

Criteria: High school seniors planning to attend a two year or four year public or private college. Fifteen drawings will be held and one winner will be chosen every two weeks from October 31, 2014 through May 15, 2015.

To apply: Registration begins September 15th at <http://www.suntrusteducation.com/sweeps/>

Deadline: May 2015

CFNC Financial Literacy Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: Anyone who completes the Financial Literacy 101 course on CFNC is entered for an opportunity to win this \$500 scholarship. Two \$500 scholarships are awarded.

To apply: http://www.cfnc.org/paying/financial_literacy.jsp Complete the Financial Literacy 101 course. You will have to log in with your CFNC account.

Deadline: June 30, 2015

Aspiring Pharmacy Technician Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Any student interested in pursuing pharmacology career path, academic success and passion and drive for a career in pharmacology. Check the website for additional criteria.

To apply: <http://www.pharmacytechnicianreview.com/aspiring-pharmacist-scholarship-program>

Deadline: June 2015

Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Any student interested in pursuing a fashion related degree at an accredited school, academic success and passion and drive for a fashion related career. Application and essay must be completed. Check the website for additional criteria.

To apply: <http://www.fashion-schools.org/aspiring-fashion-professional-scholarship-program>

Deadline: June 2015

Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Any student who intends to pursue an animation related field at an accredited post-secondary school or college, academic success and has a passion and drive for an animation and/or design related career. Application and essay must be completed. Check the website for more details.

To apply: <http://www.animationcareerreview.com/animationcareerreviewcom-aspiring-animation-professional-scholarship-program>

Deadline: June 2015

Automotive Repair/Mechanics Scholarship links:

www.automotivescholarships.com

www.cpcc.edu/transport_systems/scholarships

SPCC Scholarships

SPCC has a single form that is used to apply to all of their scholarships. Applications can be found online at www.spcc.edu. Any student who applies to SPCC and fills out the common scholarship application, and completes a FAFSA will be considered for any scholarship for which they qualify.

Art Institute Scholarship Competitions

Amount: varies

Criteria: The Art Institute offers LOTS of scholarship money through their scholarship competition programs in a variety of areas (Photography, Teen Chef, Fashion Design). Each has their own requirements and deadlines, so check their website for detailed information!

To apply: Visit their website at: <http://www.artinstitutes.edu/competitions/high-school.aspx>

Deadline: varies

National Database of Nursing Scholarships

The National Database of Nursing Scholarships has over 1,700 nursing programs to research, and over 10,000 nursing scholarships listed. To apply, students must visit <http://www.free-4u.com/nursing/>.

THIS IS NOT AN ALL-INCLUSIVE LISE OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

To search for other scholarships, you can use the websites listed below. It is also a good idea to look at the financial aid portion of the website of the schools to which you are interested in applying – they often have specific need- and merit-based scholarships just for their applicants. Churches, community groups, your employer or family members' employers are also great resources for potential scholarships.

HELPFUL SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

www.cfnc.org

www.srnexpress.com

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.fastweb.com

www.weeklyscholarshipalert.com

www.finaid.org

www.schoolsoup.com

www.scholarshipplus.com

www.cappex.com

www.studentaid.ed.gov

www.collegeboard.com

www.actstudent.org

www.myrichuncle.com

www.scholarshiphelp.com

www.scholarships.com

www.wiredscholar.com

www.salliemae.com/scholarships

www.studentawardsearch.com

www.scholarshipprovider.net

www.freecollegescholarships.net

www.collegeboard.org

www.hispanicfund.org

www.thencshp.org/resources/for-students/
(information for Hispanic students)

Helpful Tips for Completing Your FAFSA

Before you get started, you should collect the information listed below. If you do not have some of it, you will still be able to fill out the form, but it will be easier with this information:

- Social Security Number (yours and your parents)
- Driver's license (if you have one)
- 2014 W-2 forms and any other record of money you earned in 2014, if you worked. W2's should arrive by the end of January.
- Your parents 2014 W-2 forms and any other record of money they earned in 2014
- Your 2014 Federal Tax Income Return
- Your parents 2014 Federal Tax Income Return
- Current bank statements for you and your parents, if applicable
- Any business, mortgage, or other investment records (if applicable)
- If you are not a U.S. Citizen, you will need your alien registration or permanent resident card.

*If you have children, are or were in foster care, have a legal guardian other than your biological parents, or are an emancipated minor, you may fill out your FAFSA differently. See your counselor for more information.

1. Go to www.pin.ed.gov

- Choose **Apply for a PIN** and answer the questions on the screen. Make sure your email address and mailing address are correct.
- Click **Submit Request**. (We recommend choosing 'display PIN now' or 'have PIN emailed to you' so that you receive it immediately. Write it down and save it somewhere you will be able to access it easily!)
- **Both the student AND a parent must create their own unique PIN Number**. A student and parent cannot share the same PIN – it serves as your electronic signature so each person must have their own.
- Save this PIN. You will use it each year to re-apply for federal need-based financial aid.

2. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and click on the green **Start A New FAFSA** button.

- Answer all questions as honestly and accurately as possible. You cannot leave questions blank.
- Instructions are provided for each FAFSA question in the Help and Hints section on the right side of the page.
- The words 'you' and 'your' mean the student. 'School' means the college or university you will attend in 2014.
- *If your parents are divorced, separated, or not living together, you should give the financial information for the parent you lived with the most in 2014.*
- Round up all dollar amounts to the nearest dollar.
- Dates should be typed to correlate to month, date and year (ex: February 1, 2014 would be 02012014).
- You can save your application information at any point in the applications. Click **Save** at the bottom of any page. To go back and restart your application, you will need to provide your first and last name, Social Security number, date of birth, and the password you used when you began the first time.
- When you are finished, sign the FAFSA electronically with your PIN numbers. This allows you to submit the form electronically and you will get your Student Aid Report faster.

3. What happens after you apply?

- A FAFSA processor will analyze the information you provided and calculate an *Expected Family Contribution*.
- The results of your FAFSA will be sent to you and to the schools you listed on your application in the form of a *Student Aid Report (SAR)*. If you provided an email address, your SAR will be emailed to you within 3-5 business days. If you did not provide an email address or did not sign your FAFSA electronically with your PIN number, your SAR will be mailed to you.
- Each individual college or university will look at your SAR and decide what kind and how much financial aid they will disburse to you.
- If you believe you have unusual circumstances that should be taken into account and were not reflected in the FAFSA, you should contact the financial aid office at the college or university, as they are the ones who determine your financial aid package.

Need more help or have other questions?

Online Help is available by clicking **Need Help?** at the bottom of each page at www.fafsa.gov, or you can call **1-800-433-3243** (toll free).

FAFSA Day Is February 28, 2015 from 9 a.m. – 12 noon.

You can get FREE help from financial aid specialists and college aid professionals to complete and submit your FAFSA at participating community colleges and bank branches. You should bring your federal tax returns and FAFSA PINs with you. Registration is suggested! There are several locations nearby!

To find a location, get more information, and register, visit cfnc.org/FAFSAday or call 1-866-866-CFNC