

**College Now**  
*Greater Cleveland*

# Finding Scholarships

Developing Tomorrow's Talent Today

[www.collegenowgc.org](http://www.collegenowgc.org)



because they  
aren't going  
to find you.



# Types of Scholarships

- Merit Based – academics and/or achievements (talent, extracurricular and community service)
- Need Based – student's and/or family's financial need
- Career Based – pursuing a specific career
- College Based – offered by college due to academic or personal achievement

# Where to start?

The college that you  
want to attend.



# Websites . . . another place to look.

- [www.clevelandfoundation.org](http://www.clevelandfoundation.org)
- [www.zinch.com](http://www.zinch.com)
- [www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com)
- [www.collegenowgc.org](http://www.collegenowgc.org)

# Strategy # 1:

## Think Local

- Local civic organizations, churches, your high school, your place of employment all might offer scholarships.
- Your chance of getting a scholarship goes up the more local it is!
  - [www.collegenowgc.org](http://www.collegenowgc.org)

# Strategy # 2:

## Think Specific

- Scholarships are available for students based on academic achievement, for certain majors, for underrepresented students, etc.
- There are scholarships for specific people; as specific as YOU!

# Strategy # 3:

## Think Easy

- Apply to the most obvious scholarships first.



# Applying for Scholarships

- Be sure you meet all deadlines
- Understand what is required for submission
- Follow up in a timely manner if you have not heard from awarding institution

# The Essay Step 1:

- Choosing a topic
  - Are you answering the question
  - Do you have enough information to support your topic
  - Is your topic too controversial or too boring
  - Tell what is unique about you
  - Be authentic - be truthful
  - Start early – leave plenty of time to revise, reword and rewrite
  - Save your essays on a flash drive or google docs

# The Essay Step 2:

- Writing your essay
  - Use the essay as a chance to separate yourself from other applicants
  - Write so people understand what you are saying
  - The body of your essay should support the introduction
  - Re-use essays or portions when possible
  - Avoid re-writing accomplishments

# The Essay Step 3:

- Writing your essay
  - Who are you? (NO demographics)
  - When people describe me they usually say . . .
  - Share a specific accomplishment, give details – something you are proud of.
  - What are your goals – why?
  - Pay it forward – what will you do with your education?
  - Why me? What will this support do to assist you reach your goals?

# The Essay Step 4:

- Proofing an essay
  - Ask at least two honest and qualified people to read over your essay
  - If you quoted something make sure you cited it correctly
  - Make sure each word counts

# Don't do this . . .

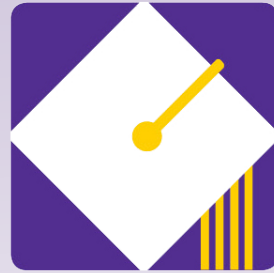
Eye halve a spelling checker  
It came with my pea sea,  
It plainly marquees four my revue  
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word  
And weight for it two say,  
Weather eye am wrong oar write  
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid  
It nose bee fore two long,  
And eye can put the error rite  
Its rare lea ever wrong.

# Beware!

- Not all scholarship providers have your best interest in mind!
  - Watch out for:
    - *Application Fees*
    - *Guaranteed Winnings*
    - *Too-good-to-be-true offers*



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## Questions?

