SCHOLARSHIP AID

There are a number of ways to qualify for scholarship aid. Some awards are based strictly on financial need, while others are given to people with outstanding grades or unique abilities. Additionally, some scholarships are linked to club membership, religious affiliation, or ethnic background. So look around. You might be surprised where scholarship opportunities are to be found. Here are some places to begin your search.

- **The CPCC Financial Aid Office**
  You probably know that this is the place to contact about applying for grants, loans, and work study programs by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). But you can also learn about the scholarships offered by CPCC’s Foundation office in Financial Aid. For more information about CPCC scholarship opportunities, as well as links to other scholarship programs, visit online at [www.cpcc.edu/financial_aid/scholarships](http://www.cpcc.edu/financial_aid/scholarships).

- **Individual Academic Departments**
  Some departments have information about scholarships opportunities available to students in their programs of study. For example, people pursuing degrees in Horticulture Technology, Early Childhood Education, and Information Technology can apply for scholarships that aren’t open to students outside of these majors.

- **College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC)**
  If you’ve never been to the CFNC website ([www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org)), you’re missing out on a host of fantastic resources. Among them, you’ll find links to North Carolina-based scholarships and national programs on the pages devoted to “Paying for College.”

- **Other Sources in the Community**
  Keep your eyes open. You never know when an unexpected opportunity will be printed in the newspaper, announced at a worship service, or posted in a store window. Better yet, don’t wait to stumble across scholarship information; ask around! Here’s a brief list of the kinds of organizations that provide scholarships:

  - Civic Organizations
  - Clubs (academic, recreational, professional, etc.)
  - Employers (your own and your family members’)
  - Ethnic & Cultural Societies
  - Faith Groups
  - Local Governments
  - Local Businesses
  - National Companies and Corporations
  - Non-Profit Organizations
  - Professional Unions and Associations

Every year, scholarships go unclaimed because people haven’t applied for them (or because their applications are incomplete.) Your odds of receiving a scholarship may be greater than you suspect. Of course, applying doesn’t guarantee getting an award, but not applying is a sure fire way to end up with nothing.