

# **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID**

## **First thoughts**

This is a *time consuming process* so prepare to dive in and research, plan and act in order to accomplish your goal of achieving some form of financial aid. You find scholarships they don't find you, and keep in mind you never win scholarships you don't apply for! Begin by creating a folder (both digital and paper). This should include all reference letters, applications, essays and forms completed. This is useful going forward with your search and you can reuse suitable material for future applications.

Check timelines carefully! Scholarship applications run throughout the school year and many happen each month. Have a monthly target you plan to apply for and be sure to meet your timelines. **Note: If you require a school endorsement for your award or scholarship you must submit this request to guidance a minimum 2 weeks prior to the final due date.**

## **Next steps**

Begin your **research** by visiting the following websites and others you discover. Keep notes and begin to gather the relevant documents required. The following ideas are divided into a few different categories::

### **1. SPECIFIC UNIVERSITY and/or COLLEGE WEBSITES DIRECTLY**

Google the School Name and type in "Financial Aid" to find possible scholarships for students entering first year.

Example - Google "WLU Financial Aid" for Info on Laurier Scholarships and Bursaries.

### **2. PERSONAL CONNECTIONS:**

Consider places of employment: parents work/ your workplace, for possible financial aid.

Community organizations: [Indigenous Bursaries](#) [Disability Awards](#)

### **3. WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SCHOLARSHIPS**

<https://www.wrdsb.ca/learning/programs/secondary-school-information/scholarships/>

Our own school board offers a variety of scholarships and bursaries so check out the options by visiting the wrdsb website.

### **4. PHS GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

<https://phs.wrdsb.ca/guidance/scholarship-information/>

These awards are for PHS students only who are graduating in this upcoming year.

Graduating students must complete the 'PHS General Application Online Form' to be eligible for these awards. Applications are due in the 3rd week of April.

### **5. SCHOLARSHIPS ADVERTISED BY THE PHS GUIDANCE OFFICE**

[Monthly Scholarship List](#)

### **6. WEBSITES - helpful sites for your search**

College and university information

[www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) (Ontario colleges - go to Colleges link and go to 'Paying for College' tab)

<https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/> (Ontario universities - go to 'Finance' tab)

<http://phs.wrdsb.ca/> (PHS website - go to guidance and then click on 'scholarships')

General information regarding scholarships, awards and bursaries available in Canada:

<https://osap.gov.on.ca> OSAP Aid Estimator

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/student-loans-grants-scholarships-and-bursaries>

[www.campusaccess.com](http://www.campusaccess.com) Click on "Financial Aid")

[http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/student\\_financial\\_aid/scholarships.page](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/student_financial_aid/scholarships.page)

Specific services for receiving updates and notifications regarding scholarship opportunities.

<https://yconic.com>

<http://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>

[www.schoolfinder.com](http://www.schoolfinder.com)

<https://scholartree.ca>

Good luck with your search and reach out to your guidance counsellor if you have any questions!