

COLLEGE-SPECIFIC & OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS – Info Sheet

Scholarships

- free dollars that help you pay for college and that do not need to be repaid
- an essential part of college funding
- vary widely, from a one-time award of \$250 to a full-tuition scholarship for all four years of college

Being awarded scholarships

- makes a huge difference in your financial situation and your final college choice
- requires effort and discipline on your part

Two kinds of scholarships

- **College-specific scholarships:**
 - offered by individual colleges and may not be used to pay for other colleges
 - in addition to the financial aid award that colleges offer when you are admitted
 - likely to require auditions or an additional application process
 - often not well-advertised, and the burden is on the student to explore the college's website or call the financial aid office to find such opportunities
- **Outside scholarships:**
 - found on numerous websites and in your Naviance account
 - exist by the thousands, each with its own application, requirements and deadline
 - typically funded by private or non-profit organizations and can be used to pay for any college
 - often paid directly to the college that you choose to attend
 - may be for specific groups only (Latina/o, African American, First Generation, Female, Cook County residents, etc.), and some are for certain majors only (Engineering, Nursing, Education, etc.)
 - require research to find those for which you are eligible
 - **Outside scholarships can be divided into three categories:**
 - **National**
 - open to any qualified candidate in the country
 - examples include Coca Cola, Dell, Jack Kent Cooke, NHSF and UNCF
 - **City / State**
 - open to residents of Evanston, Cook County, or Illinois
 - examples include the George M. Pullman Award (\$20,000) and HEAR (\$20,000) and Warren "Billy" Cherry (\$3,000 – \$12,000)
 - **Community (Local)**
 - found using your own community resources such as ETHS, Unity, religious organizations, ethnic or immigrant organizations, your parent/guardian's workplace or places you volunteer
 - examples include Chessmen, Unity and ETHS Senior Scholarships (amounts vary)

How many scholarships should I apply for and when should I start?

- NOW is the best time to start
- December, January, February and March have the highest concentration of application deadlines
- 1st, determine college-specific scholarships for which you qualify and apply to those
- 2nd, search, select and apply for a minimum of four National or City / State outside scholarships
- 3rd, determine your eligibility for community scholarships, and then search, select and apply for as many community scholarships as you can

I have questions. Who should I contact?

- Your pod leader, Caryn Summer @ 847-274-5423, csummer@evanstonscholars.org or Liane Anderson @ 916-337-1221