Scholarship Guide Print-Out

***Put together by Johnny Lee with help from Kevin Magana (The Honors Student Advisory Committee @ LaGuardia, Summer 2011). For a range of transfer and scholarship application strategies and tips, please check our new LaGuardia Honors Network Website this Fall: laguardiahonors.com***

College is one of the best investments anyone can make. However, it can leave a hole in your wallet. Luckily for students, there are many financial resources out there to help alleviate the costs associated with getting a higher education. This guide was made to help you search for many scholarship opportunities out there for you. Be sure to have a plan. For example, you should set a goal to apply to 10 scholarships a day.

**Where do I begin?**

When you first start you scholarship search, you may be overwhelmed by the number of scholarships out there. It is crucial that you stay organized and mark down deadlines! Do NOT procrastinate! You have been forewarned. Applying to scholarships can be very time consuming, especially the ones that require an essay.

**How do I find the right scholarships?**

There are a variety of scholarships out there for students of different backgrounds, areas of interest, and unique situations. Here are a few suggestions for narrowing your search down.

1. **Transfer scholarships-** These could be found on the search engines or on the website of the school to which you are applying.
2. **Ethnicity or Gender-** Look for scholarships specifically for your ethnic background, especially if you’re a minority.
3. **Your area of interest-** Search for scholarships based on your major or field of interest especially if you’re a math or science fields.
4. **Honor societies-** Join the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. There are many scholarships available exclusively for PTK members. These transfer scholarships are created by individual 4-year colleges (excluding those within CUNY), and are searchable through the PTK tool, collegefish.org.
5. **Unique situations-** This is very general because it can include anything from being a single mom, hardships you had to face, or your unique living situations. You should know better than anyone else what applies to you.
6. **Veterans-** Your service to your country is greatly appreciated! There are plenty of scholarships just for veterans.
7. **Institutional scholarships-** Look on the website of the school you are applying to.

**How to Increase Your Chances of Getting Scholarships**

1. Maintain a high GPA of at least 3.3 (the higher the better).
2. Have a creative idea? Include it in your personal statement if it is relevant.
3. Talk about your extracurricular activities.
4. Illustrate just exactly how interested you are in the field you are trying to enter.
5. Talk about hardships you have to overcome, but focus on the “overcoming,” problem-solving part.
6. Do NOT vie for the guilt trip or the sob story.
7. Do NOT talk about controversial issues. You do not know who will be reviewing your application and if they will agree with your standpoint.

**Initiating Your Scholarship List**

A list of scholarship search engines may be found on our website (laguardiahonors.com) under the scholarship section. We included ten scholarships on the next two page to start you off and two template pages for you to fill out.

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| **Name of Scholarship** | **Application Deadline** | **Reward** | **Qualifications** | **How to Apply** |
| **The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation’s Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship** [www.jkcf.org/scholarships](http://www.jkcf.org/scholarships) | Typically around the end of January. | up to $30,000 per year. | * Minimum GPA of 3.5. * Current student at a US community college or two-year institution with sophomore status by December 31, 2011, * Plan to enroll full-time in a baccalaureate program at an accredited college or university in fall 2012. * Have significant unmet financial need. * Have not previously been nominated. * Must be nominated by faculty representative. | Faculty Representative :  Dr. Koh [kkoh@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:kkoh@lagcc.cuny.edu)  (718)482-7200 |
| **The Kaplan Leadership Program**  [www.kaplanedfoundation.org](http://www.kaplanedfoundation.org/) | (To be determined for 2011-2012) | Up to $20,000 per year. | * Minimum GPA of 3.3. * Completion of 12 to 30 college credits by application deadline. * U.S. citizen or permanent resident. * Current recipient of federal and/or state financial aid. * Member of an underserved or underrepresented population. * Desire to transfer to a bachelor’s program immediately upon completion of associate’s degree. | Download the application material from the website. Be sure to read the *Tips about how to manage the KLP application well* found right under the application material. |
| **Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team Program** [www.coca-colascholars.org](file:///F:\HSAC\www.coca-colascholars.org) | ((To be determined for 2011-2012) | 50 awards of $2,000  50 awards of $1,500.  50 awards of $1,250. 50 awards of $1,000.  150 awards of $1,000. | * Minimum GPA of 3.5. * Must be enrolled at a community college. * Must have a minimum of 36 semester college level credits completed * Must not have been nominated previously for the All-USA Community College Academic Team. * Must have a community college record free of suspension, probation or other serious disciplinary action. * Must have a record free from any criminal conduct, or if a convicted felon, has completed all conditions of sentencing.. | Must be nominated by the designated nominator at his/her school.  (Dr. Gail Mellow [gmellow@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:gmellow@lagcc.cuny.edu) ) |
| **Hites Scholarship**  [www.ptk.org/hites\_scholarship](http://www.ptk.org/hites_scholarship) | ((To be determined for 2011-2012) | $7,500 (Four payments of $1,875 per semester.) | * Minimum GPA of 3.5. * Must be a Phi Theta Kappa Member. * The student's record must be free from suspension, probation or other disciplinary action. * Must have a record free from any criminal conduct, or if a convicted felon, must have completed all conditions of sentencing,. | Online application will be available on the www.PTK.org. |
| **Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program** [www.act.org/goldwater](http://www.act.org/goldwater/) | (To be determined for 2011-2012) | Up to $7,500 per year. | * Minimum GPA of 3.5. * Students aspiring to become scientists, mathematicians, and engineers. * Essay addressing an issue or problem in your interested field of study. * Three letters of recommendations from professors. * Must be nominated by faculty. | Faculty representative: Howard Motoike  [hmotoike@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:hmotoike@lagcc.cuny.edu)  (718) 482-5322 |
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| **Goldman Sachs Scholarship for Excellence**  [www2.goldmansachs.com/careers/our-firm/diversity](http://www.goldmansachs.com/careers/our-firm/diversity) | (To be determined for 2011-2012) | $5,000 for Sophmore year; $10,000 for Junior Year. | * Minimum GPA of 3.4. * Black, Hispanic, and Native American undergraduates interested in a career at Goldman Sachs. * Online application that includes a 500 word essay * Recipients of the scholarship are also offered a paid summer internship at Goldman Sachs. | Complete an online application (visit their website for more information). Submit your essay in the cover letter. Mail your official Transcript |
| **National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Scholarship Program**  [www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp](http://www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp) | (To be determined for 2011-2012) | Up to $20,000 per academic year. | * Minimum GPA of 3.5. * U.S. citizen, national, or qualified noncitizen. * Must be from a disadvantaged background (certified by your school’s financial aid office as having “exceptional financial need”). | Create an account on their website and complete the application through the account. |
| **Morris K. Udall Undergraduate Scholarship**  [www.udall.gov](http://www.udall.gov) | (To be determined for 2011-2012) | Up to $5,000 | * Minimum GPA of 3.4. * Candidates must be U.S citizens, U.S. nationals or permanent residents. * Student pursue careers related to the natural environment; Native American and Alaska Native students who have demonstrated commitment to careers related to tribal public policy or Native American health care. * Application consists of 11-question online form, 800-word essay, three letters of recommendation. | Must be registered by a faculty representative. (Deirdre F Aherne [daherne@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:daherne@lagcc.cuny.edu))  After being nominated, apply online through their website. |
| **Hispanic Scholarship Fund**  [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net) | Varies. | Varies. | * Minimum GPA of 3.0. * Must be enrolled as a full time student. * Must apply for financial aid through FAFSA * Be a U.S. citizen OR legal permanent resident with a valid permanent resident card.   (Note: This fund is a collection of multiple scholarships with varying requirements. Be sure to check the requirements of the individual scholarships). | Create an online account at their website. |
| **Belle Zeller scholarship**  [**www.citytech.cuny.edu/BZMaterials/bz.shtml**](http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/BZMaterials/bz.shtml) | (To be determined for 2011-2012) | Full tuition. | * Minimum GPA of 3.75. * Candidate must have demonstrated evidence of good character, and significant service to CUNY, the community, and/or a particular CUNY college. * Community College Belle Zeller Scholars will continue to receive awards if they transfer to four-year colleges within CUNY and remain in good standing. | Send the application form (found on their website) to address listed. |

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