

# 10 TIPS TO HELP YOU WIN A SCHOLARSHIP

## TIP #1.



MAKE A LIST of your activities, achievements, awards, jobs, etc. This list will be a helpful resource when completing your scholarship applications (and your resumé too)! Parents: encourage your child to start keeping track of their activities as early as Grade 9 -- it's important!

## TIP #2.



Academic excellence + LEADERSHIP are important requirements for many scholarships with large award amounts and major admission awards. Participate in school clubs, sports, committees, etc. and if you can, move into a leadership role. Think about starting your own club or initiative!

## TIP #3.



Did you know there are scholarships awarded based on your VOLUNTEERISM in the community? Volunteering demonstrates you care about your community. It can also show that you are a well-rounded individual with passions and aspirations. Get involved!

## TIP #4.



Students are automatically considered for entrance scholarships when they apply to a university. Other scholarships require an application. You don't need to wait until a university accepts you to apply! Be sure to CHECK THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINES!

## TIP #5.



Scholarships may be offered by your employer, or your parent's employer, your sports league, or a club you belong to. Local chapters of national civic organizations, local credit unions, or banks may offer awards. How do you find out what is offered, if anything? JUST ASK!

**TIP #6.**



Choose EXCELLENT REFERENCES. This is one of the most important elements of a scholarship application. Choose someone who knows you, and your aspirations, well and can speak to your character: employers, teachers, guidance counsellors, coaches, etc.

**TIP #7.**



CLEAN UP YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA. Your online reputation matters! Make sure your social media accounts reflect who you are. It is common for scholarship committees, employers, and admissions officers to check the social media sites of their applicants.

**TIP #8.**



APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS WITH SMALL AWARD AMOUNTS. Scholarships with large awards (more dollars) attract more applicants. You have a better chance of winning the “smaller” scholarships. And they add up! They can cover the cost of books, a new laptop, supplies, etc.

**TIP #9.**



Get GOOD GRADES. Many scholarships require at the very least a 'B' average. Generally, grades do NOT weigh as heavily when awards (bursaries) are based on financial need. You will want to get the best marks you can in Grades 11/12 for university and college programs too!

**TIP #10.**



Find a SCHOLARSHIP that FITS YOU! Have you had health issues? Are you an athlete? Have you overcome an obstacle? What is your heritage? Consider these questions and more when searching for scholarships. There is a scholarship out there that FITS you uniquely!

