

Scholarship and Financial Aid Information

It is no secret - *the more scholarships you fill out and apply for, the more likely you are to get money!* Think of looking for scholarships and financial aid as a part time job. Be prepared to spend some time **every day** or a longer chunk of time **each week** working on scholarships.

Who offers scholarships?

Colleges and Universities	Local businesses and organizations
Labor Unions	National businesses/corporations and organizations
Veteran Organizations	Federal and State Governments
Military	Religious and Cultural Organizations
Service Organizations	Parent's Work

Searching for scholarships

1. Use a free internet search (NEVER pay someone to find a scholarship for you).

www.finaid.org

www.collegeboard.com

www.fastweb.com

2. Get a packet of current scholarships from the counseling office every two weeks.

3. See the current scholarships posted in your senior English and US Government classes.

4. Fill out Coronado's Scholarship and Financial Aid Interest Form to meet with your counselor for more information.

5. Look online for current local scholarships and resources.

www.ccpef.org

www.ccsd.net/cpd/guidance/guidance.html

www.coronadocougars.net/counselors.htm

6. Check with the College/University you are applying for.

Be sure to fill out their Financial Aid/Scholarship Application

7. Have your parents prepare to fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form.

www.pin.ed.gov - apply for your PIN in October/November

www.FAFSA.ed.gov - submit your form on January 1st

Preparing to apply for scholarships

1. Create a resume
Include: GPA, SAT/ACT scores, Goal after High School, Work Experience, Community Service, Sports, Honors and Awards, Special Skills or Talents, and References.
2. Ask teachers, counselors, coaches, employers, etc for letters of recommendation.
3. Get a copy of your transcript.

Applying for private scholarships

1. This is an ongoing process - new scholarships are available to apply for every two weeks.
2. Many applications have a link to apply online.
3. Mrs. Downey has copies of paper applications when available.
Fill out a counselor request listing the specific scholarship application you would like. You may pick up your application after 24 hours.
4. Follow the directions carefully.
5. Be neat and precise - do not submit a sloppy application!

Timeline to apply for Financial Aid from a College/University

1. Complete the process to apply for your chosen colleges in the fall (*be sure to fill out financial aid and/or scholarship applications for each college).
2. Complete the CSS Profile if required by your chosen colleges. Visit www.collegeboard.com
3. Both student and parent apply for PIN (see website above).
4. Complete FAFSA and submit ASAP after January 1st, 2006 (see website above).
5. In the early spring (or online) you will receive your Student Aid Report from FAFSA. Review and submit.
6. In the spring you will receive award nominations from colleges.
7. Decide on your college choice and financial aid package for that school.
8. Inform the counseling office of any scholarships you have been offered throughout the year.