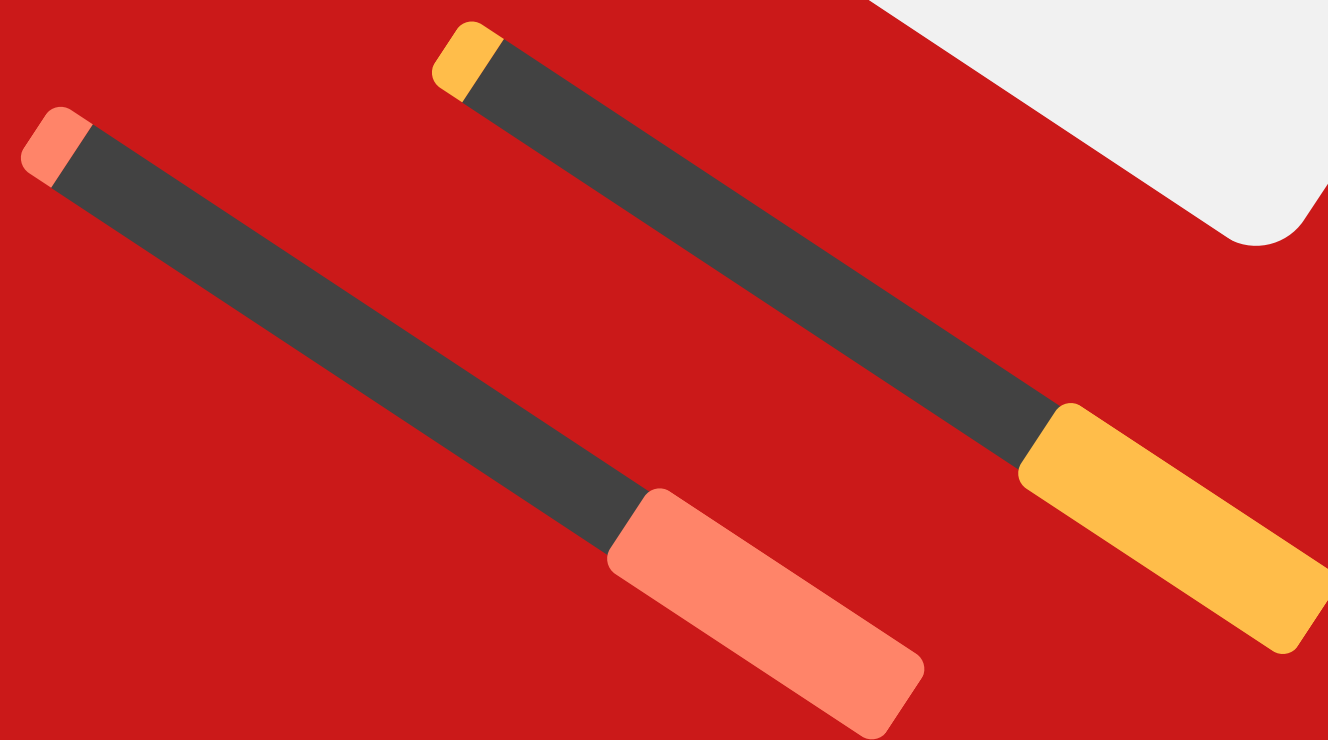


SUU SOUTHERN
UTAH
UNIVERSITY



SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Introduction

Our goal at Southern Utah University is to equip you with the tools you need to be successful in college. The Financial Aid and Scholarship Office understands that a part of that toolkit needs to be your education about the financial opportunities available to you. The unfortunate truth is that you will most likely face financial obstacles during your academic career, but having a greater understanding of your resources will only pave the path to success.

Through this guide we will inform you of all the opportunities available through SUU to make sure that you don't miss any deadlines. Also, we will review ways you can tackle your financial burdens by applying for private scholarships outside of SUU. Private Scholarships are offered from various companies and organizations to help you cover the cost of your education. You just have to be willing to put in the work to apply for them!

I hope we didn't lose you at work, because we have a lot of tips to make this process a lot simpler and effective. Applying for scholarships is an involved process, and one that you should take small steps towards to avoid being overwhelmed.

Before getting started with applying for private scholarships, you should have:

- A commitment to investing your time into yourself and your education.
- Dedication to putting in the work needed for applying.
- Patience—it's a virtue for a reason. These things take time!
- Persistence.

We hope you are excited about the potential opportunities available to you for your future!

Scholarship Tips for Success

1. The first thing you should do is create a separate email account, and get mentally prepared. Having a separate email account will ensure that all of your scholarship materials are collected in one place, and make things easier to manage.
2. Start identifying the scholarships you want to apply for. This will probably be the most difficult part, but if you can stay patient, you will start to apply for the scholarships that best fit you. Make sure to refer back to this guide as you go through it.
3. Never set aside money to pay for scholarship applications. There are plenty of free resources available that you can use. If you pay for scholarships, it is most likely a scam.
4. Always look for the “Https://” and lock before the website address. This indicates that you are on a secure website, but also make sure to look for indications of previous scholarships winners and more information about the organization.
5. Be cautious when giving out personal information that can be used to identify you. Scholarship providers may ask for certain things, and it is advised that you use your discretion. However, if you are asked to give your social security number or date of birth, proceed with caution. The only exception to this rule may be government backed programs.
6. Make sure that you are in charge, and on top of all scholarships you apply for. Meaning that you know the deadlines, requirements, and have completed everything you need to be fully considered when applying.
7. Note the types of scholarships you are applying for, and what they can be used towards. Does the scholarship only pay for tuition, books, or both? Those are important questions to ask, because you want to make sure you can secure as much funding as possible!
8. It is a good rule of thumb that the scholarship applications that require you to put in work are the most rewarding. Less work may mean there is a higher likelihood that it is competitive or a scam. Be cautious and strategic!

SUU Scholarship Opportunities

One of the ways we help students to supplement their funding opportunities is by offering additional scholarship outside of your academics. On November 1st, you will be able to log into your SUU Portal to complete the Departmental and Endowment Scholarship application. This application will go towards the following fall semester. You will find the application labeled as "Scholarships".

Scholarships offered through the Departmental and Endowment Scholarship Application are competitive, but the application does not require you to submit any essays. Departments control departmental scholarships, so it is always a good idea to start building that relationship once you get on campus!

Endowment Scholarships are opportunities offered to qualifying students from university donors. On November 1st, you will be able to log into the application to see which opportunities best fit you. These scholarships are awarded through an ongoing process, and are dependent upon availability. They are also not a guarantee, but a couple of things you can do are:

- Check in with our office once a month throughout the year.
- Contact your department.

Many these opportunities will have varying criteria, and the application will help you identify what categories you fit into. This application will close on February 1st each year for the following fall semester.



SUU Scholarship Opportunities

Another opportunity that you may be interested in is Scholarship Housing!

Scholarship Housing is a partial housing award offered through the Dixie & Anne Leavitt Foundation. If awarded, the scholarship will cover 75% of your rent and you will be responsible for the remaining 25%.

The amount of the rent and scholarship will not be known until you have been assigned an apartment by Leavitt Land. However, the scholarship makes off-campus housing extremely affordable. Scholarships can be maintained for up to 8 academic semesters at SUU.

Applications for scholarship housing are accepted online starting November 1st and the final deadline is February 1st. Make sure to mark your calendar!



How To Find Private Scholarships

You need to take the right steps to maximize the amount of opportunities that are available to you. The process I urge you to consider is the life approach!

With the Life approach you will be able to tackle scholarship opportunities in a way that makes sense, and saves times. The first thing that you want do is:

1. **L:** Start searching for scholarships locally. Check with your high school counselor to see if there are opportunities through the district or the school that you can gain access to. There may also be opportunities that exist through local business that you should ask about!
2. **In the Family:** Check with family members or friends for scholarship opportunities offered from the employer or organization that they work for. It may help having someone who is already connected link you to new opportunities.
3. **Everything else:** Lastly, you will want to apply through scholarship banks that offer students scholarships on a competitive and nationwide scale.

I hope this helps to outline a process that is easy to follow for you, but remember that you have to adopt a method that works best for you. If you can maintain the habit of investing in your education, success is sure to follow!



How To Find Private Scholarships

Please remember that the following scholarship banks are not affiliated with Southern Utah University, and it is up to your discretion which applications you complete. We are here to assist you through the process if you have any questions!

1. Fastweb.com
2. Cappex.com
3. Chegg.com
4. Scholarships.com
5. Collegenet.com
6. Collegeboard.com
7. Scholarshipmonkey.com
8. Unigo.com

Some of these sites may require you to create an account before looking at the opportunities listed. Make sure that you read all the tips and advice before applying.

It may also be useful for you to organize your scholarships in a way that makes sense to you. The easiest way is to organize a spreadsheet with the following categories:

	Name:	URL:	Amount?	Requirements:	Open:	Due:	Submitted:
1							
2							

There are also various templates out there to make the process simpler!

How To Write Scholarship Essays

Most scholarship providers will require you to submit an essay or personal statement to be considered for their scholarship. You will most likely dread this part, but we urge you to push through it! A lot of scholarship providers will ask very similar questions, and you will be able to reuse your responses.

Here are some examples of essay questions you might get asked:

- How will the scholarship help you with your education?
- Why will the world be a better place with your degree?
- What volunteer/ community service have you participated in?
- How have your experiences influenced your perspective of “X” (politics, life, etc.)?

Your essays should always make sure to:

- Fully answer the questions that scholarship providers are asking
- Give an adequate realization of who you are
- Show confidence

Writing the essays are difficult at first, but with practice and patience you will be able to reuse, revise, and recycle your scholarship materials to make the process more effective. All we ask is that you dedicate 30 minutes of your free time once a week to investing into your future!

Essay format should consist of:

- One inch margins
- Direct address to the scholarship provider
- A written signature
- 12 point font, double-space
- An easy to read font



Your Personal Statements

The personal statements may be requested along with an essay, or as the essay for an application. Make sure that you take the time to fully answer the prompts on these statements, and that you always give your best effort. Procrastination rarely delivers a great essay, so make sure you get a jumpstart as soon as you know what is required!

In addition, you will want to make sure that you get your essays proofread by friends or family. No one wants to give you their money if they see that you are not willing to check your work! Once you get on-campus, you will also have the opportunity to use the Writing Center to help format your essays. For now, check with your High School Counselor or Advisor to see if someone can check your work.

Feel free to record your personal statement below:



References and Letters of Recommendation

Use this section to list the individuals that you would like to be your references for scholarship applications. Do not be afraid of reaching out to people, and making those connections.

If the process of asking for a recommendation is overwhelming, you can use the following email template:

Hello Mr./Ms.,

I am planning to attend Southern Utah University this fall, and have been working on securing as much funding as possible before the academic year. I wanted to reach out to you since I am applying for outside scholarship opportunities, and many of the applications require a Letter of Recommendation. You have been a great influence on me in “X” time, and it would mean a lot if you would be willing to write a letter on my behalf discussing my work ethic and contributions to “X”. I appreciate your willingness to help in advance, and I have attached my resume to this email.

If this is something you are unable to do, I understand, and appreciate your consideration.

Thank you, and please let me know if you need more information,

It is always a great idea to send an email with your resume included, and to follow up with your potential reference to ask for permission as well.

References and Letters of Recommendation

Use the template below to record your references:

Name:

Location:

Email:

Phone:

Relationship:

Name:

Location:

Email:

Phone:

Relationship:

Name:

Location:

Email:

Phone:

Relationship:

Name:

Location:

Email:

Phone:

Relationship:

Work and Volunteer Experience

Certain scholarships may request that you list previous places of employment or community service efforts. Let this template be your guide to compiling all of the information in one place. You may end up using this information to include in your essays as well.

Organization/Company:

Address:

Position:

Date started:

Date Ended:

Supervisor:

Responsibilities:

Organization/Company:

Address:

Position:

Date started:

Date Ended:

Supervisor:

Responsibilities:

Organization/Company:

Address:

Position:

Date started:

Date Ended:

Supervisor:

Responsibilities:

Additional Resources

These resources aim to assist you in the scholarship application process, but are not affiliated with Southern Utah University. Please refrain from sharing information that can be used to identify you, and only use resources that are free.

Essays:

- <https://www.mindsumo.com/scholarship-essays>
- <https://www.universitylanguage.com/guides/how-to-write-an-essay-for-a-scholarship/>
- <https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/scholarship-essays>

Scholarship Application Organizer:

- <https://www.unigo.com/pay-for-college/scholarships/stay-on-track-with-a-scholarship-application-organizer>
- <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships/articles/organizing-your-scholarship-search>

Other:

- <https://stepuputah.com/paying-for-college/scholarship-toolkit/>
- <https://www.suu.edu/financial/scholarships.html>



Additional Resources

Schedule An Appointment:

If you need help reviewing all of the financial opportunities available to you, please know that I am here as a resource for you.

You can schedule a time that works best for you, by phone or in-person, at:
jaysonmatlock.youcanbook.me



Jayson Matlock

Admissions Financial Aid Coordinator

Jaysonmatlock.youcanbook.me

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