

Scholarship Strategies for Success

[Career Exploration Center](#)

[Building 1 Room 116](#)

<https://www.lanecc.edu/scholarships>

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STRATEGIES

- Organizational Tips
- Developing your Story
- Lane Foundation, OSAC, and The Ford Family Scholarships
- Winning Essay Tips
- Scams
- Next Steps



WHY SCHOLARSHIPS

- FREE Money to help pay for your education
- Reduce your loans or graduate debt free
- \$6,500 loan paid back over 10 yrs at \$67 per month at 6.8% = \$8,000
- \$25,000 loan paid back over 10 yrs at \$288 per month at 6.8% = \$35,000
- If it takes 6.5 hours to complete an application and you receive a \$6,500 scholarship---You earned \$1,000 per hour

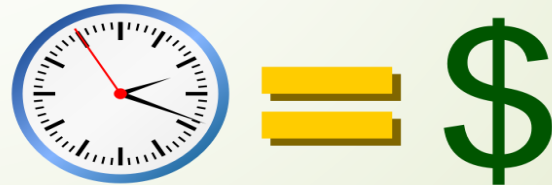
NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

- Focused on scholarships
- Avoid spam mail
- Lane Foundation use your student email
- Create an new email account
 - <http://www.gmail.com>
 - <http://www.outlook.com>



Schedule Scholarship Time!

- Set aside time to work on Scholarships
- Schedule plenty of time to write and rewrite essays
- Take note of scholarship deadlines and plan backwards
- Apply for scholarships and research future scholarships.



Calendar

- Keep Important Dates
 - Scholarship open dates
 - Deadlines-time zones
 - Reference due dates
 - Set digital/paper reminders



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Create A Portfolio

- Electronic, plus a binder or expandable file
- Keep EVERYTHING
 - Transcripts
 - Applications
 - Essays and essay drafts
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Research results
 - Tracking chart



Google Drive

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Transcripts

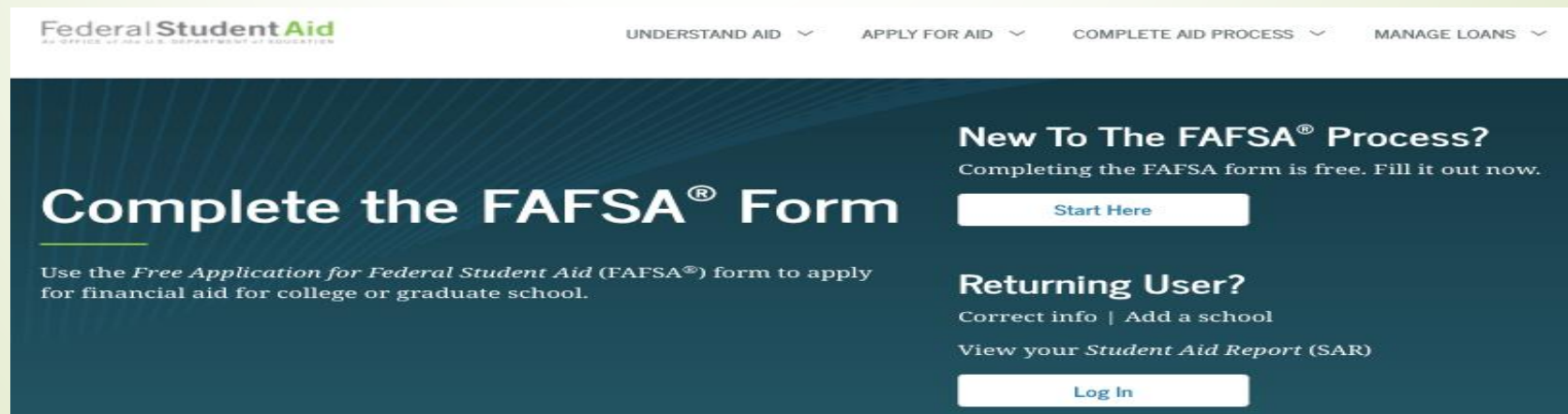
- Official or Unofficial
- High School and/or College
- GED transcripts
- Current transcripts
- Convert to PDF format

Learning Experience		Proficiency Level	Duration	Type	Academic Summary
2009-2010 English 9: 3.5 Year Honors History 9: 3.0 Year Course Geometry: 3.0 Year Course Spanish I: 3.5 Year Course Earth Science: 3.0 Year Course Art I: 3.0 Year Course					
2010-2011 English 10: 3.5 Year Course History 10: 4.0 Year Honors Algebra II: 4.0 Year Course Spanish II: 3.5 Year Course Chemistry: 4.0 Year Honors Drama: 4.0 Semester Course					
2011-2012 English Language and Composition (AP): 3.5 Year Honors US History: 3.0 Year Independent Calculus: 3.5 Year Course Spanish III: 3.5 Year Course Physics: 3.5 Year Course Software Development, Inc.: 3.5 Year Internship					Grading System 3.6-4.0: Exceeds Proficiency 3.0-3.5: Proficient 2.0-2.9: Partially Proficient 1.0-1.9: Insufficient Evidence
2012-2013 English 101: 4.0 Semester Dual-Enrollment Mountain Biotech Industries (STEM): 3.5 Year Internship Physical Education: 4.0 Semester Course Statistics (AP): 3.8 Year Course Health: 4.0 Semester Course Psychology (AP): 4.0 Semester Honors					
Graduation Standards: Cross-Curricular Skills				Proficiency Level	Graduation Requirements Demonstrated Proficiency Maine Guiding Principles English Language Arts Mathematics Science and Technology Social Studies Health Education and Physical Education World Languages Visual and Performing Arts Career Education and Development
Maine Learning Results		Clear and effective communicator	3.0	Additional Graduation Requirements Capstone Project Service Learning Requirement	
Guiding Principles		Self-directed and lifelong learner	3.25		
		Creative and practical problem solver	3.50		
		Responsible and involved citizen	3.75		
		Integrative and informed thinker	4.0		

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FAFSA

- FREE application for federal student aid
- Start application early
- Apply each year beginning **October 1st**
- <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>



The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo "Federal Student Aid" and the text "AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION". To the right of the logo are four menu items: "UNDERSTAND AID", "APPLY FOR AID", "COMPLETE AID PROCESS", and "MANAGE LOANS", each with a dropdown arrow. Below the navigation bar is a dark blue banner with white text. On the left side of the banner, it says "Complete the FAFSA® Form" in large font, followed by "Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school." On the right side of the banner, there are two sections: "New To The FAFSA® Process?" with the subtext "Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now." and a "Start Here" button; and "Returning User?" with the subtext "Correct info | Add a school" and "View your Student Aid Report (SAR)", followed by a "Log In" button.

STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING YOUR STORY

- Journaling
- Create personal inventory
- Talking it out with others
- It usually doesn't come out the first time---you need time and distance
- Your Story will develop as you write and rewrite



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PERSONAL INVENTORY

- How do you spend your time
- What are your interests, strengths, values, goals, etc
- Volunteer service
- Community and school activities
- Leadership, honors & awards
- Family activities and contributions
- Employment history
- Life experiences-challenges-accomplishments



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WHAT COLLEGE WILL YOU BE ATTENDING NEXT YEAR?

- LCC? Oregon State University? University of Oregon? Bushnell University? Portland Community College? University of Montana? Humboldt State?
- Contact that college/university and review their list of scholarships and criteria
- Start with the college's website and or contact their financial aid office
- NOTE any admission and scholarship application deadlines! Often you must apply EARLY to the university in order to be considered for scholarships



Lane Community College Scholarships

- The LCC foundation awards 500 Scholarships
- Awards \$1,000,000 to Lane students!
- Several scholarships worth \$5,000
- Deadline March 2nd, 11:59 pm PST
- www.lanecc.edu/foundation



OFFICE OF STUDENT ACCESS & COMPLETION

- OSAC awards over 600 scholarships and \$10 million statewide to Oregon students for higher education
- Application opens Early November
- Early Bird Deadline February 15th, 5 pm PST
- Due March 1st, 5 pm PST
- <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/scholarships.aspx>



The Ford Family Foundation

- ▶ Four Scholarships Categories
 - ▶ Ford Scholars, Ford Transfer, Ford Opportunity, and Ford Sons and Daughters
 - ▶ Available for Undocumented students
 - ▶ Awards anywhere between 25 to 100 of each category
 - ▶ 90% of unmet need up to \$40,000 per year
 - ▶ Deadline March 1st, 5 pm PST
 - ▶ <https://www.tfff.org/scholarships>



Essay Writing Tips

- Essays/personal statements are the most important part of your scholarship application, take time preparing them
- Read each essay question 2 or 3 times before you begin writing
- Answer all parts of the question, there are usually two or more parts
- Make introduction inviting and personal and your ending strong; use imagery
- Write from your heart; show the unique you
- Put a positive light on negative circumstances-show what you learned, how you are different today, etc



Essay Writing Tips CON'T

- Back up your education and career goals with concrete plans
- If you can, draw a connecting thread through your essays
- The reader should know who you are and what you want and feel confident that you are going to do whatever it takes to achieve your goal
- Write a rough draft, rewrite and have 2 people review them for content and grammar
- Rewrite, be patient, and invest in your future now instead of building student loan debt
- RELAX you got this

SCAMS



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- Be aware ---there are scams online
- **Never pay** for scholarship or financial aid advice
- Scams---hurry you to apply
- If it is too good to be true it probably is
- Never give out your bank account and card info or SSN!
- <https://finaid.org/scholarships/scams/>



Next Steps

- Create a scholarship email address
- Gather up prior transcripts/find out how to locate your current and past transcripts
- Create a login & apply to the Lane Foundation, OSAC, and The Ford Family Scholarships
- Check out your future college's financial aid/scholarship webpage at least a year in advance
- Good Luck!