

Finding Scholarship Money for College

3 Important Scholarship Categories

IN ORDER OF PRIORITY:

- Scholarships (merit aid) from the college you attend
- LOCAL scholarships and groups you or your family are affiliated with
- National Scholarships

Scholarships (Merit Aid) from Colleges

(1)

BIGGEST source of scholarships/grants outside of federal aid – 40% percent of scholarships come from colleges

- Does the college offer merit aid?
 - Check the admissions/financial aid websites for the school
 - www.collegedata.com - click on “money matters” tab for data about how much merit aid the school has given in the past
- Which are the most generous colleges for merit aid?

SEE: <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/rankings/most-merit-aid>

Scholarships (Merit Aid) from Colleges (2)

“The simple rule of thumb: if you want more scholarships, apply to the schools most likely to accept you. ” - Collegewise

- Would you be a top student at the college?
 - See – www.collegedata.com for admissions data – middle 50% of ACT, GPA; look for schools where you would be in the top 25%
 - ACT scores and GPA can be a trigger – play with the net price calculator. Consider retaking the ACT if it will yield more \$
- Do you bring other things to the college – talent, geographic diversity, etc.? Highlight those things!

Scholarships (Merit Aid) from Colleges (3)

- Is the college a good fit for you? (You should be able to say yes!) Do you like it? **MAKE IT CLEAR!**
 - Visit if you can
 - Make sure you attend visits to EPHS
 - Interview if that's an option
 - Communicate with the admissions rep for Minnesota

- Pay attention to deadlines! –
 - Some scholarships are automatic but you must apply by a certain deadline.
 - Some require additional applications – know the deadlines and craft a great application!

LOCAL Scholarships

Smaller applicant pools = better chances

Many individual applications

- Stay on top of scholarships and deadlines
- Have an application strategy

Common App for Local (EPHS) Scholarships

- Deadline is usually early February
- Students complete one app for many scholarships
- Will use recommendations already in Naviance
- WRITE A GREAT APPLICATION!!!! Don't mail it in....

Finding Local Scholarships

Naviance Scholarship list updated every week

- Posted in Naviance and in Daily Bulletin
- Local scholarships are highlighted in yellow
- The most successful students schedule time to check weekly
- Choose “local” category in Naviance to see only local scholarships

Notable local scholarships not on Scholarship Common App:

- Schulze Family Foundation Scholarship – for middle class families - \$5000 renewable
- John Heinmiller Scholarship – activities and character

Scholarships in Naviance – “colleges” tab

The screenshot displays the Naviance user interface with the 'Colleges' tab selected in the top navigation bar. The navigation bar includes links for Home, Courses, Colleges, Careers, About Me, and My Planner. A dropdown menu is open under the 'Colleges' tab, listing the following options: COLLEGES Home (with a house icon), COLLEGES I'm thinking about (with a heart icon), COLLEGES I'm applying to (with a graduation cap icon), Find Your Fit, Research Colleges, Apply to College, and Scholarships and Money. Each of the last four options has a right-pointing chevron icon. On the left side of the interface, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the placeholder text 'Type a college name'. Below the search bar, there are two main content areas: 'Juniors!' on the left and 'My Favorites' on the right. The 'My Favorites' section contains a heart icon, a large blue arrow pointing right, and the text 'COLLEGE:'. Below this, there is another entry with a graduation cap icon and the text 'COLLEGES I'm applying to'. A pink button with the text 'CH' is partially visible on the right side of the interface.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

below contains scholarships or financial aid awards that may be relevant for you. Click the name of a scholarship to view more information. You may also select the scholarships for which you are submitting applications and then click "Add to My Applications"

Scholarships

All		 <input type="checkbox"/> Only show new since my last update				
	Deadline	Maximum Award	Merit based	Need based	Essay req	Search results
ASA Redefining Ready National Scholarship	-	\$5000				
ES Engineering Scholarship	10/6	\$500				
Alert Magazine Scholarship	-	\$500				

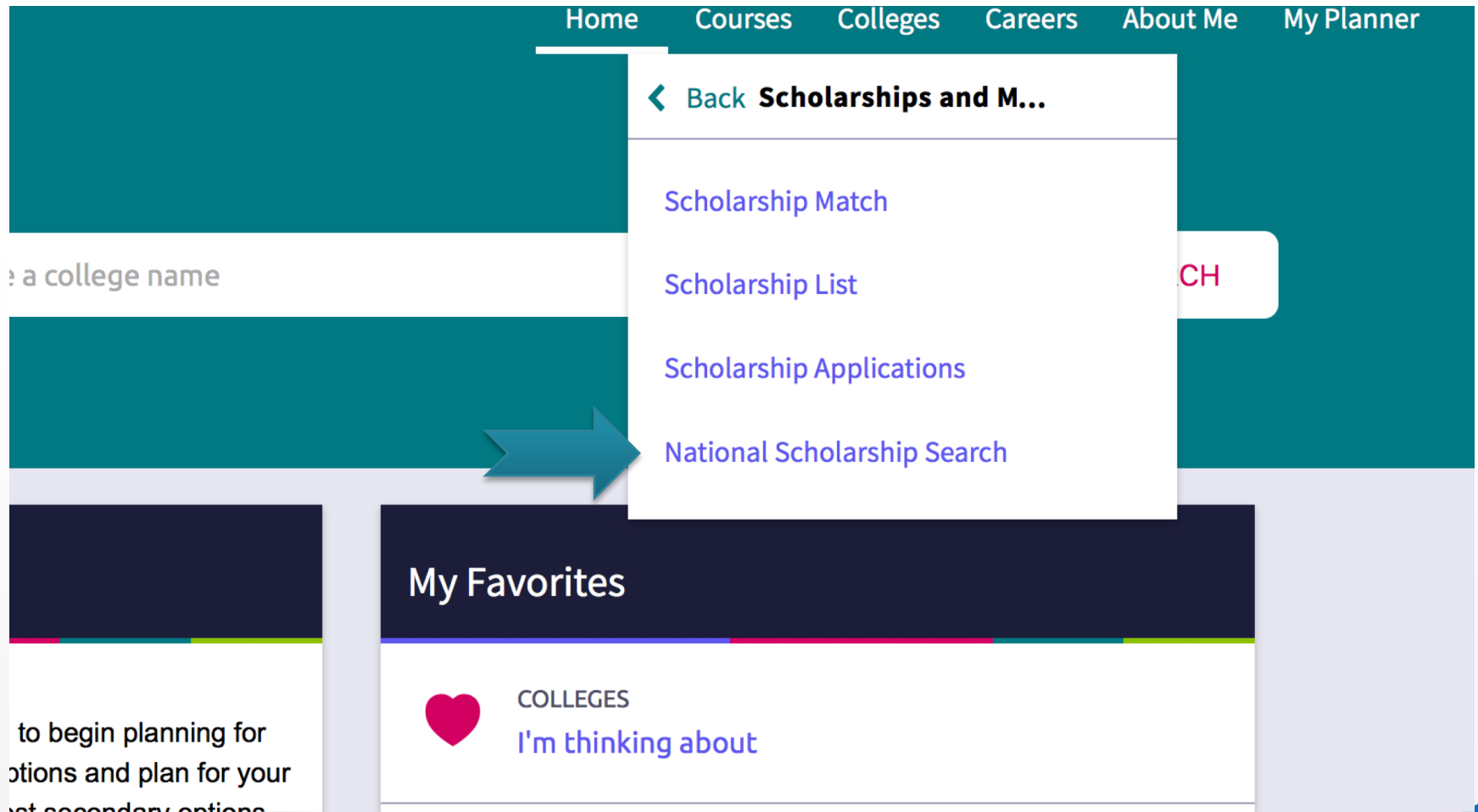
Other “Local” Scholarship Sources

- Churches
- Masonic and other membership groups
- Workplaces
- Ask grandparents too!

National Scholarships- Look for FIT

- Naviance/Daily Bulletin – details in Naviance
- USE A SCHOLARSHIP EMAIL!
 - Peterson's
 - Unigo
 - Fastweb
 - Chegg
 - College Board
 - Scholarships.com
 - Scholarshipexperts.com
 - Finaid.org
 - Zinch.com
 - Cappex
- NEVER PAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP LEADS!

National Scholarship Search – Sallie Mae



Sallie Mae Scholarship Profile in Naviance

Scholarship Search

Ethnic Heritage

Irish

Scandinavian

Disability

None Selected

None Selected

Interests, Hobbies & Passions

Activities you participate in formally or informally.

Dance

Community service / Public service

Science

Health

Athletics & Sports

Select any sports that you play.

None Selected

None Selected

None Selected

Current or Planned Area of Study

Select an area of study. You will be able to make changes to your selections later.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND RELATED CLINICAL SCIENC

None Selected

Current or Future Career Goals

Select the industry or field that you plan to enter.

Doctor (Medicine)

Dentists

Application Strategies

- Check for new scholarships weekly
- Compile an Accomplishment list/Resume
- Be ready to write! - Essays are a common and important component. Give them a reason to choose you!
- Letters of recommendation: Give plenty of time – at least 2 weeks
- Nominations - If you need a nomination, you can initiate this by talking to counselors

Some things to remember

- **MODESTY DOES NOT PAY**
 - Students need to be their own advocates
 - Letters of recommendation are supporting documents, make sure they support you!
 - Essays – start strong, finish strong, clear points
- Scholarship \$ often goes to the school and not to the student
- Be aware that some scholarships are lead generators for companies. Use caution. Create a “scholarship email address.”



THANK YOU

BETH KREUSCH
College and Career Advisor

☎ 952-452-3149
✉ beth@collegeguidemn.com
🌐 www.collegeguidemn.com