The Best Sites to Look for Scholarships

1. Peterson’s

Peterson’s is a one-stop scholarship resource — not that we recommend this strategy — with a number of great (and free!) resources. The site boasts $10 billion in scholarship awards and has an impressive collection of articles, test prep resources and more.

But it’s not just a stockpile of scholarships. It also has the tools and tips you need to start your search — and its search filters make navigation simple. Filling out a very short survey allows you to adjust the filters as you go, which gives you more control than sites that require extensive profiles to get started.

2. Unigo

Like Peterson’s, Unigo has plenty to offer beyond just scholarships, including jobs, internships, college profiles and rankings, articles and a textbook store. When it comes to scholarships, the site offers both profile-based matching as well as easy-to-browse categories.

Perhaps best of all is its user-friendly interface, which is somewhat reminiscent of a photo-sharing site. It makes finding scholarships simple. What’s more, the site values security and privacy of personal information — so, in other words, no spam!

3. Fastweb.com

Fastweb is another terrific, free resource where you'll find thousands of scholarships at your fingertips. Not only does Fastweb offer a massive database of monetary awards, but it also features helpful career planning services and learning tools for its registered users! One of Fastweb's most recently featured scholarships is the "Natural Disaster" PSA Video Contest, a $3,000 scholarship offered to creative undergrads with an eye for cinematography and knowledge of the consequences of natural disasters.

4. ScholarshipPoints.com

You know how you always seem to receive a new, complimentary gift after so many purchases at that favorite beauty counter of yours? ScholarshipPoints works the same way! Well, kind of. The site's users rack up points through a rewards system, making them eligible for different scholarships according to how many points they have earned. Members can earn points through fun, day-to-day activities like reading blogs, taking quizzes and playing online games. ScholarshipPoints offers a rolling, monthly $1,000 for its members and a quarterly $10,000 scholarship. Join today and start earning your points, collegiettes™!
5. **Cappex.com**

You may remember being advised by your high school guidance counselor to make a Cappex account to help narrow down your college search, but don't delete that online profile just yet! The site is still helpful during our undergrad years, offering ample scholarship opportunities and financial advice. Once we're undergrads, Cappex graciously bumps us up to "College Pro" status, where we'll be eligible to apply for a $2,500 College Pro exclusive scholarship! Don't wait, and check out all of the fine print of the Cappex College Pro scholarship today.

6. **Scholarships.com**

A no-brainer of a URL, are we right? Scholarships.com is a wonderful resource for collegiettes™ who aspire to kill two birds with one stone—the site finds both scholarships and colleges that are perfect for you! If you're looking to transfer to a school that is dying to recruit you and offer you scholarships, this is the site to visit. The site allows you to pinpoint specific scholarships by your major, year in school and location, increasing your chances for receiving awards and saving you tons of time. For meticulous proofreaders and aspiring editors, you may want to check out the Proof-Reading.com Scholarship Program featured on Scholarships.com! Although an essay is required, the $1,500 you could earn is definitely worth the time spent behind the keyboard.

7. **College Board's Scholarship Search**

Offering 2,300 sources of financial aid and over $3 billion in scholarship awards, the College Board's scholarship search resource could put you on the right track to financing your education—and fast! To start your search, be sure to fill out the detailed questionnaire on the site to narrow down specific awards that satisfy your financial needs. While you're browsing the College Board's scholarship selection, see if you're eligible to apply for the Coca-Cola Community Colleges Academic Scholarship! If you're at a small, local school this $1,000-$2,000 award could be right up your alley.

8. **StudentScholarships.org**

StudentScholarships.org is much like NextStudent.com, serving as a powerful search engine for finding relevant scholarships for undergrads. This site is also helpful because it features career profiles for many fields of study, giving its users a good idea of expected salary and job opportunities after graduation. Check out the Dr. Aura-Lee A. and James Hobbs Pittenger American History Scholarship, a $8,000 scholarship (with $2,000 paid annually through a four year college career) if you're a collegiette™ interested in American History and Government!
10. **SuperCollege.com**

Last, but not least, we have SuperCollege.com! This site is an online database of scholarships, grants and fun contests for undergrads to enter and (hopefully) win. On top of offering great scholarships, SuperCollege also offers no-nonsense guides for collegiettes™ like "How to Write a Winning Scholarship Essay" and "More Easy Ways to Save Money in College." For creative collegiettes™ who are savvy with videography and have a way with flashcards, be sure to check out SuperCollege's Flashcard Scholarship worth $500!

11. **Chegg**

Over the years, Chegg has expanded from its humble beginnings as an online textbook store to become a well-rounded education resource. It acquired scholarship match service Zinch in 2011 and now hosts scholarships totaling over $1 billion.

Its interface is simple and the mandatory sign-up process is well worth the time. What’s more, it has a “top scholarship picks this week” category, which highlights opportunities you may have otherwise missed. And on top of the scholarships, Chegg offers homework help, tutoring, test prep, internships and (of course) textbooks.

12. **Niche**

Formerly known as College Prowler, Niche is one of the easiest sites to navigate. It’s neatly organized into categories that make it simple to start finding and applying for scholarships.

You can browse by categories – including, but not limited to, sports, interest area, career and major — but it can be tricky to filter outside of these preset groupings. Still, with no required sign-up and a user-friendly design, Niche is a simple and powerful resource.

13. **CollegeNET.com**

Despite its somewhat unusual interface, Collegenet has an impressive number of scholarships. You can search by keyword or create a personalized profile to get filtered results. From there, you can create, manage and save lists that you can return to later.

Scholarships are listed by their award amounts, with the highest payout listed first. While the site’s search results are often extensive, it could benefit from some more filtering or organizational tools.

14. **Scholarship Monkey**
Scholarship Monkey offers three search options: personalized search, search by keyword and lists of scholarships. Results from any of these searches can then be further filtered by college, but unfortunately not by any other criteria.

Despite its huge index of scholarships, the site is not as easily navigable compared to some others, making it more difficult to take full advantage of its opportunities. Another reason it ranks lower on the list: spam. I’ve received numerous emails from the site, even after unsubscribing.

Nonetheless, it’s a great tool with a huge database of scholarships – even if it is trickier to use than others on the list.

Compiled by the New Orleans Public Library.
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