

SENIOR

(November / Unit 15): Scholarship Application

You will need to use the information from this Portfolio do not throw it away

Objectives: *Complete scholarship applications.*

To successfully complete this unit and receive your stipend, complete the following activities:

- Complete all activities in this unit.
- Parents/guardians make sure your information is included on the **Reflection Sheet**.
- Complete the **Stipend Request** form.
- **Have site sponsor/parent sign the Self-evaluation.**
- Your **grade check** will be provided by your Site Sponsor.
- **Be prepared to review it with UB staff on _____ .**

Stipend Requirements

Stipend Amounts	Possible Portfolio Completions
Complete = up to \$60.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 100% complete: turned in on-time, complete by the UB meeting.
Partial = \$0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit is between 75% and 100% complete
Incomplete = \$0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit less than 75% complete (even if unit includes parent/guardian and site sponsor signatures)

What to do if you are absent on portfolio visit days.

Planned Absences (e.g. sports games, field trips, etc.)	Unplanned Absences (e.g. sick, flat tire, abduction by aliens, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give your binder to your site sponsor before you leave. UB staff will review your work, and you are eligible for a stipend. • If there are unforeseen problems with finishing your unit, <u>notify your site sponsor and/or UB staff immediately.</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give your binder to your site sponsor the day you return to school. You are still eligible for a stipend. • If there are unforeseen problems with finishing your unit, <u>notify your site sponsor and/or UB staff immediately.</u>

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Step 1: Scholarship Application

The scholarship application process is very similar to the college application process. First, you filter a large list of possible choices into a focused list that matches your needs. Then you create compelling applications that are supported by your achievements, essays, recommendations and interviews.

Here are some tips to help you create strong scholarship applications:

1. Start Your Research Early: The more time you can put into your scholarship search, the more options you have. You need time to research scholarships, request information and application materials and complete your application. Remember, some scholarships have deadlines in the fall of senior year.
2. Read Eligibility Requirements Carefully: If you have questions about your eligibility for a particular scholarship, contact the scholarship sponsor.
3. Organize all Scholarship Materials: Create a separate file for each scholarship and file by application date. Keep a calendar of application deadlines and follow-up appointments.

Many scholarships require you to provide some combination of the following:

- Transcript
 - Standardized test scores
 - Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms
 - Parents' financial information, including tax returns
 - One or more essays
 - One or more letters of recommendation
 - Proof of eligibility (e.g., membership credential)
 - May need to prepare for a personal interview.
4. Proofread Your Applications Carefully: For essays, use your computer's spelling and grammar check features and have a family member, teacher or friend read and review.
 5. Do Not Leave Items Blank: Contact scholarship sponsors if you aren't sure how to fill out any part of the application.
 6. Make Sure Your Application is Legible: Type or print your application forms and essays.
 7. Follow Instructions to the Letter: Avoid going over the length limit for the essay. Do not send supporting materials that are not requested in the application.
 8. Make Copies of Everything You Send: If application materials are lost, having copies on hand makes it much easier to resend your application quickly.
 9. Double Check Your Application: If you are reusing material (such as a cover letter or essay) from another scholarship application, check to make sure you haven't left any incorrect names or blank fields. Do not forget to sign and date your application.
 10. Get Your Application In Early: You miss out if you miss deadlines. Consider using certified mail or requesting a return receipt.

Step 2: Scholarship Search

You will find scholarships from various sources. The Internet is the best place to look for these scholarship applications (**you will need to reference all of the websites from the September Portfolio**)

Where do you go to find scholarships? We listed numerous links in your September Portfolio that will prove really useful. A couple of good random scholarship search sites are Fastweb.com and Scholarship.com. These sites are fairly reputable and used by numerous colleges for their students.

A site from the US Department of Education that discusses financial aid is: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships>

This is a great site to start your search because it gives you a lot of information about the types of financial aid available.

Step 3: Answer the following questions from the website listed above

Please answer the following questions on another piece of paper.

What is work study? Will you participate in work study at college? Why or why not?
 What are the types of loans available to you? What is the difference between subsidized and unsubsidized loans?
 What are all the types of financial aid available to you?

The Department of Education’s partner site that lists scholarships is:

<http://www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch/ScholarshipCategory.asp?searchtype=category&nodeid=22>

Don’t take the easy way out and just look up one link, you need to look through all the sites and really educate yourself about scholarships (remember to use the Fastweb and Scholarship.com sites)

Step 4: You will have to complete and send out **five complete scholarship applications**, and print out at least four more scholarships that you will complete at a future time. **Bring copies of everything to your Portfolio meeting** so we can put it into your file.

Completed and Sent Scholarships

Scholarship Name	Deadline	Materials Required	Essay (yes or no)	Date sent / when will u find out

Printed out Scholarships

Scholarship Name	Deadline	Materials Required	Essay (yes or no)	Date to be sent

Step 5: What were a couple of the best scholarships that you found? List them here and post them onto Facebook. Remember we are here to help each other by supplying resources to other UB students when we can.

What was the weirdest scholarship you found, list it here and post that on Facebook (keep it clean)?

Step 6: A lot of students spend endless hours searching and applying for some of the weirdest and smallest funded scholarships. Every \$ is worth applying for, but if the scholarship promises that there isn't an essay necessary and all you have to do is sign up then it's **probably a scam**. Make sure the scholarship is credible and worthwhile. Do not give out your social security number for a scholarship application.

Read this article: <http://www.usnews.com/education/blogs/the-scholarship-coach/2012/07/26/dont-fall-for-these-5-college-scholarship-scams>

What are the 5 top scams they list?

PARENT/GUARDIAN REFLECTION
November/Unit 15: Scholarship Application

The following questions are for your parent(s)/guardian. If they do not complete the questions you will not be eligible for the complete stipend.

Let's take a moment of reflection and time to think it all through.

1. What are the four scholarships that your child applied for? How can you help them apply for other scholarships?

2. Paying for college is hard, how can you help your child understand about their financial preparation for college and their spending while they are at college?

3. What other types of funding for college do you know about?

4. Next month the Portfolio will focus on your child and you completing something called the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can look at the site and start the process now if you want. Your child completed one of those applications last summer; they should have a PIN already assigned to them. <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

5. What was your favorite thing about this Portfolio?

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Phone Number

Parent E-mail