

FUNDING COLLEGE

PREPARATION, FINANCIAL AID, SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS

WHAT IS THIS EVENING ABOUT?

1. I'm here to give parents and students ideas on how to prepare your for college.
2. I'm here to give parents and students ideas on how to help fund college.

QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED

What should parents and /or guardians be doing in regards to preparing their students for college?

What should students be doing in regards to preparation for college?

What should parents and/or guardians be doing to acquire funding for their student's college?

What should students be doing to get the funding for college?



INTRODUCTION VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBJ55UWMEFE>

1:47

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IINXc0KhXTM>

7:13

Dr. Anderson's Formula

GOOD GRADES = MONEY

EXCELLENT GRADES = MO' MONEY

FINANCIAL AID EVERYONE DOES IT

66% of all college students working towards a bachelor's degree received some sort of financial aid.

At public college 52% of students received grants and 43% of students took out loans

At private colleges, 76% of students received grants and 61 % of students took out loans



DEFINITIONS OF WAYS TO FUND COLLEGE

Preparation - Getting ready as soon as possible: Look how early we start our child playing sports

Financial Aid - Monetary aid for college tuition and expenses for families whose income warrants it. It can come from colleges, companies, private funds, state, but mostly from the U.S. Dept. of Education. A place to get information <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types>

Grants - Money given that does not have to be paid back. This can be state, federal, local and foundational or companies.

Scholarships - Money given because student does something well. This could be anything from arts and sports to academics. They are given by many sources, such as schools, universities, corporations, individuals and employers.

Work-study - Is a job given to help earn money for education. Government work-study jobs are free to the university. In-turn the university will work around a student's class schedule, in regards to studying for different tests, midterms and finals.

Savings - Money put away by parent, grandparent or student for college tuition and expenses.

Job - A student does not qualify for financial aid, so they work a regular job to pay for college.

KNOWLEDGE OF THE COLLEGE PROCESS

FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid – www.fafsa.gov

Beat all deadlines, just in case something goes wrong.

4 Steps for college admission

1. Submit completed application online
2. Pay fee or use fee waiver (check with school counselor for fee waiver)
3. Official school transcripts
4. Official test scores ACT & SAT
5. Search and apply for scholarships at each college (some do this automatically for you)

DR. ANDERSON'S FORMULA

GOOD GRADES = MONEY

EXCELLENT GRADES = MO' MONEY



THE EVOLUTION OF SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND WRITING ESSAYS TO WIN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY *BY KEITH L. ANDERSON, PH.D.*

There are three parts to getting scholarship money (Excellent grades, Devoted Time Searching and Applying and Writing a great Essay).

1. Understand, that excellent grades will translate into scholarship money.

The second you get into high school, your grades start dictating what quality of college you will be able to attend. More importantly, those same grades will also decide which scholarships you will be able to apply for. Normally the larger scholarship amounts require a higher grade point average. So early on, realize that your grades are not only important for getting you through high school and to college, but they are also important when it comes time to pay for college.

Note: That means developing good study habits, keeping your eyes on the goal and building good self confidence. Make reading and comprehending what you read a priority.



THE EVOLUTION OF SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND WRITING ESSAYS TO WIN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY BY KEITH L. ANDERSON, PH.D. CONTINUED

2. Start the scholarship searching process early.

Students do not have to wait until their senior year to start searching for scholarships. There are many scholarship search engines that allow students to put their profile into their system, as early as their Sophomore year. Fastweb.com is just one of many scholarship search engines that allows this.

Note: Make sure to keep a file (electronic if possible) of all accomplishments throughout high school.

3. Be willing to devote a lot of time into searching for scholarship.

One of the biggest problems with seniors not getting enough scholarship money is that they put so many things ahead of spending time searching and applying for scholarships.

Note: The more money in scholarships you receive the less money in loans you'll have to take out.



THE EVOLUTION OF SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND WRITING ESSAYS TO WIN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY BY KEITH L. ANDERSON, PH.D. CONTINUED

4. When a scholarship asks you to write an essay make sure you stay on topic.

One of the ways scholarship administrators eliminate students is seeing if they can follow instructions. So, write about what the scholarship asks you to write about and be specific.

Note: Remember scholarship administrators read a lot of scholarship applications. They'll like your essay if you stay on topic.

5. If the scholarship application asks you to talk about yourself, show your passion by writing about real experiences. But don't try to make them cry.

Write your essay to reflect who you are. If you have overcome hardships, understand it through your writing. They will feel what you feel. If you go out of your way to produce a sadness, they'll feel that too. Just tell your story.

Note: Don't list accomplishments in a bragging way. Explain your accomplishments in reference to your goals.



THE EVOLUTION OF SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND WRITING ESSAYS TO WIN SCHOLARSHIP MONEY BY KEITH L. ANDERSON, PH.D. CONTINUED

6. Be as positive, but not too sappy.

Everyone likes a positive person but sometimes being too positive can come across as not truly understanding the ups and downs of life.

Note: Through your writing allow a ray of positive energy to shine through.

7. Allow other people to read your essay before you send it in.

Only allow people who will be truthful and tactful with you. You don't need people making your scholarship searching experience a negative one.

Note: Don't allow people to do too much editing. Grammar and punctuation are always go, but too much adult editing in the area of content will make your essay sound like someone else wrote it.



TIPS FOR PREPARING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Document and start a resume as soon as possible (9th grade) – Keep track of volunteering, clubs and activities, students leadership (guide, direct, motivate and inspire others), awards and honors, work experience and internships
 2. Write a personal essay : Who are you? Why do you want to go to college? What do you want to major in and why? You can use essay more than once.
 3. Ask adults (teachers, counselors, coaches, supervisors, pastors) for letters of recommendation.
 4. Give adults your personal essay and resume (helps them to know more about you).
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ONE HIGH SCHOOL REAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2013

STUDENTS' AND LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY

Nell – Lightfoot Scholarship \$200, Wilder Rod & Gun \$1,000 **Total \$1,200**

Baird - Promise \$450, Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500 **Total \$13,450**

Sarah - Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500 **Total \$13,000**

Hailey – L. & M. Williams Scholarship \$12,000, WUE \$48,000, U. of Montana \$24,600, Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500 **Total \$97,600**

Kyle - Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500 **Total \$13,000**

Jordan - Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500, USU Waiver Scholarship \$12,000 **Total \$25,000**

Chris - Promise \$450, Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500 **Total \$13,450**

Kendra - Wilder Rod & Gun \$1,000 **Total \$1,000**

Rachel – Gonzaga University \$62,000, Stephen Penrose Scholarship \$9,500(x4), Lomen-Douglass Scholarship \$31,555 (x4), Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500, C of I Trustee Scholarship \$10,000(x4) **Total \$279,220**

Maria – C of I Dean's Scholarship \$8,000(x3), Kathryn \$1,000, Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500, Lightfoot Scholarship \$8,000 **Total \$49,450**

Lalia – Gates Millennium Scholarship \$46,000(x4), College of Idaho \$36,800, Mnt. Mary's \$15,000(x4) \$60,000, **Total \$280,800**

Max – UI CAMP \$3,000(x4), UI CAMP Stipend \$675, UI Promise \$450, Lightfoot Scholarship \$8,000, Bruce \$2,500 + \$10,500, **Total \$34,125**

Sal - \$28,000 College of Idaho, U. of Idaho \$19,700, Bruce \$1000(x4), CAMP Scholarship \$3,000, CAMP Stipend \$675, Promise Scholarship \$450, Buick Achievers Scholarship \$2,000, Mitchell \$2,500 + \$10,500, Lightfoot Scholarship \$8,000, Vandal Challenge Go On ID \$10,000, **Total \$88,825**

Jesse – Rocky Mtn. Shootout Scholarship \$300, **Total \$300**

Kramer – Western New Mexico Athletic \$13,000(x3), Western New Mexico Academic \$5,000(x3), Bruce \$2,500 + \$10,500, Lightfoot Scholarship \$8,000, **Total \$75,000**

Will - Bruce \$2,500 + \$10,500, Deans Scholarship \$8,000(x4), **Total \$45,000**

Hanna - Bruce \$2,500 + \$10,500, Lightfoot Scholarship \$8,000, **Total \$21,000**

Kassi - Bruce \$2,500 + \$10,500, Lightfoot Scholarship \$8,000, Athletic Scholarship \$2,000(x4), **Total \$29,000**

Total Amount High School Scholarships - \$1,081,120

KRISITNA ELLIS - 7 SECRETS TO GETTING MONEY FOR COLLEGE, FROM SOMEONE WHO SCORED OVER \$500,000

#1



Start planning to pursue scholarships as soon as you know you're going to college.

According to Ellis, it's never too early to start planning for college. Being aware of your responsibilities and requirements is already a step towards your scholarships. It is important to know which programs or organizations you need to join to receive certain scholarships.

Ellis became a US Presidential Scholar, which awards scholarships to students who not only scored well on their SAT or ACT exams, but who also have talent in visual, creative, or performing arts. They also have to participate in the National Young Arts program.

Start now: Research available scholarships and their requirements. Create a strategic plan to follow throughout your high school years that will keep you from missing out on the courses, leadership experiences, and volunteer opportunities that could help you stand out for major scholarships.

#2 GET INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR AND YOUR COMMUNITY.

Scholarships aren't always for those with high GPA or high test scores. Sometimes they're for someone who is involved in their community through volunteer work, employment, sports, or taking on leadership roles.

"I had always thought of a scholarship winner as someone who was super smart and got perfect grades," Ellis, who ranked 32 in a class of 182, writes. "As a student with only decent grades and average test scores, I had assumed that scholarships weren't for me." However, she writes, she soon realized she "could appeal to scholarship committees outside of academics and still have a chance of standing out. So I set out to find activities I could excel in."

She became involved in [Fellowship of Christian Athletes](#), Varsity Women's Club, peer tutoring, [Business Professionals of America](#), and show choir. She logged over 1,000 hours of community service by graduation.

Start now: Find opportunities in your community where you can volunteer your time. Great places to start are a local library, senior center, or hospital. You can also look into local sports teams or sports at your school. Interested in music? Join a school band or a choir.



#3. APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID EVEN IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU QUALIFY.

Many students don't usually apply for financial aid because they believe their family makes too much money to qualify for assistance, when in fact, families with more than \$150,000 in annual income can qualify for financial assistance, writes Ellis.

Even if you don't always get "free" money, you may still qualify for low-interest loans.

Start now: FAFSA, the [Free Application for Student Aid](#), is the go-to for financial aid information and needs. It is provided by the US Department of Education to help prospective students get aid and loan assistant based on their needs. To get the full benefits of the aid, you must update your FAFSA at the beginning of every school year and file it by March.



#4. DON'T RULE OUT EXPENSIVE PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

4. Don't rule out expensive private schools.

It can be cheaper for a student with more financial need to go to a private university than a public university.

Financial aid for a public university is usually limited to government grants and loans, while private universities are more lenient with their money and are able to offer more private grants, scholarships, and gift aid from donors, according to Ellis.

Some schools (and all Ivy League schools) have a no-loan financial-need policy to help low-income families pay for anything outside of your expected family contribution.

Ellis attended Vanderbilt University for her undergraduate degree, a private school that costs \$43,620 for tuition alone.

Start now: If you qualify, see if the private university you want to attend to offers the no-loan financial-need policy, as well as any donor grants you can apply for. If you do get accepted, always remember to call back to see if you can get more aid. If you don't do anything, the office will assume you are satisfied with the amount you receive.

#5. BECOME GOOD FRIENDS WITH THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICER.

A financial aid officer, who you can find in your university's financial aid office, manages scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study. They can adjust your cost of attendance, which includes tuition, fees, room and board, books, and other expenses.

According to Ellis, financial aid officers can "act as both an advocate and a gatekeeper" meaning they can pull more strings for you if you need.

"For example, one of my scholarship programs offered to pay for a laptop if it was considered part of my school's official cost of attendance," she writes. "My university didn't typically include laptops in that calculation, but my financial aid officer modified my COA [cost of attendance] to include a laptop expense, and within a few weeks, my scholarship program had sent money for the computer."

Start now: Be prepared when asking your financial officer questions: Do research and always bring in the necessary documents. It would also be smart to check up with the financial office to see if more aid is available. After other students accept or decline school offers, the grants go back to the school to be reallocated — and they might be reallocated to you.

#6. CAST YOUR NET FAR AND WIDE.

Know how to duck call? Love to vacuum? Have a zombie-apocalypse escape plan? Well, you can get a [scholarship for any of these](#).

There are scholarships for people with a certain skill-set, a certain height, a special hobby, and almost anything else you can think of.

There are also many scholarships for different backgrounds. For instance, Ellis was the recipient of the Gates Millennium Scholar award, available for only African Americans, American Indian-Alaska Natives, Asian & Pacific Islander Americans, or Hispanic Americans.

While Ellis recommends applying for many, varying types of scholarships, she says you should expend extra effort on securing the ones that seem like they were made for you.

"Reflect on who you are and what you want, determine your college goals, and then go after the scholarships that fit you best," she writes. "These 'best fits' are your strongest investments in your future – the ones on which you should spend most of your time and energy."

Start now: Look beyond the ordinary scholarship opportunities and find one for a [characteristic or skill you have](#). Ellis recommends [Fastweb.com](#) and [Scholarships.com](#) to find lists of available scholarships.

#7. LOOK FOR SMALLER SCHOLARSHIPS AT HOME.

Sometimes, the place to look for a scholarship is in your community. Ellis suggests calling your local churches, civic organizations, and even businesses that may offer scholarships to local students to go to college.

Start now: Your guidance counselor should have information on local opportunities, but if not, pick up the phone and ask an organization directly if it offers scholarships. Ellis also suggests calling your local Rotary Foundation or the Elks National Foundation for grants and scholarships.



ANOTHER REASON TO HAVE GREAT GRADES

What does Duke, Georgetown, Harvard, Penn and Stanford have in common?

Last fall I took my son to The Red Lion Riverside, in Boise, Idaho to listen to these universities all give their presentation. We saw only one other person of color. There had to be 300-400 people. I saw a lot of expensive cars in the parking lot, and there was my Jeep.

So, what do they all have in common? Every one of them said.....

I heard it with my own ears. Of course I turned and looked at my son.



WHAT SHOULD I DO TO GET STARTED?

1. Parents and students need to have a conversation about the future.
 2. Ask high school counselor about any college scholarship information he/she may have.
 3. Have your transcript information handy.
 4. Write a great essay.
 5. Ask teachers, coaches, pastors, etc. to write letters of recommendations.
 6. Look for local, regional and national scholarships.
 7. Devote time and effort to applying for scholarships.
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WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

<http://www.wsac.wa.gov/>

About the Council

Established as a cabinet-level state agency on July 1, 2012, the Washington Student Achievement Council provides strategic planning, oversight, and advocacy to support increased student success and higher levels of educational attainment in Washington.

