



# RISLA SCHOLARSHIP HUB

TIPS FOR SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO HELP PAY FOR COLLEGE

# 1

## KNOW THE BASICS

Scholarships cover college costs without debt. Unlike loans, scholarships don't need to be paid back.



### MERIT AID

is a type of financial aid available for college students that is awarded by the school based on academic, athletic, artistic, leadership, or special-interest merit without considering their financial need.



### NEED-BASED AID

Need-based scholarships and grants are awarded on financial need alone. These can be awarded by the school or your state or federal government. Most, if not all, need-based aid requires the submission of FAFSA.

# 2

## GET SMART ABOUT SEARCHING

- You can find one or two scholarships that match your qualifications by visiting [rischolarships.org](http://rischolarships.org). Searching for local scholarships can be less competitive than national ones.
- HS Guidance should be able to provide you with a list of scholarships specific to your graduating class.

# 3

## REACH OUT TO WHO YOU KNOW

Speak to your parents, teachers, and family friends. They might know of a scholarship that could suit you, such as one offered by their employer, a local organization, or a memorial scholarship in your local area.

# 4

## MEET YOUR DEADLINES

Submit your scholarship applications early or on time to increase your chances of being considered. Many organizations don't accept late entries. This is a critical step in the process.

**Search Often!**

**[rislascholarship.org](http://rislascholarship.org)**