

The background of the slide features a light blue gradient with a faint, semi-transparent image of classical architectural columns on the left side. The columns are detailed with fluted shafts and ornate capitals. The entire slide is framed by a dark blue border.

Scholarship Opportunities

Understanding the possibilities...

Counseling Department

Ballston Spa Central School District

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Who is awarded Scholarships?

While GPA, class rank and test scores are important, scholarships are most often awarded to students who are also involved in school and community activities. Scholarship committees look for involvement in meaningful activities and for depth of commitment in these activities.

The criteria for scholarships....





What kind of Scholarships are available?

- **National:** (i.e. Coca-Cola, Toyota)
- **State:** (i.e. New York State Lottery)
- **Regional:** (i.e. Golub Corporation, Capital District Counseling Association)
- **Affiliations:** (i.e. CSEA, Capital Communications Federal Credit Union, Military)
- **Local:** (i.e. Local Community Scholarships)
- **College/University:** (i.e. Merit Based)

Where do I find Scholarship Opportunities?

Scholarship Search Engines are *free* to register

www.fastweb.com - Scholarship search engine. Over 1.3 million scholarships are available to apply for on the Web site.

www.schoolsoup.com - The search engine will find scholarships that match your interests and profile by searching through \$32 billion worth of scholarships. Scholarships with the best matches are listed first.

www.scholarshipexperts.co

This database has 2.4 million scholarships available

http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

Free online college scholarship search. More than 2300 sources of college funding, totaling nearly \$3 BILLION in available aid.

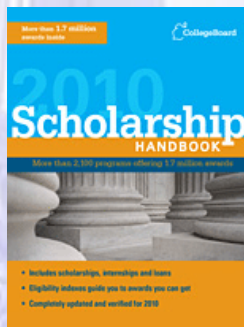
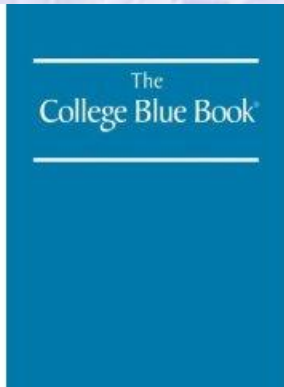


Additional *Free* Scholarship Websites:

- www.pertersons.com – The Peterson site is sponsored by Thomson Publications, publisher of educational materials.
- www.ja.org– Sponsored by the Junior Achievement organization. 8,000 private scholarship programs.
- www.scholarships.com - 2.7 million scholarships & grants.
- www.scholarshipexperts.com - Get unlimited access to our scholarship database of 2.4 million scholarships.
- http://www.collegeanswer.com/paying/scholarship_search/pay_scholarship_search.jsp access to a scholarship database containing more than **3 million scholarships worth over 16 billion dollars**, and is expanded and updated daily.

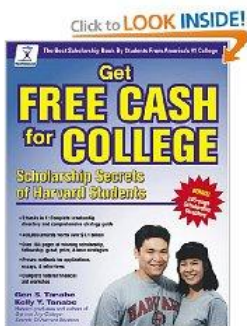
Reference Books

Many Scholarship Reference Books are available
Examples include...



- College Blue Book 33 6 Vol. Set Publishing MacMillan, Manufactured by Macmillan Publishing, Hardcover - **33RD, Edition.**

- College Board Scholarship Handbook 2010. Author: **College Board.** Edition: 10th. Format: Paperback. Publisher: Henry Holt & Co.



- Get Free Cash for College 2009 by Tanabe, Kelly & Tanabe, Gen ISBN: 1932662162.

School Guidance Department

- A wide variety of Scholarships are posted through the guidance office and updated regularly.
- Check with your School Counselor often.
- Current Scholarships are posted on the Guidance Department website:

<http://www.bsccd.org/High.cfm?subpage=557>



Where else should I look for Scholarships?

- Religious Organizations
- Clubs and Organizations you are affiliated with
- Library
- Local Newspapers



Evaluate yourself in relation to the requirements:

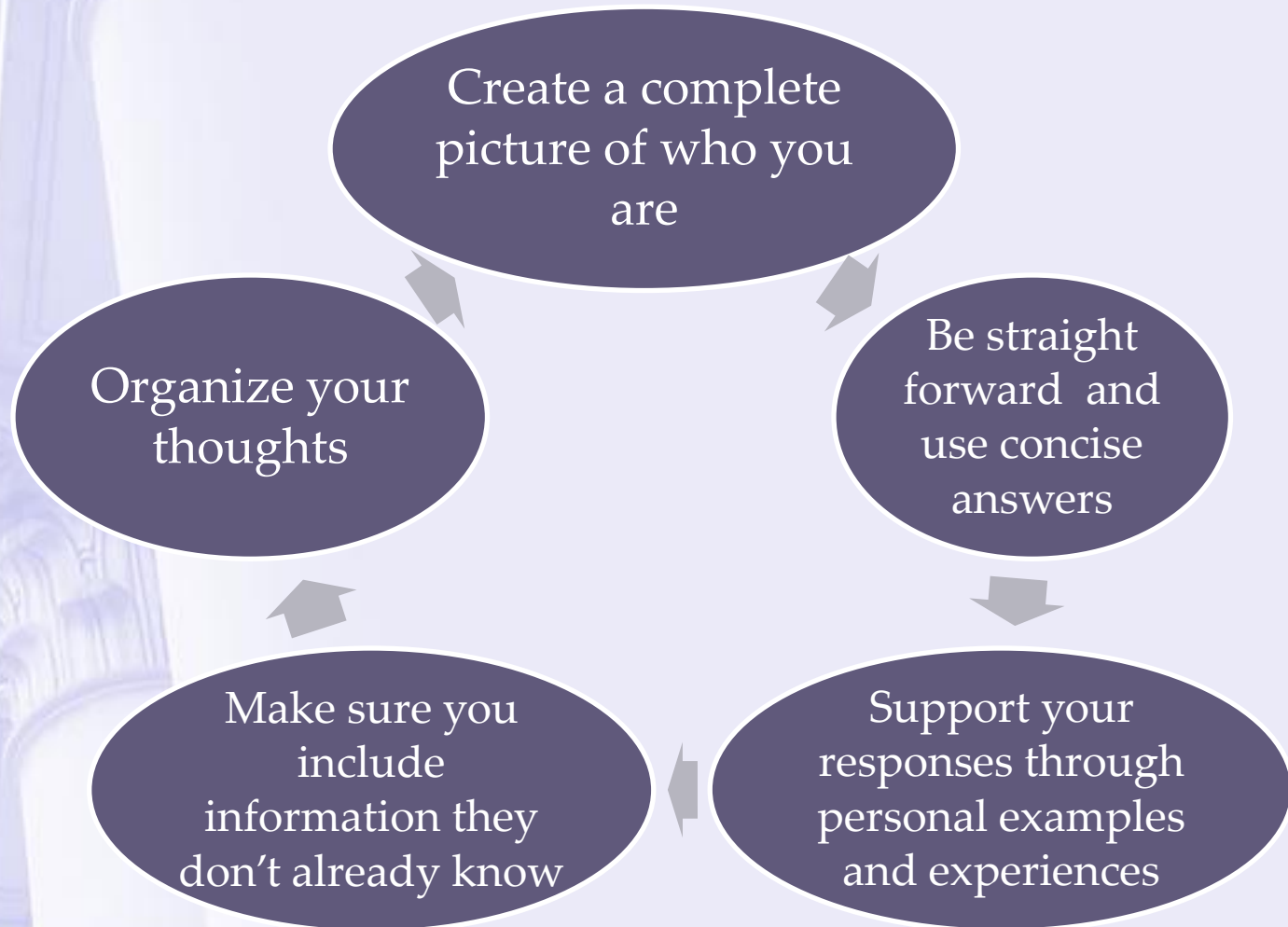
- What career do you hope to pursue?
- How do your goals and ambitions relate to the implied goals of the scholarship?
- How do your qualifications compare to the requirements of the scholarship?
- What are your past successes, achievements, honors received and positions of leadership held?
- What are your abilities and potential?
- Where do you want to see yourself in five years?
Ten Years?
- For what accomplishments and in what way would you like to be remembered?

Organization is Key



- *Compile* appropriate information (transcript, resume, letters of recommendation, etc.)
- *Understand* the organization that is granting the scholarship
- *Write* effective and compelling essays – triple check edit and look for typos...
- Make sure applications are *complete* – *Don't leave blanks.*
- *Assemble* the application in order – Neatness counts...
- *Copy* the application prior to sending
- Adhere to *deadlines*

The Essay...





Scholarships

- Start Early - Prioritize
- Compile the application – including letters of recommendation
- Commit to the time it takes
- Stay Organized
- Neatness Counts – Proofread
- Meet the Deadlines
- Be awarded the Scholarship!

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Expectations of Being a Scholarship Recipient:

- Acceptance of the award.
- Agreeing to continue to meet the requirements of the scholarship.
- Submitting a thank you letter to the donor(s).

Scholarship Thank You Letters:

- Address the thank you letter to the fund donor, if it is a named fund.
- For an organization or general scholarship award, you can address it to “Dear Friend.”
- **Letters must be typed. The thank you letter won’t work well if the donor can’t read what you have written!** A one page letter is fine.
- Please print your letter on regular white paper or light colored stationary.
- Proofread your letter. You communicate your intelligence through correct spelling and grammar. You can always ask someone else.
- who has good proofreading skills to read your letter.
- Always put your name, with return address on the letter. You may want to include your email or phone number so the donor can contact you.



Closing thought...

The one thing that all scholarship recipients have in common is,

They all applied!