

Scholarship Secrets

How to Become a Scholarship Junkies...and Pay for College



General Presentation
Wednesday, July 22, 2015

David's Story



- Graduated from Cleveland High School, 2012
- Won enough scholarships to cover 5 years at the University of Washington
- Pursuing many majors, with many jobs!

Scholarship Junkies

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[For Students](#)

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Why Scholarship Junkies?

How will you pay for college? In the face of rising tuition and student debt, Scholarship Junkies aims to help students tap into the world of scholarships as another means of paying for college. Whether you've submitted dozens of scholarship applications already or you're stumped on where to start, the articles, tips, and feedback Scholarship Junkies offers will help you better understand how scholarships work—and hopefully make you more competitive for scholarships. Learn more about why Scholarship Junkies exists.



Students helping students achieve scholarship success.

[Search Scholarship Junkies](#)



Our Goals

- Understand the scholarship process, and figure out how scholarships work.
- Discover where to find scholarship opportunities, and how SJ can help.
- How to craft our stories into competitive applications

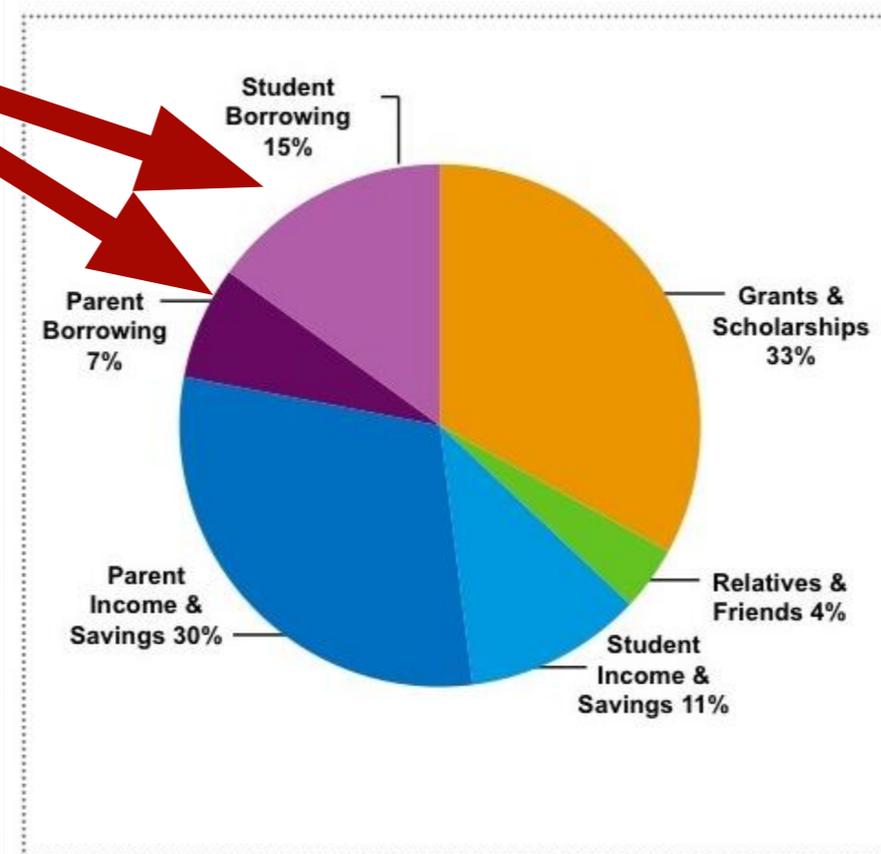
Today's Key Question

How will you pay
for college?

The Costs of College

Loans

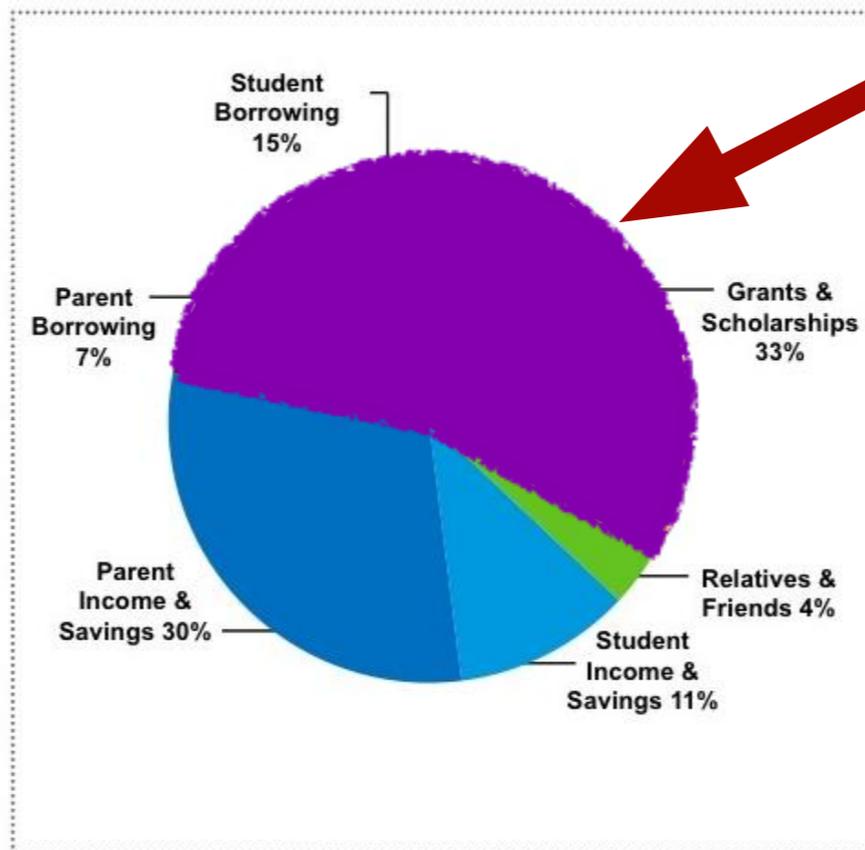
Fig. 2 How the Typical Family Pays for College: Average Percent of Total Cost of Attendance Paid from Each Source



Imagine you have to pay \$23,149 per year
(one year estimated total costs for UW resident undergraduate)

The Costs of College

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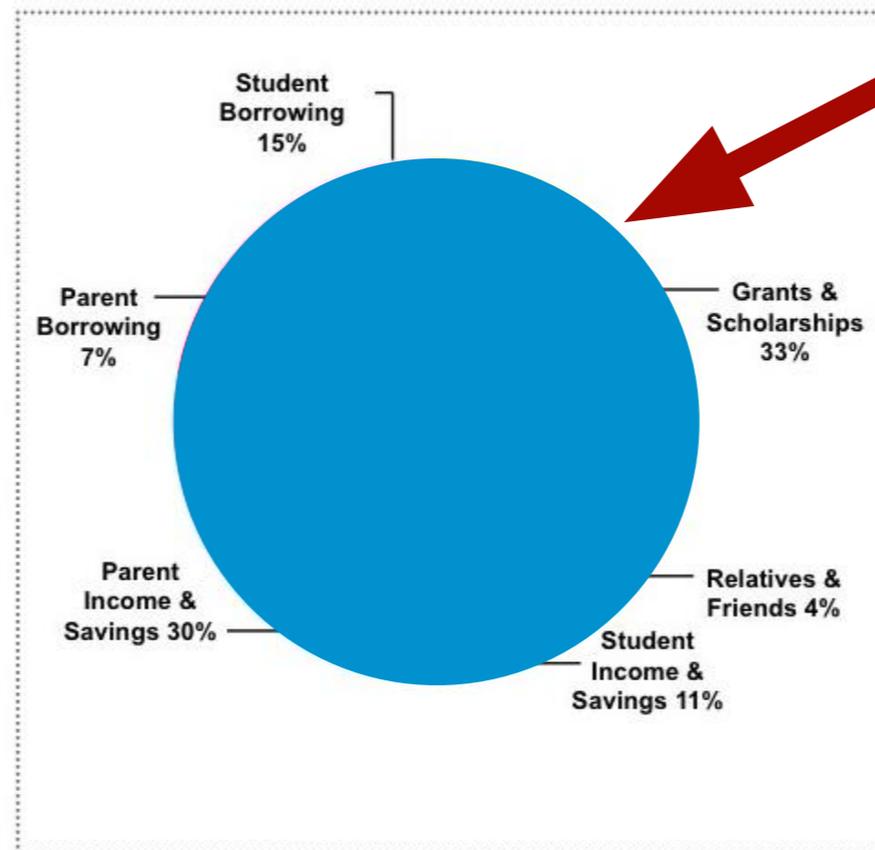


Financial
Aid

Imagine you have to pay \$23,149 per year
(one year estimated total costs for UW resident undergraduate)

The Costs of College

Fig. 2 How the Typical Family Pays for College: Average Percent of Total Cost of Attendance Paid from Each Source



Scholarships

Imagine you have to pay \$23,149 per year
(one year estimated total costs for UW resident undergraduate)

Define: “scholarship”

- A Scholarship Junkie would define a scholarship as:
 - *An organization’s financial investment in your potential to succeed, to make a difference, and to embody their core values.*

Scholarship T/F

It is very hard to apply for a scholarship.

Scholarships benefit everyone that apply.

Scholarships are only for intelligent people.

The more you apply, the better your chances.

It is better to apply by yourself.

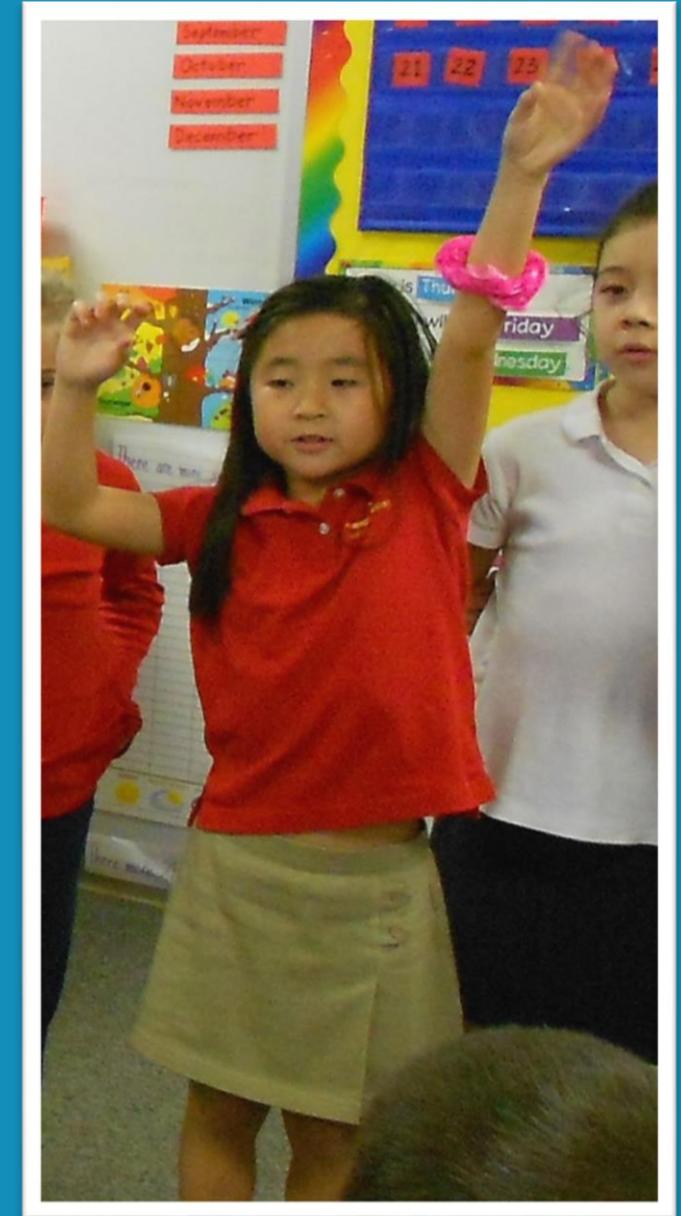
Scholarships are awarded for...



...what you are doing with your TIME. Your grades are also important and also your test scores too.

Kindergarten Confidence

- Belief that anything is possible
- Belief in yourself
- FEAR
- Where do you feel this?
 - “They succeed because they think they can” - Virgil



Scholarship Criteria

Academics

Athletics

Extracurriculars

Arts

Leadership

Community Service

Overcoming Adversity

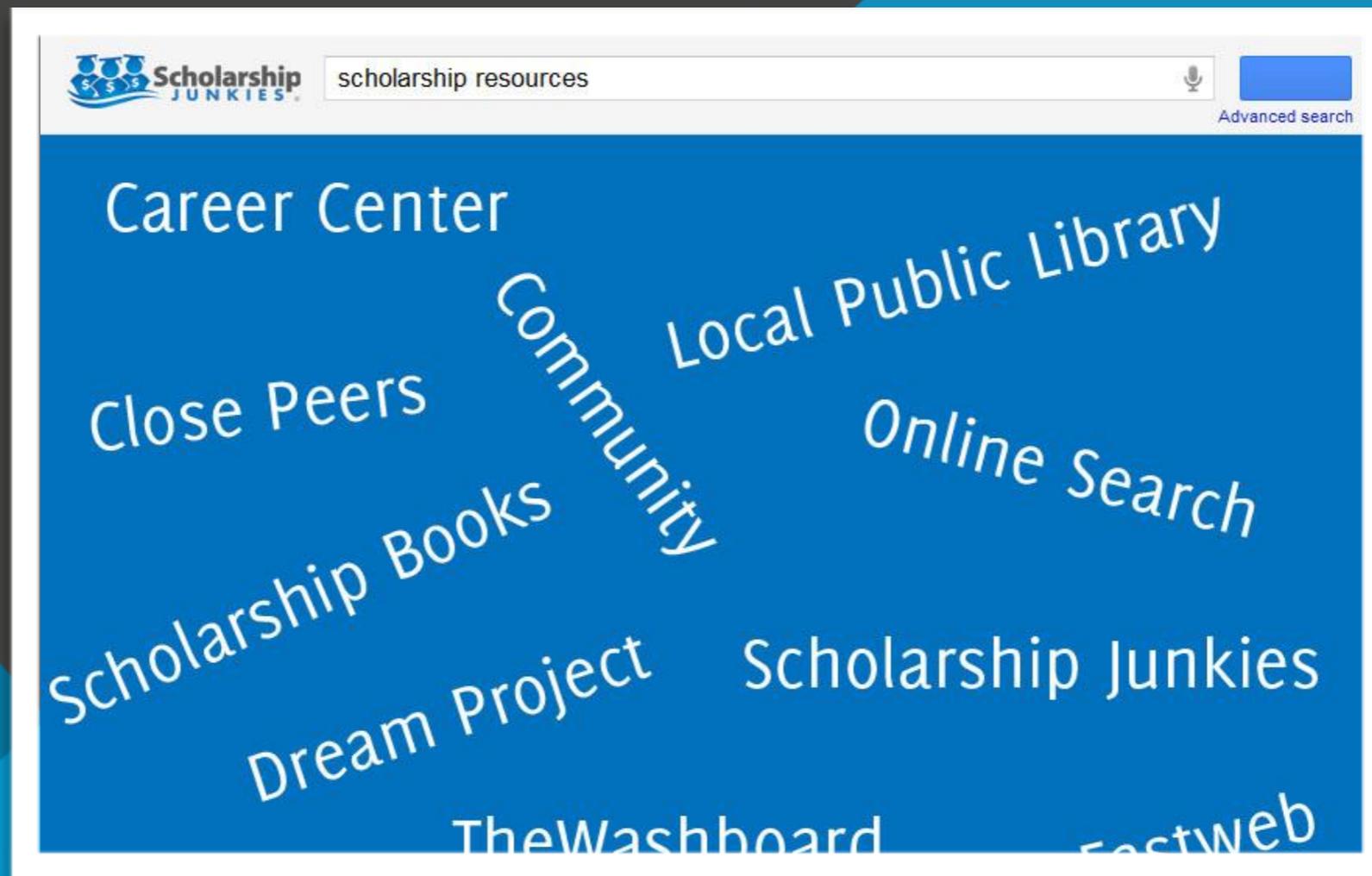
Nationality, race, or
ethnicity

Religious affiliation

Organizational
membership

Hobbies

Scholarship Resources

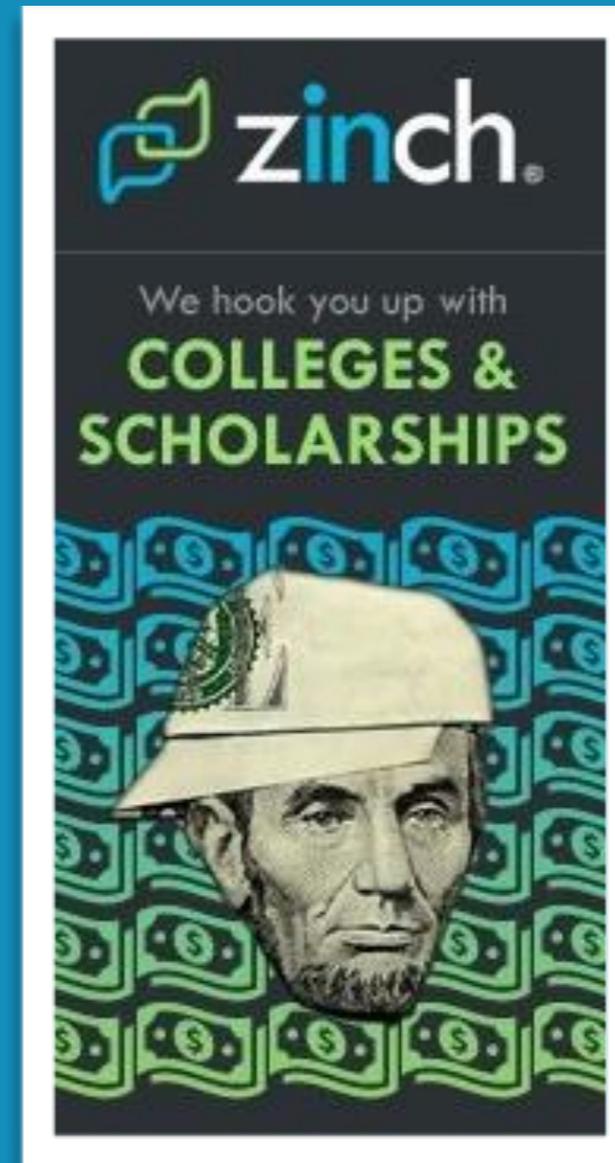


Using Scholarship Junkies

- Free, online, one on one essay feedback, editing, & revision within 72hrs!
- Writing workshops and events just for you!
- Q&A Forum with 24/7 support, answers from scholarship experts and special events
- Detailed tips and tricks via our blog, helpful info-graphics and a hub of scholarship platforms, and scholarship tracker

Online Scholarship Tools

- TheWashBoard.org*
- FastWeb.com
- Scholarships.com
- Scholarships360.org
- Zinch.com
- MillionDollarScholar.com
- GuidetoScholarships.org
- FeedMyCollegeFund.org
- Mobile Apps
 - - Scholarship Advisor*
 - - Scholly
 - - i-finAid



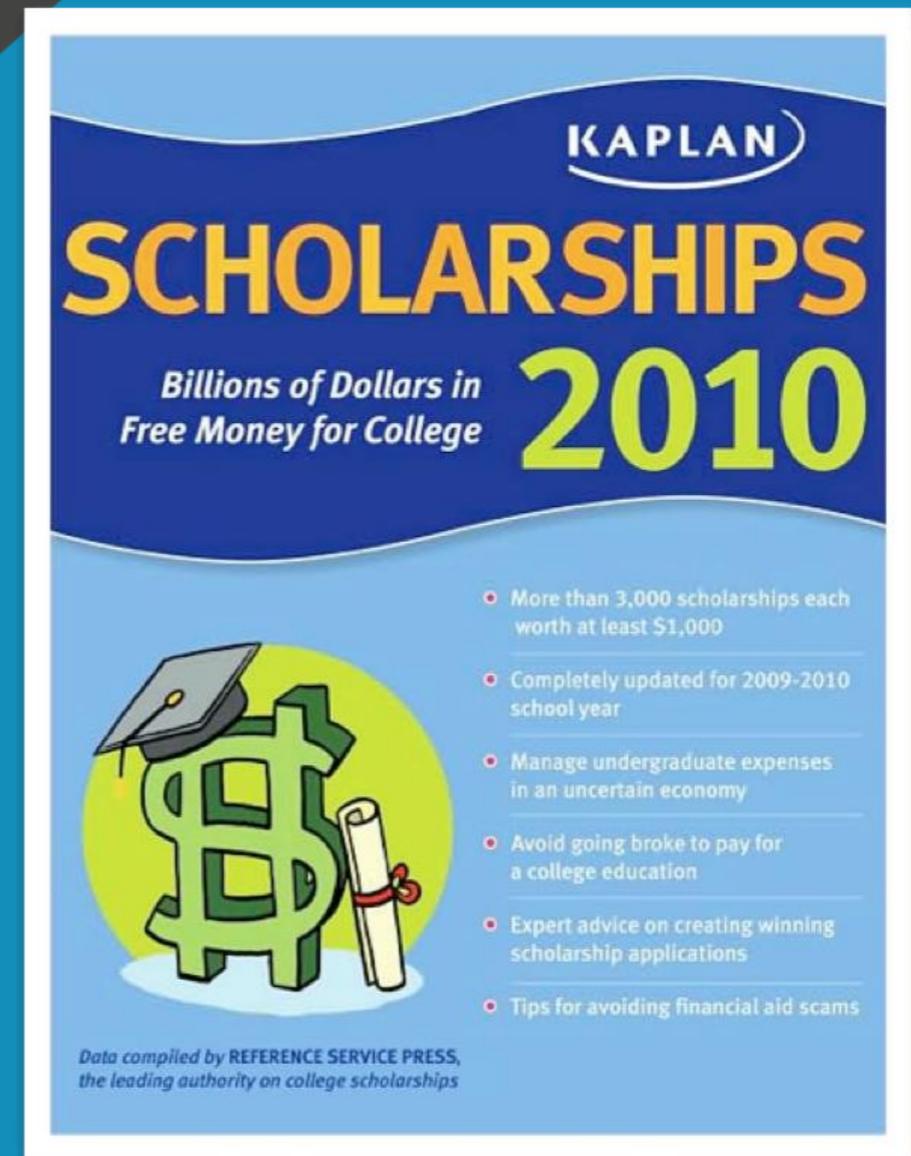
The Community

- Visit your high school's college career center for local, and college based scholarships.
- Ask teen librarians for help or resources.
- Google companies and organizations.



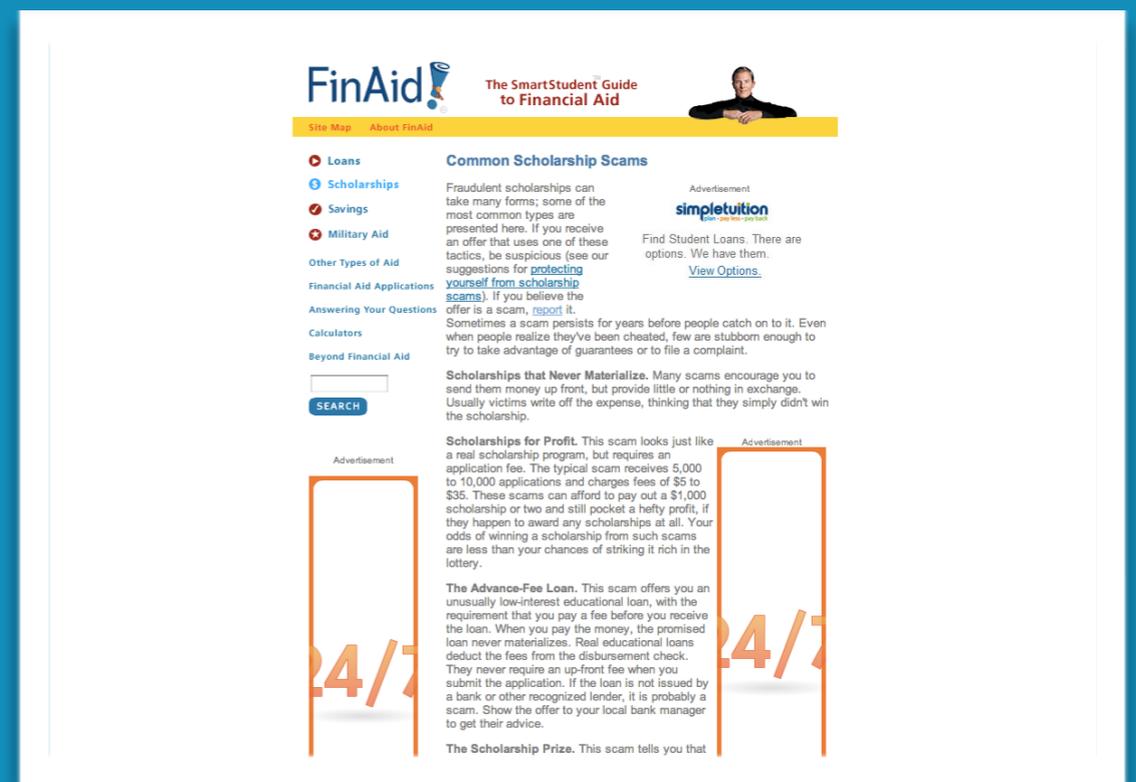
Scholarship Books

- You don't need to buy the book; write down the names of scholarships and google them for more information.
- The more books the better.



Beware: Scholarship Scams

- Never pay money to submit a scholarship application
- If they ask for **sensitive information** (i.e. credit card info, mother's maiden name), it's likely a scam
- No one can guarantee you a scholarship, especially if you **never applied**



The screenshot shows the FinAid website with the following content:

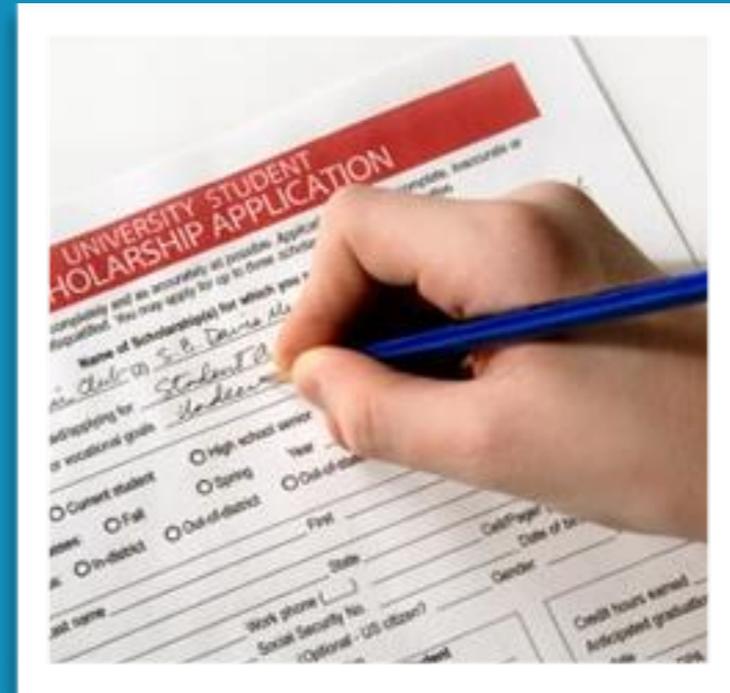
- FinAid!** The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid
- Navigation: Site Map, About FinAid
- Menu: Loans, Scholarships, Savings, Military Aid, Other Types of Aid, Financial Aid Applications, Answering Your Questions, Calculators, Beyond Financial Aid
- Search bar with a SEARCH button
- Common Scholarship Scams** section:
 - Fraudulent scholarships**: Can take many forms; some of the most common types are presented here. If you receive an offer that uses one of these tactics, be suspicious (see our suggestions for [protecting yourself from scholarship scams](#)). If you believe the offer is a scam, [report it](#).
 - Sometimes a scam persists** for years before people catch on to it. Even when people realize they've been cheated, few are stubborn enough to try to take advantage of guarantees or to file a complaint.
 - Scholarships that Never Materialize**: Many scams encourage you to send them money up front, but provide little or nothing in exchange. Usually victims write off the expense, thinking that they simply didn't win the scholarship.
 - Scholarships for Profit**: This scam looks just like a real scholarship program, but requires an application fee. The typical scam receives 5,000 to 10,000 applications and charges fees of \$5 to \$35. These scams can afford to pay out a \$1,000 scholarship or two and still pocket a hefty profit, if they happen to award any scholarships at all. Your odds of winning a scholarship from such scams are less than your chances of striking it rich in the lottery.
 - The Advance-Fee Loan**: This scam offers you an unusually low-interest educational loan, with the requirement that you pay a fee before you receive the loan. When you pay the money, the promised loan never materializes. Real educational loans deduct the fees from the disbursement check. They never require an up-front fee when you submit the application. If the loan is not issued by a bank or other recognized lender, it is probably a scam. Show the offer to your local bank manager to get their advice.
 - The Scholarship Prize**: This scam tells you that
- Advertisements for **simpletuition** (Find Student Loans) and **4/7** are visible on the page.

Scholarship Applications



Application Components

- Application form (academic record, grades, test scores)
- Activities log (leadership, service)
- Essay(s)
- Interview(s)



Why Apply?

- The only way you are guaranteed to not win a scholarship is if you do not apply.
- It takes time to make money from scholarships, so you have to make time.



Two Important ?s

- Who are you?
- Why do you do what you do?

Scholarship Essay

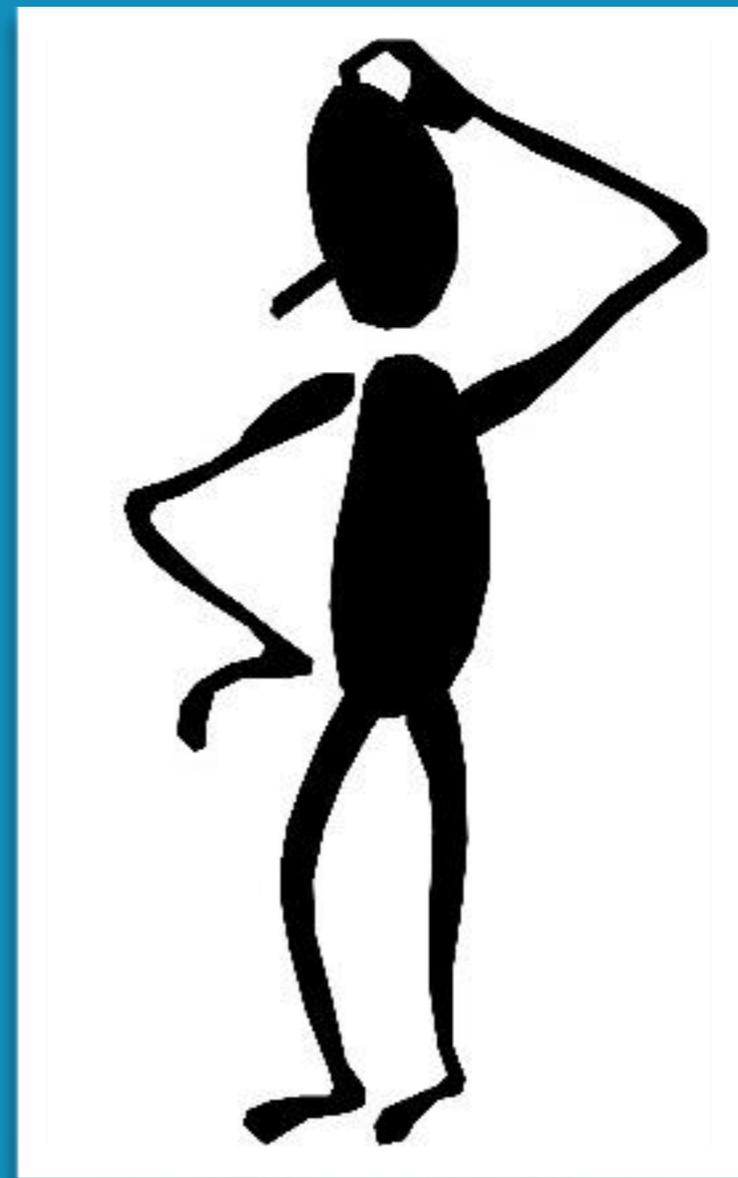
- Example essay question (300-500 words):
 - *Please write a 300-500 word essay describing any obstacles you have overcome and what you did to overcome them.*

First Draft

I was in a car accident when I was eight. My family's car was hit by a drunk driver, and I became paralyzed from my waist down. I had to get a wheelchair from then on and kids at school made fun of me for not being able to walk anymore. My family helped me to make sure I could go to the doctor and to all my physical therapy appointments. These appointments were expensive and cost a lot of money. But even though I had a wheelchair, I still worked hard in school and was involved in activities like Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD). I hope to become a lawyer when I am older and help other people.

SJ Analysis

- Is the writing exciting enough to capture your attention?
- Will you remember this essay when you leave?
- Does the essay share who you are and why you do what you do?



Revised Draft

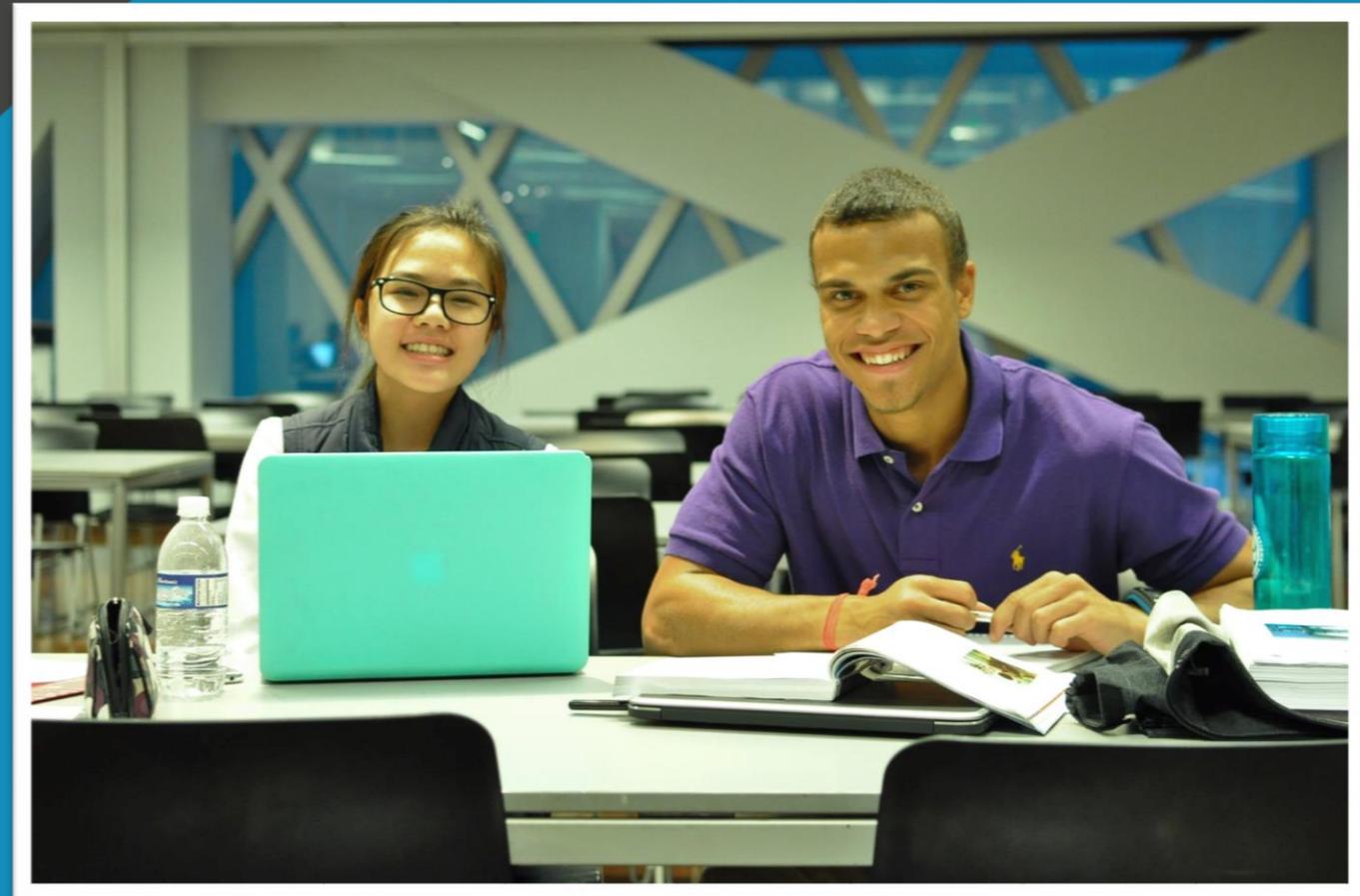
On a late summer evening in 2002, a drunk driver struck my family's car as we were returning home from a weekend camping trip. The sudden impact crushed my legs and left me paralyzed from my waist down. I was only eight years old. After three weeks in the hospital, I returned home unable to move without a wheelchair. Needless to say, I was devastated. My parents made barely enough money to support me and my two brothers, but they scrapped to save every penny to pay all my medical bills. Seeing my family's sacrifice, I was determined to succeed and provide a future for my family. I helped start a club called Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) to educate teens about the dangers of drunk driving. By telling my personal story, I could share first-hand the destructive nature of driving under the influence of alcohol. These experiences have inspired me to want to become a lawyer, so I can keep my community safe and provide a voice for those who need it.

How Do I Become a Better Writer?

- Challenge yourself in English and writing by writing as much as possible
- Read winning essays from past scholarship recipients
- Listen to great speeches on YouTube or Google them to read the text (i.e. David Coven, Obama's speeches)
- Work with peers, mentors, parents, and Scholarship Junkies

ScholarshipJunkies.com

- Dozens of Scholarship Junkies across the country.
- Willing to work with you virtually.
- Help make your applications as competitive as possible.



What Will You Do?

Obey your thirst

S. earch

O. rganize

D. eadline

A. pply



Questions and Answers

Ask any questions
you have about
scholarships.