

# **RISLA SCHOLARSHIP HUB**

# Search Tips For Parents

#### **Know The Difference**

Understanding the difference between scholarships and financial aid is crucial when paying for college. Educating your student on the differences between financial aid, student loans, and scholarships is an excellent place to start. Remember: A scholarship is a free money that will never need to be repaid.

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## **Keep Organized**

Increasing your chances of success and avoiding missed deadlines is crucial in organizing your scholarship application process. Keep a list of scholarship requirements, essays, required documents, and deadlines!

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## **Prioritize Scholarships**

It's important to prioritize scholarship opportunities based on various factors. Keep a list as you search.

- The scholarship deadlines.
- What makes you a unique fit for the scholarship?
- The amount of money you can potentially win.

# Verify The Source

RISLA verifies every scholarship application on rischolarships.org, by double-checking scholarship donors to ensure no fees and guaranteeing high-quality, scam-free awards.

Good To Know
Scholarships that
require an
application fee are
often not legitimate.
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#### **Think Local**

Rhode Island is a small state, which means it might be easier to find local scholarships with fewer applicants than larger states. You can check with local community organizations, employers, and banks to find out about any scholarship offers they might have. Remember, every bit of free money you can obtain can help reduce your debt When paying for college.

# Track Top Scholarships

rischolarships.org is a free platform that simplifies the process of searching, saving, and tracking scholarships for students. Parents can also create an account to assist their children in finding suitable scholarships and sharing relevant opportunities with them. By creating a profile and selecting specific attributes that describe the student, the rischolarships.org can identify and suggest scholarship opportunities that match the student's profile.

# Stand Out From the Rest

What makes your student unique?

Do they have a knack for drawing or a love for animals? Perhaps they're blazing a trail as the first in their family to attend college. If your student has a hobby or skill like music or the arts, we encourage you to explore related awards. All the unique qualities that make your student shine could match a scholarship to help pay for college.



Students have many tasks to complete, including college applications. Using checklists can help them stay organized and avoid missing necessary steps, increasing their chances of success. Stay organized and increase your chances of success!

## **Brainstorming Session**

Brainstorming is a great way to begin your scholarship application essay. However, make sure you stick to the essay prompt. It is advisable to ask your family members or teachers to review your essay to ensure that it meets all the requirements and is free from grammatical errors.

#### **Attention to Deadlines**

As high school seniors approach graduation, they have a lot on their plate. Luckily, you can be their hero by helping them stay organized and on top of scholarship deadlines. Whether you prefer a traditional calendar or digital reminders, keeping track of their to-do list is crucial. Work together for a stress-free transition to the next chapter.

#### **Proofreader**

Proofreading is crucial to improve your student's scholarship essay. Parents can help by taking a fresh look at the essay and noting any errors or areas for improvement. This will help elevate the essay's quality from average to extraordinary.

#### **No Pressure**

Parents may be tempted to micromanage their student's scholarship application process when seeking financial assistance for college. To reduce stress for parents and students, it is important to regularly review priorities and deadlines and find ways to tackle tasks together.

#### Your Encouragement

Supporting your student during the scholarship application process is key! Encouraging them to achieve their goals and celebrating their successes is crucial to their mental well-being and motivation. Let's stay positive and confident, and help navigate the application process with enthusiasm and optimism. Your doing great!

#### **Read The Fine Print**

Knowing the difference between scholarships and financial aid is a big difference when paying for college. Educating your child on the differences between financial aid, student loans, and scholarships is an excellent place to start. Remember: A scholarship is a free money that will never need to be repaid.

# **Saying Thank You**

The scholarship application process can be challenging, but it's important to put in the effort. Encourage your student to show their appreciation by writing a heartfelt "thank you" note to the teachers and counselors who wrote their recommendation letters. Including a senior high school picture in their application is also a great way to make a lasting impression. It's worth keeping in mind that many college students have to apply for scholarships annually, so expressing gratitude can make a big difference. Remember, those who show their appreciation are often the ones who leave a lasting impression. Let's help your student stand out with sincerity and kindness.

### Get Matched at rischolarships.org

At rischolarships.org, we are committed to helping families afford higher education. We provide a comprehensive database of scholarship opportunities that are of high quality and free from scams. We offer parents and students a simplified scholarship application process by allowing them to create lists, track deadlines, and share scholarship opportunities all in one place. When your student creates a profile, we will match them with awards and send those scholarship opportunities directly to their inbox. At RISLA, we encourage parents and students to reach their educational goals by signing up for <u>rischolarships.org</u> today!

rislascholarshiphub.org