

Mastering Scholarship Applications

A quick “how to”

Welcome to Scholarship Success

- Discover how to find and apply for scholarships
- Learn tips to stand out in applications
- Understand the importance of preparation



Meet Your Guide

- Jamie Sommerfeld: Academic Advisor
- Years of guiding students to scholarship success
- Passionate about helping you achieve your goals



Why Scholarships Matter

- Scholarships can significantly reduce education costs
- They reward academic and personal achievements
- Opportunities available beyond just high grades

Finding Scholarships

- Use online resources like rdiec.ca
- Explore community and institutional scholarships
- Consider where you work, bank, and live



Understanding Scholarship Types

TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

• FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS
• PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS
• RENEWABLE SCHOLARSHIPS
• ONE-TIME GRANTS

AWARDED BY:
• UNIVERSITIES
• GOVERNMENT
• OTHER INSTITUTIONS

MERIT BASED

EXCELLENT ACADEMIC RESULTS

RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

NEED BASED

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS

PROGRAMME SPECIFIC

LOCATION SPECIFIC

SUBJECT SPECIFIC

- Academic, community, and corporate scholarships
- Some require financial need; others do not
- Many focus on well-rounded individuals

Timing Your Applications

- Start early: Big scholarships often have early deadlines
- Most applications peak in spring
- Plan ahead to avoid missing deadlines

Building a Strong Application

- Highlight academic and personal achievements
- Be concise and specific in your statements
- Tailor your application to each scholarship



Crafting Your Personal Statement

- Focus on what makes you unique
- Address specific scholarship criteria
- Keep it clear and compelling



Creating a Winning Resume

- Include relevant awards and achievements
- Differentiate between job and scholarship resumes
- Update regularly with new accomplishments

Gathering Reference Letters

- Choose references who know you well
- Provide them with a brag sheet
- Give them ample time to write

Reference Letter for [Samuel Smith](#)

Please fill out the following form to upload your letter for the applicant. All uploaded files will be converted into PDF format by the server (and that's why there are always 2 links inside the parentheses after the uploaded file name), **please make sure the converted PDF file looks OK by clicking on the 'PDF' link to view it right after submitting this form.** The "Entry Name" is your own private name for the letter; it can be anything you like. You can select a file from your local system by clicking on the "Browse" or "Choose File" button, or enter the text directly into the provided area; then click on "Upload" near the bottom to actually upload it. The "Delete" button can be used to delete an existing entry. A generic letter needs to be uploaded only once, no matter how many places the applicant is applying.

Entry Name	Reference #1
Your Letter*	Select a file to upload Choose File no file selected OR type in text/url/html directly here by clicking on 
Who could read this letter?	*** No need to change the default permissions here if you are submitting a generic letter *** Your letter, once submitted, could be viewable to any faculty at an institution using MathJobs where this candidate makes an application. The institution will assign access to faculty at their own discretion. You may limit access to your letter by institutions if necessary (for example, you may want to submit some letters tailored for some selected employers, and submit a generic letter for all the others). 
Expire*	2011/10/15  (YYYY/MM/DD, the last day this can be used to apply for jobs)
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Using a Brag Sheet

Canoga Park High School

BRAG SHEET

PURPOSE of Recommendation Letter:

___ Common Application ___ College ___ Scholarship ___ Other
___ EOP ___ Honors Program

Student Name: _____ Date: _____
Email Address: _____

List ALL colleges, programs or scholarships along with deadlines:

1. _____ Deadline Date: _____
2. _____ Deadline Date: _____
3. _____ Deadline Date: _____
4. _____ Deadline Date: _____
5. _____ Deadline Date: _____
6. _____ Deadline Date: _____
7. _____ Deadline Date: _____
8. _____ Deadline Date: _____
9. _____ Deadline Date: _____
10. _____ Deadline Date: _____

List ACT and/or SAT Scores:

Standardized EXAM	Month/Year Taken:	OVERALL Score	ACT –OR– SAT MATH Score	ACT –OR– SAT READING Score	ACT –OR– SAT WRITING Score	ACT SCIENCE Score

- List your achievements and skills
- Share with those writing your references
- Ensure they highlight your strengths

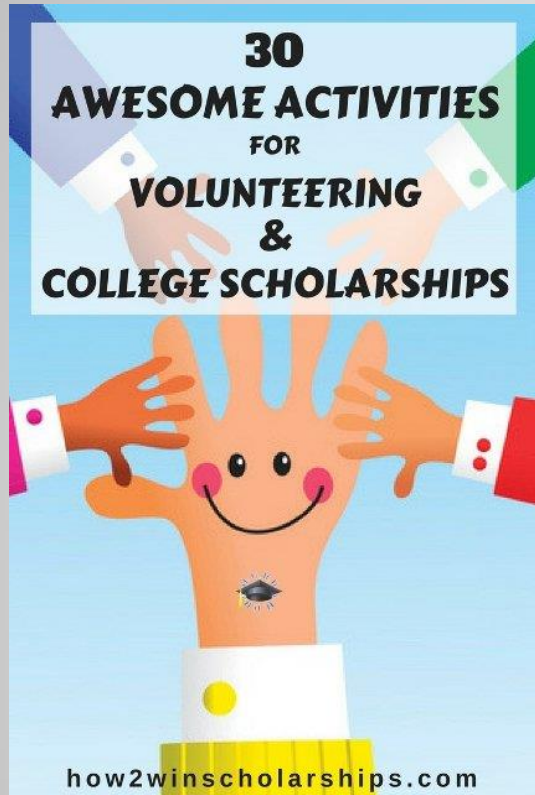
Leveraging Online Resources

- Use sites like ScholarTree and Scholarships Canada
- Create profiles to match with opportunities
- Stay updated with new scholarships

Common Misconceptions

- Scholarships aren't just for top students
- Many don't require financial need
- Persistence is key to finding the right fit





Volunteering and Extracurriculars

- Highlight unique volunteer experiences
- Show leadership and initiative
- Use creativity to stand out
- Donors are looking for **“Impact”** – meaning, what impact have you had in your high school, community, etc.

Preparing for Interviews

- Practice common interview questions
- Be ready to discuss your application
- Show enthusiasm and confidence

Managing Rejections

- Not every application will be successful
- Learn from feedback and improve
- Keep applying and stay motivated





Celebrating Success

- Acknowledge your hard work and achievements
- Share your success with your community
- Use scholarships as a stepping stone to future goals

Final Tips for Success

- Start early and stay organized – make sure to look ahead so you don't miss an opportunity
- Seek help from counselors and mentors
- Be persistent and proactive

Contact Information

- Reach out to your school counselors for guidance
- Use community resources for additional support
- Stay connected for updates and new opportunities



