

# Where to Find Scholarships



Note: **Scholarships** are “free money” awards you can use for college tuition and expenses. Some are merit-based, meaning based on academic achievement, and others are purely needs-based, meaning your ability to pay. Other scholarships are based on certain unique qualifications, like membership or participation in a certain group, organization, or activity. **Grants** are also “free money” awards you can use for college tuition and expenses. Grants are typically needs-based. You should consider all scholarships and grants possible before looking at student **loans**, which will have to be repaid, typically with interest.

The primary way to find out if you are eligible for any grants is to complete the [FAFSA form](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or the [CASFA](#) if you are not eligible for FAFSA funds (Colorado Application for State Financial Aid-this is for undocumented students).

Most colleges have their own scholarships they offer to incoming students, and often just by applying to the school you are automatically considered for those scholarships as well. So be sure to learn about your prospective school’s financial aid resources.

There is an abundance of scholarship money available, and below are some helpful websites to help you find it. For some scholarships you will have to look at the qualifications and apply to each one-by-one, and other websites will allow you to create a profile and your information gets sent out to multiple scholarships to see how many you qualify for. The more time you spend looking for scholarships and applying, the better. There is so much information available, and a quick search could result in missed opportunities and more money your family must come up with out-of-pocket. Expect to spend quite a bit of time on this process.

We are giving you this information now, so you can plan ahead. You don’t want to be halfway through your Senior year and behind the ball, financially. If you see a scholarship that expired for this school year, make a note of it. Most scholarships repeat every school year, and you can apply when it re-opens for next year. Compile a list of scholarships you intend to apply for.

[XELLO](#) (log in using your PSD credentials/from Home page, “Search for Scholarships!” on the right, under “Resources”

[5-Lesser-Known Scholarship Sources to Look For](#)

[CSU's List of External Scholarships \(not related to CSU\)](#)

[Career One Stop Scholarships](#)

[Going Merry](#) (this site allows you to create a profile and get matched with scholarships and grants that are a match for you)

[StudentScholarships.org](http://StudentScholarships.org) (this site allows you to create a profile and get matched with scholarships and grants that are a match for you)

[Scholarships.com](http://Scholarships.com) (this site allows you to create a profile and get matched with scholarships and grants that are a match for you)



[The Boettcher Scholarship Program](#) is a merit-based award for Colorado Seniors. **This scholarship pays \$20,000 toward tuition and expenses at Colorado colleges.** The application opens September 1<sup>st</sup> and closes at 5:00pm on November 1<sup>st</sup> of your Senior year. There are 50 scholarship winners ultimately chosen. The selection criteria are as follows:

Once you apply, the Boettcher Foundation Scholarship selection committee judges each student on:

- Superior scholastic ability and intellectual curiosity
- Evidence of leadership and involvement
- Service to community and school
- Outstanding character

As a merit-based scholarship, they define merit as “merit of circumstance,” meaning the selection criteria stated above and more. The Boettcher Foundation cares deeply about lived experience and the context in which a student has thrived as a leader, either because of or in spite of personal circumstances. Competitive candidates also demonstrate strong potential for continued leadership and service.



**DANIELS FUND.** The Daniels Fund ([Daniels Scholarship Program](#)) **covers full cost of attendance at partner schools within Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming (see the full list of partner schools online).** If you attend a school outside of their 4-state region, you can receive up to \$25,000 per year for qualified educational expenses (tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies). This scholarship is both needs-based and merit-based, with financial qualifications defined on their website, but generally with parents having an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$100,000 or less. The application opens September 16<sup>th</sup> and closes October 18<sup>th</sup>.

What kind of students are they looking for? They’re looking for students with great potential, strong character, big dreams, and values that align with the man behind it all, Bill Daniels. Daniels Scholars® are America’s next generation of leaders, persevering through life’s challenges and committed to making a difference in the world around them. They are independent and entrepreneurial thinkers who are proud of their country and their communities and work hard to improve them.

The eligibility requirements are as follows (must be met at the time of application):

- Be a graduating high school Senior
- Be a resident of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, or Wyoming
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- Earn a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0 in high school (on an unweighted 4.0 scale)
- Earn a minimum SAT Math score of 490 and a minimum Evidence-Based Reading & Writing score of 490, or a minimum ACT score of 18 in each category (writing score not required).
- Meet financial eligibility requirements.