

## Scholarship Tip Sheet

A **scholarship** is a monetary award based on academic merit or excellence. There are literally thousands of scholarships, awards and grants available to help finance your post-secondary education. Unlike a student loan, you do not have to repay it. Scholarships can be based on academics, athletics, volunteer hours, community service, a special skill or talent or a combination of these. Some require you to write an essay. Most require references from teachers. To help with this process, use the SACHS Reference Letter Form (found in Tip Sheets) and remember, teachers are busy, be sure to give them enough time to write those reference letters.

**Watch deadlines.** Apply, apply, apply!

Keep your marks, athletics, leadership and volunteer work at an outstanding level and stay positive. You know you are awesome, believe in yourself!

**Searching and applying for scholarships is time consuming. Be prepared to put in the work required, it pays off in the end.**

### **Need help finding scholarships:**

- Talk to Mrs. Rieger in Student Services
- Search using the database links on the [scholarship page](#) of the SACHS website
- Talk to your parents and/or relatives to see if any of their employers, clubs or organizations they belong to offer awards to family members.
- Check out the post secondary school you plan to attend for possible scholarships and entrance awards. Check for entrance awards and faculty specific awards.

### **What to do next:**

- Start applying. Go for quality, rather than quantity.
- Be sure you meet the requirements as outlined on the application.
- Keep extra letters of recommendation and transcripts on hand (it will save you time if you are applying for more than one award.)
- Apply well before the application deadline. **Keep a copy of everything you send.** Mail your application before the deadline.
- Use clear and concise language and avoid the use of slang and/or acronyms.
- If you are required to write an essay, give yourself enough time. Proofread carefully and then have someone else proofread it.
- Keep a copy on file. With a few revisions you may be able to use your essay for another application.
- If you are required to attend an awards ceremony, show up, have a thank you prepared, and dress appropriately.
- Send a thank you to the donor, when appropriate. over→

### [Alexander Rutherford Scholarship](#)

The Alexander Rutherford Scholarship has a value of up to \$2,500. To qualify for the scholarship, a student must have a minimum combined average based on five designated courses in at least one grade: Grade 10, 11 or 12. Check the website for course requirements and award value. Apply online once you have been accepted to a post-secondary program. Online applications begin each year in August.

### [Apprentice Scholarships](#)

Apprentice Scholarships Applications for the Apprentice & Industry Training Board Family of Scholarships are available in three categories: AIT, RAP and Pre-apprentice. Check the Trade Secrets website for requirements and award value.

### **Entrance Scholarships:**

Many entrance scholarships are automatic, but do not assume anything. Find out if the post secondary institution you are applying to requires you to submit an application.

### **How Do I Pay For My Education?**

Financing your post-secondary education usually comes from a combination of financial sources. These could include the following:

- your savings, birthday money, work - summer and/or part-time work
- grants, scholarships or bursaries
- apprenticeship, co-op education programs and internships (work terms)
- government-sponsored loans, student loans
- RESP funds and parent contributions
- loans from lending institutions or student lines of credit

Check out the scholarship links on the SACHS website.

## **Scholarship Scams, How do I avoid them?**

Scam Warning Signs:

- they ask for your SIN\* or a PIN
- you have to pay a fee
- they ask for a credit card or bank account number
- make claims that seem too good to be true

**Never give out your \*Social Security Number or PIN Numbers**