

ENJOY \$100,000S IN SCHOLARSHIPS - AT ANY AGE!

How to

GET FREE MONEY FOR COLLEGE!

SCHOLARSHIP COACH

Larry Stevenson



Dedicated to
All of my children and grandchildren
And yours



Get Free Money for College:

Enjoy \$100,000 in Scholarships (at any age)!

By
Larry Stevenson

Front Material

A Parent's Guide to Scholarships:

Help you or your children of every age get free money for college

Lawrence D. Stevenson

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Preface

The cost of a college education increased exponentially over the past 10 years. Consequently, student debt also increased exponentially. Sadly, many students who took out massive student debt could have avoided 15-30 years of debt by applying for free money for college, or scholarships.

I first became intrigued with how people earn scholarships or free money for college in 1984. I read an article in *Parade* magazine about a young lady who earned \$310,000 in scholarships with a 3.6 GPA. She created an assembly line to manufacture scholarships using reusable (before the age of personal computers) essays, letters of recommendation, and more. She printed them in bulk and stacked them in her bedroom. She would assemble the printed materials into packets which she mailed to the committees. I also remembered her philosophy that applying for scholarships was her part-time job. She stated that if she worked 20 hours a week and only earned \$3,000 in three months, it still paid better than working in food service.

This System Works...

Since then, I've coached thousands of students *of every age* to earn scholarships. Some of our successes include

- A girl who earned \$360,000 between her 13th and 19th birthday
- A single mother of two, in her 30s, who earned tuition, books, and housing for her junior and senior year of college--\$98,000 for her graduate program (which only cost \$48,000).
- A 17-year-old who applied for 9 scholarships, earned 7 of them, for \$47,000 in one year.
- A 27-year-old, who had just returned from a 2 year *Peace Corp* like experience, earned \$97,000 in 10 months

...For People of All Ages...

While my main purpose remains to help parents (or grandparents) guide their offspring through the pitfalls of earning scholarships, I've discovered that about halfway through this book you, the parents begin saying to themselves "Why don't I go for this money myself?". Feel free to do so. It works for you

too. I use the “you” form so that parents can use this with children. Youth can use it for themselves. Parents can use it for themselves.

The activities in this book can help your children, or you, earn thousands of dollars in free money from scholarships. You may be a high school student preparing to invent yourself through a college education. You may be an established professional wanting to reinvent yourself with additional graduate or under-graduate school. You may be an older worker wanting to check a college education from your bucket list. Or, you may be the parent or grandparent of any of the students and want to help them receive as much scholarship money as possible.



TIP FOR PARENTS

Throughout this book we will provide you, as parents, with tips you can use to enhance your children’s (or grandchildren’s) to succeed getting free money for college through scholarships.

Larry

Regardless of your situation, age, or experience; you can earn scholarships. The steps outlined in this workbook assume that you have done something to qualify for scholarships. Those accomplishments can include getting low grades (some scholarships reward a 2.0 GPA), participating in science fairs and math competitions; performing in plays and concerts, or giving service to others in your school, church, or community. So, get involved in as many activities associated with your life as possible.

...Who Start Young and Persevere!

I encourage you to start immediately monitoring and recording your activities and accomplishments including numbers, dollars, and percentages of improvement. You can begin applying for scholarships at age 13. You can apply for scholarships until you complete your full education (even if it is at age 62).

Please recognize that while consisting of only 3 steps, this process will require a great deal of time. Clients in the past typically spend 100-200

hours completing the activities outlined in this workbook (the young lady who earned \$360,000 spent over 300 hours). That's a lot of time.

However, consider that if you spend 100 hours and

Earn in Total Scholarships

\$4,000

\$10,000

\$30,000

Pay Per Hour

\$40.00

\$100.000

\$300.00

Any one of those salaries would be good for a 16-year-old, 22-year-old, or even many 40 something adults.

Our hope and goal for you: that use these steps to get all the free money for college that you can earn. Please let us know how many scholarships and how much money you earned, Email your results to

Success@LarrytheScholarshipGuy.com.

As always, many people brought you this book. I appreciate the feedback and refinement the thousands of people who found attended our workshops and received our coaching. I want to thank the scores parents who reviewed this workbook and used it with their children. I acknowledge the work of Wendy Duran, ??, and ?? for editing the manuscript. A special thanks has to go to ?? the art director/designer who made this look better and more fun than my original manuscript. I also acknowledge the work of my publisher and cousin Chris Stevenson. Finally, I wish to acknowledge the support, inspiration, and help of my wife Carol Stevenson who make everything in my life better.

Larry Stevenson

General Information

Student debt is 2nd to a house mortgageⁱ

The cost of higher education skyrockets. More students rely on debt to cover the costs.

Millions Face Crushing Student Debt

*"Millions of Americans who went to college seeking a better future now face crushing debt from student loans—while the industry makes a handsome profit. How a broken system landed so many in this mess."*ⁱⁱ (Consumer Reports)

44% Affected Directly and Indirectly by Student Debt

*"31 percent of Americans say they currently have or have had student loan debt stemming from their own education. An additional 13 percent of American adults financed another family member's school expenses through student loans."*ⁱⁱⁱ (Bankrate)

79% Say Student Debt is a Problem

"Regardless of whether or not they have debt, 57 percent of Millennials under 30 believe that student debt is a major problem for young people in the United States -- and another 22 percent believe it's a minor problem. Overall, 79 percent say it's a problem, four percent say it is not a problem.

In total, 70 percent of our sample reported that financial circumstances played an important (41% very, 29% somewhat) role in their decision whether or not to pursue a college education."^{iv} (Harvard Kennedy School)

Americans Delaying Future Due to Student Debt

"Among respondents who have had or currently have student loan debt for their own education:

34 percent of respondents say they are delaying building their emergency savings.

29 percent are delaying saving for retirement.

27 percent are putting off paying other forms of debt, including credit cards."^v

Respondents could select more than one answer." (Bankrate)

3 Steps to Get Free Money for College

You don't have to go into debt. You can get free money for college through scholarships. These 3 steps will help you succeed.

1. Identify 50-150 scholarships that you will apply to receive

2. Prepare scholarship statements to convince committees you deserve the money

3. Assemble reusable essays, applications, & letters of recommendation

Scholarship Committees Seek to Reward...

While governments and organizations provide grants based on economic need or research. Scholarship donors and committees establish scholarships because they want to reward or recognize who experienced or attained certain achievement in life. The great diversity of people generates a greater diversity of scholarships. Find the ones that want to reward you.



Figure 1 Service

...So, Start Recording Early & Submitting Earlier

|-----Monitor and Record Specifics About Achievements-----|



|-----Submit Applications-----|

Why Committees Should Give You Their Scholarships

Scholarship committees reward people based on subject criteria.

Check all the ones that apply to you:

- ☐ Academic achievement
- ☐ Activism on behalf of the economy, environment, social issues, or other
- ☐ Entrepreneurial inclination
- ☐ Extracurricular activities
- ☐ Goals or values of the organization
- ☐ Going back to school later in life
- ☐ High grades
- ☐ Leadership experience
- ☐ Low grades
- ☐ Service to others
- ☐ Specific traits or accomplishments they wish to reward
- ☐ Surviving illness, dysfunctional families, addiction, & abuse

Committees also recognize personal traits.

Check all that describe you

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Character | <input type="checkbox"/> Teamwork |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civic duty | <input type="checkbox"/> Perseverance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard work | <input type="checkbox"/> Passion & enthusiasm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual initiative | <input type="checkbox"/> Purpose |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overcoming obstacles | <input type="checkbox"/> Responsibility & dependability |

If you checked more than 7 items on these lists, then YOU are the person that scholarship committees seek to recognize and reward.

Believe it!

Find 50+ Relevant Scholarships

Step 1: Find 50+ Relevant Scholarships

Themes Help You Find & Prove You Qualify for Scholarships

Everyone has several things they do well, enjoy doing, and do repeatedly. Most of these form themes in our lives. We do not manufacture our themes. They simply exist. They form our character and personality.

You can use your themes as keywords in scholarship lists and profiles to find scholarships. You will also use them to write your 36 scholarship statements (see pages 17-35)

Check 4 themes that describe who you are, what you love to do, and your accomplishments.

Typical themes:

- ☐ Activist
- ☐ Academics
- ☐ Athletics
- ☐ Creative talent
- ☐ Entrepreneurship
- ☐ Ethnicity
- ☐ Leadership
- ☐ Service
- ☐ Survivor

Themes that Apply Uniquely to You

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Now:

1. Rewrite your themes in column 1 on page 22
2. Use them, also, as keywords to search for applicable scholarships

FAQ About Free Money Through Scholarships

How do I find scholarships for international students?

1. The profile on scholarship many search engines will ask if you are US or not, what country you live in, & what country you will study in. That question will add scholarships for international students to your list of possible matches
2. You can also Google the phrase "Scholarships for students from <country> studying in <country>"

How do I find scholarships for older non-traditional

The profile on scholarship many search engines will ask when you graduated from high school, if you are a "non-traditional student", and your age. These questions will add scholarships for older, non-traditional students to your list of possible matches

How much help can I expect from HS guidance or college financial aid counselors?

Counselors have huge case loads and heavy demands. They will help you a lot—if you prove to them you will work hard to get the money. We suggest approaching them saying "I'm going to apply for 50-150 scholarships. Will you help me identify good possibilities and review my materials?" They will usually give you a lot of support, encouragement, and help.

That said, it is still your responsibility to find as many good scholarships, prepare great materials to apply for them, and submit the applications.

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Tips, Tricks, & Cautions to Finding Scholarships

Let the following statements guide you as you search for scholarships on scholarship lists, search engines, and other sources.

If you
did it,
click it!

"Must be enrolled"
means when you
receive the money,
--not when you
apply for it

Complete
the entire
profile!

Grants for
Needs

Scholarships
for Merit

Avoid
surveys,
contests,
scams, &
drawings!

If it
interests
you, click it,
then do it!

If the club is
offered in your
school, click it
and join it!

Apply for both
unrestricted &
restricted
scholarships

Always click "No Thanks" or "Skip
This & Return to Scholarship Lists"
Or get scammed & spammed.

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

How Many Scholarships Have You Identified?

You may use multiple sources to find scholarships. We've listed just a few of them below. Use this list to keep track of how many scholarships you found, and how many of them you felt were a close enough of a match that you will apply to receive them.

TIP FOR PARENTS

Sit beside your students as they complete their scholarship profiles. Remind them of the activities, organizations, and experiences they have had.

Where you looked for scholarships	How many matches did you find?	How many will you apply to receive
Scholarship Search Engines		
Fastweb.org		
Chegg.com		
Scholarships.com		
Collegeboard.org		
StudentWallet.org		
Scholarship Lists		
Your high school		
Your college(s)		
Adventures in Education (aie.org)		
CareerOneStop.org		
ScholarshipLibrary.org		
My CollegeScholarship.org		
Finaid.org (for age 13 of under)		
Scholarships.com		
Other Sources		
Local banks		
Local merchants		
Local Service Clubs		
Google		

Step 2: Prepare Scholarship Statements

Now that you identified for which scholarships you will submit applications. You must submit proof that you meet their qualifications, possess the traits they wish to reward, and will represent them well as scholarship recipients. Scholarship statements.

This section of the workbook will help you prepare 36 scholarship statements. You will use these statements to

- Recognize the good things you have done that deserve recognition
- Give evidence to scholarship committees that you deserve the money
- Paste into scholarship applications as answers to specific questions
- Include them as bullets in the body of letters of recommendation
- Build a reusable essay about "Why do you deserve our scholarship?"

You will complete 6 stages to prepare your scholarship statements:

1. Identify 4 themes that describe who you are (sound familiar? See page 15)
2. Divide each theme into 3 applications, situations, courses, or talents
3. Brainstorm (with others) 3 specific examples for each situation, course, or other division. Jot down a brief memory trigger of each example
4. Expand the brief memory trigger into a raw, unrefined, ugly sentence
5. Edit and Refine each sentence multiple times to
 - a. Exchange implied numbers for real #s, \$s, or %s
 - b. Translate any jargon to avoid misunderstanding
 - c. Ensure the active voice
 - d. Correct for tense, person, and punctuation
 - e. Upgrade the vocabulary
6. Ask someone else to review and edit your statements

Ensure that you complete each stage separately. Combining stages may tend to stunt creativity, reduce recall, and create a brain cramp. These pages will walk you through each step.

A word of encouragement & warning

Your scholarship statements prove you deserve the scholarships.

- *You will use each of these statements 20-30 times.*
- *You will spend several hours (up to 20) to prepare, edit, and refine your statements.*
 - *Make it fun!*
 - *Involve your family, friends, teachers, coaches, and community leaders to help you remember your experiences and accomplishments*
 - *Do not get discouraged or quit.*

•

Keep going!

Congratulations!

You Already Completed the First Stage To Prepare Your Statements !

You already completed the first step to write these *scholarship statements* when you identified your themes on page 15. Write your themes in the first column on page 22.

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Examples of Scholarship Statements based on Themes

Follow these examples to understand the power of scholarship statements & how to write them.

Academics

- "As part of our school's MATHCOUNTS team took 2nd place in our state-wide competition against a total of 120 other schools."
- "I maintained a 4.1 grade point average on 18 math credits while completing both Advanced Placement, university, and honors courses in both high school and college."

Service

- "As field development worker for an international non-government organization in Santo Andre Brazil, we helped disadvantaged families build family relations, literacy, family finances, health, and communications."
- "For six years, I was part of a group of 35 youth who stocked the shelves of a community food bank the Tuesday night before Thanksgiving. We helped them provide meals for to an average 1,800 disadvantaged families each year."

Creative Talent

- "As a clarinet player in our 103-piece high school orchestra, we received exceptional ratings and placed 3rd in a 4-state competition involving 23 other orchestras."
- "I played the lead role in 4 different high school musical productions, presenting 20 separate performances. A total of 12,000 people attended the performances generating \$60,000 in ticket sales."

Leadership

- "As chair of our high school's sub-for-Santa committee, I supervised 26 students. We raised \$12,000 and provided Christmas to 255 disadvantaged families."
- "As president of the local chapter of the world's largest service organization for young women 16-18, we implemented a marketing and outreach initiative that increased participation by 23%."

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Identify 3 situations or division for each theme

You act on each theme in various settings, situations, or courses. Recognizing where you applied your themes will add breadth to your applications. Review the items listed for your themes. Circle those that pertain to you.

TIP FOR PARENTS

Meeting in groups of family and friends to identify both the situations and specific examples of accomplishments (step 2&3) will produce more results faster and easier.

Activist: environment, education, illiteracy, public health, homelessness, social issues, civil rights, LGBTQ, religious rights,

Academics: Math, Science, Composition, Literature, History, Social Studies, Health, Technology, Languages, Business, Home Economics,

Athletics: football, basketball, soccer, golf, tennis, racquetball, handball, track & field, cross country, lacrosse, rock climbing, spelunking, surfing, skateboarding, skiing, snowboarding, or other sports (team or individual)

Creative talent: vocal music, instrumental music, dance, creative writing, poetry, film making, theater, photography, graphic design, interior design, illustration, animation, creative problem solving, or other creative endeavors.

Entrepreneurship: Either identify 3 specific businesses you started and grew or divide your life into 3 separate ages that you created businesses (3-12 years old, 13-24 years old, 25+ years old)

Ethnic Background: 1) the ethnic background of the home you grew up in, 2) the ethnic culture outside the home to which you had to adapt, or 3) how you combined the best of both ethnic cultures in your life

Leadership: in your church, school, community, work, clubs, or other organizations

Service: through your school, church, or community

Survivor: of health problems, paralysis, accidents, abuse, addiction, alcoholic parents, war, violence, poverty,

Write the words you circled above, into column 2 (Course/Situation) on the next page.

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Jot Down 3 Specific Examples for Each

Think about what you have done in your life. Jot down 3 very specific examples of something you have done in each situation for each theme. Do not create sentences, just a brief enough idea to trigger the memory. You will create the sentences in the next step.

Theme	Course/Situation	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3
1	1.1	1.1.1	1.1.2	1.1.3
	1.2	1.2.1	1.2.2	1.2.3
	1.3	1.3.1	1.3.2	1.3.3
2	2.1	2.1.1	2.1.2	2.1.3
	2.2	2.2.1	2.2.2	2.2.3
	2.3	2.3.1	2.3.2	2.3.3
3	3.1	3.1.1	3.1.2	3.1.3
	3.2	3.2.1	3.2.2	3.2.3
	3.3	3.3.1	3.3.2	3.3.3
4	4.1	4.1.1	4.1.2	4.1.3
	4.2	4.2.1	4.2.2	4.2.2
	4.3	4.3.1	4.3.2	4.3.3

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Turn Examples into Sentences

Review each specific example you listed on the previous page (note how the numbers in the first column below match the numbers in the example blanks on the previous page). Now turn them into sentences. Do not try to refine the sentences as you write them. You will refine them six times on the next several pages. The key is to just pour the words onto the page without hesitation. Your sentences will be ugly, rambling, and poorly done. You will refine them multiple times.

TIP FOR PARENTS

Repeatedly encourage your children to *dump* the sentences and resist the urge to refine or improve the sentence as they write them.

You may find it easier to do the exercises related to statements online instead of in this workbook.

Number	Sentences for each example
1.1.1	
1.1.2	
1.1.3	
1.2.1	
1.2.2	
1.2.3	
1.3.1	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

1.3.2	
1.3.3	
2.1.1	
2.1.2	
2.1.3	
2.2.1	
2.2.2	
2.2.3	
2.3.1	
2.3.2	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

2.3.3	
3.1.1	
3.1.2	
3.1.3	
3.2.1	
3.2.2	
3.2.3	
3.3.1	
3.3.2	
3.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

4.1.1	
4.1.2	
4.1.3	
4.2.1	
4.2.2	
4.2.3	
4.3.1	
4.3.2	
4.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Exchange Implied Numbers for Real #, %, \$

Review the sentences you wrote on the previous pages. Circle each word in the sentence that implies a number (few, some, money, increased, decreased, etc). Rewrite each sentence in the spaces below exchanging the circled words for the exact or approximate numbers, dollars, or percentages. Use the number, \$, or % rather than words. (Example: "A few youths spent time Saturday..." becomes "12 youths spent 4 hours one Saturday..."

TIP FOR PARENTS

We cannot list all the words that imply numbers, please help your children identify all that appear in their sentences.

Number	Sentences for each example
1.1.1	
1.1.2	
1.1.3	
1.2.1	
1.2.2	
1.2.3	
1.3.1	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

1.3.2	
1.3.3	
2.1.1	
2.1.2	
2.1.3	
2.2.1	
2.2.2	
2.2.3	
2.3.1	
2.3.2	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

2.3.3	
3.1.1	
3.1.2	
3.1.3	
3.2.1	
3.2.2	
3.2.3	
3.3.1	
3.3.2	
3.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

4.1.1	
4.1.2	
4.1.3	
4.2.1	
4.2.2	
4.2.3	
4.3.1	
4.3.2	
4.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Translate Jargon to Avoid Misunderstanding

Different organizations develop jargon to communicate within the organization. Those terms are called jargon. Unfortunately, jargon used by one group typically has a different meaning to a different group. For example, both prison guards and athletes use the term *execute* but with drastically different meanings.

You need to eliminate all jargon so that scholarship committees cannot misunderstand what you wrote. Circle any jargon in the sentence you refined in the pages before these. Then rewrite the sentences below substituting what you circled for words that could not be misunderstood.

TIP FOR PARENTS

Children take jargon for granted, and may not be able to identify it, without your help or the help of others not affiliated with the jargon.

Number	Sentences for each example
1.1.1	
1.1.2	
1.1.3	
1.2.1	
1.2.2	
1.2.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

1.3.1	
1.3.2	
1.3.3	
2.1.1	
2.1.2	
2.1.3	
2.2.1	
2.2.2	
2.2.3	
2.3.1	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

2.3.2	
2.3.3	
3.1.1	
3.1.2	
3.1.3	
3.2.1	
3.2.2	
3.2.3	
3.3.1	
3.3.2	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

3.3.3	
4.1.1	
4.1.2	
4.1.3	
4.2.1	
4.2.2	
4.2.3	
4.3.1	
4.3.2	
4.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Ensure the Active Voice

Your statements will sparkle more when you use the active rather than passive voice. Review the sentences you wrote on the preceding pages. Circle all the words indicating the passive voice (for example: was written, was achieved, was contributed). Rewrite the sentences in the spaces below ensuring you substitute the active voice for the passive words you circled (for example: wrote, achieved, contributed).

I know this seems time-consuming busyness right now but think of the time you will save using these sentences 20-30 times each to prove your value. So, stick with it all the way to the end!

Number	Sentences for each example
1.1.1	
1.1.2	
1.1.3	
1.2.1	
1.2.2	
1.2.3	
1.3.1	
1.3.2	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

1.3.3	
2.1.1	
2.1.2	
2.1.3	
2.2.1	
2.2.2	
2.2.3	
2.3.1	
2.3.2	
2.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

3.1.1	
3.1.2	
3.1.3	
3.2.1	
3.2.2	
3.2.3	
3.3.1	
3.3.2	
3.3.3	
4.1.1	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

4.1.2	
4.1.3	
4.2.1	
4.2.2	
4.2.3	
4.3.1	
4.3.2	
4.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Correct Tense, Person, and Punctuation

Review the sentences you wrote in the previous pages for grammar issues such as maintaining the same tense and person (first person, second person, or third person) in the sentences and between sentences (since you will use them in the same application fields). Also, ensure that you use correct punctuation.

TIP FOR PARENTS

At this point your children may become discouraged and ready to quit. Keep them motivated and focused on the benefits they will receive.

Number	Sentences for each example
1.1.1	
1.1.2	
1.1.3	
1.2.1	
1.2.2	
1.2.3	
1.3.1	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

1.3.2	
1.3.3	
2.1.1	
2.1.2	
2.1.3	
2.2.1	
2.2.2	
2.2.3	
2.3.1	
2.3.2	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

2.3.3	
3.1.1	
3.1.2	
3.1.3	
3.2.1	
3.2.2	
3.2.3	
3.3.1	
3.3.2	
3.3.3	

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4.1.1	
4.1.2	
4.1.3	
4.2.1	
4.2.2	
4.2.3	
4.3.1	
4.3.2	
4.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Upgrade the Vocabulary

Review the sentences you wrote on the previous pages searching for wording you have used. Circle words that may not express clearly, or may express poorly, the thoughts you wish to convey. For example, you may circle the word “poor” and change the term for “disadvantaged”. Use an online thesaurus to help identify words.

TIP FOR PARENTS

Remind your children to use the thesaurus feature of their computer or phone to find better synonyms to use in their statements.

Number	Sentences for each example
1.1.1	
1.1.2	
1.1.3	
1.2.1	
1.2.2	
1.2.3	
1.3.1	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

1.3.2	
1.3.3	
2.1.1	
2.1.2	
2.1.3	
2.2.1	
2.2.2	
2.2.3	
2.3.1	
2.3.2	

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2.3.3	
3.1.1	
3.1.2	
3.1.3	
3.2.1	
3.2.2	
3.2.3	
3.3.1	
3.3.2	
3.3.3	

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4.1.1	
4.1.2	
4.1.3	
4.2.1	
4.2.2	
4.2.3	
4.3.1	
4.3.2	
4.3.3	

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Ask Someone Else to Refine Your Statements

You have worked hard to write, refine, and edit your scholarship statements. Now is the time to get a fresh set of eyes on your statements. Ask someone else to review and edit your statements. Ensure that the person you ask possesses the grammar and editing skills to remove all errors and make them more powerful. However, there are few rules of grammar that you do not want them to apply to your statements. Instead, do the following:

Use the symbols
#, \$, % rather
than words

Use the number
not the word for
numbers 0-15



Allow numbers to
begin sentences if
more powerful

Tell them "I'm
going to use these
to apply for 50-
150 scholarship"

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Use Statements in Applications, Essays, & Letters

Copy and paste your scholarship statements as answers to questions in applications, to create the essay “Why should we give you our scholarship?” (or words to that extent), and in the body of letters of recommendation that you will draft about you on behalf of others (see page 60).

Paste statements into applications to answer questions

We believe a workhorse scholar exemplifies the values of hard work, creativity, and community service. How do you exemplify these three attributes?

A screenshot of a text input field with a word limit indicator. The field is empty and has a light gray border. To the right of the field, there are three small square buttons with upward, downward, and leftward arrows. Below the field, there is a small gray bar with a play button icon on the right.

Limit: 300 words

Examples of questions that you will answer with scholarship statements

- Describe your leadership experience.
- How would you describe your creativity?
- Outline your athletic accomplishments?
- What are your academic credentials and achievements?
- Explain how you have overcome challenges in the past.

Restructure your statements into an essay (3 statements in each section)

- I feel my experience in <theme 1>, theme 2>, and <theme 3> qualify me to represent <sponsor> as a recipient of the <name> scholarship.
- Opportunities in leadership positions in my school, my church, and my community taught me... (3 statements)
- I learned discipline and hard work as an athlete in track and field, soccer, and lacrosse... (3 statements)
- Finally, the academic achievements in math, science, and technology honed my research and study skills.



Include them as bullets in the body of letters of recommendation



"As faculty advisor to Joel when he chaired our high school's sub-for-Santa committee, I observed his

- Leadership to manage 26 students effectively
- Ability to rally 1,800 students to raise \$12,000 through selfless service and 11 fundraising projects.
- Financial ability to appropriately divide the \$12,000 among 255 disadvantaged families."

Step 3: Assemble Reusable Materials

Reusable essays, application answers, and letters of recommendation help you apply for 50+ scholarships quickly (30-40 minutes each). You decrease the time needed for each application when you use reusable parts. This section will talk about preparing, refining, and perfecting



- 5-6 Reusable Essays
- 1 Master Application Containing Answers to Every Application Question
- 4-5 Reusable Letters of Recommendation

As with your scholarship statements, you will copy and paste or upload them into your scholarship applications. Reusable materials allow you to complete complex scholarship applications in 30-40 minutes.

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Reusable Scholarship Essays

Many scholarships require essays. While each scholarship will specify a topic, you will find that many essay topics cluster together into certain categories. Some categories seem to remain the same. Other topics seem to change every 3-5

TIP FOR PARENTS

Help your children review typical essay topics and essays they have already written that can be adapted to the topics.

Stable Categories

- Tell us something about yourself
- Why you deserve the money
- Benefits of higher education
- Describe someone you admire
- Service to community or society
- Saving the environment
- Results of your leadership

Categories that Change

- Social issues
 - Inclusion versus Exclusion
 - Diversity
 - Bullying
 - Plagiarism & dishonesty
 - Immigration
- Technology

years. You can use essays you have already written or write essays and then reuse them. We will use the common categories rather than the exact topics.

You may find discussions or articles on current essay topics by googling the phrase "scholarship essay topics", or by asking the question on Reddit.com in the sub-reddit "r/scholarships".

For example, here are some of the articles I discovered:

- The 16 Most Popular Scholarship Essay and Application
 - <https://scholarshipinformer.com/popular-scholarship-essay-and-application-questions/>
- Scholarship Essay Topics
 - <https://writer-elite.com/scholarship-essay/>
- Brainstorm Common Scholarship Essay Questions
 - <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships/articles/brainstorm-common-scholarship-essay-questions>

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Creating Modular Essays

Scholarship committees request essays of different lengths. Some will ask for 500 words. Others may ask for 1,000 words. The length of essays seems to change every 3-5 years. As a result, you need to be able to adapt the length of your reusable essays quickly and easily. The following ideas can help you do that.

1 Outline Your Essay for Expansion or Reduction

- ❖ Opening Paragraph: Ends with a topic sentence mentioning 3 elements
- ❖ Body: Outlining 3 Main Elements or Points of Information
- ❖ Closing Paragraph: Begins with the topic sentence and inverts opening paragraph

2 Structure the Paragraphs in the Body of Your Essay

- ❖ Opening sentence outlines the major concept of that section
- ❖ Emphasize concepts with stories, statistics, and quotes
- ❖ Closing sentence summarizes the concept

Add or Move Stories, Statistics, or Quotes as Needed

- ❖ Lengthen the essay by adding stories, statistics, or quotes
- ❖ Shorten the essay by moving unwanted information to the last page
- ❖ Delete unwanted information from the last page when finished

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Adapting Essays to Specific Scholarships

You adapt reusable essays to each scholarship by following these easy steps.



- 1) Rename the essay using your name and the name of the scholarship in the document name. For example:
 - a) Sue Barney Essay for Calgon Take Me Away Scholarship.docx
 - b) It may seem long but allows you to keep track easier and communicates to committees if the essay gets separated from your application.
- 2) Add the name of the scholarship and the purpose desired by the scholarship committee to the opening and closing paragraph of the essay.
- 3) You may wish to review the body of the essay for any references you wish to add to focus the essay more clearly on the aims of the scholarship committee.
- 4) Save the new essay, with the new name, as a PDF so you can upload it to applications.

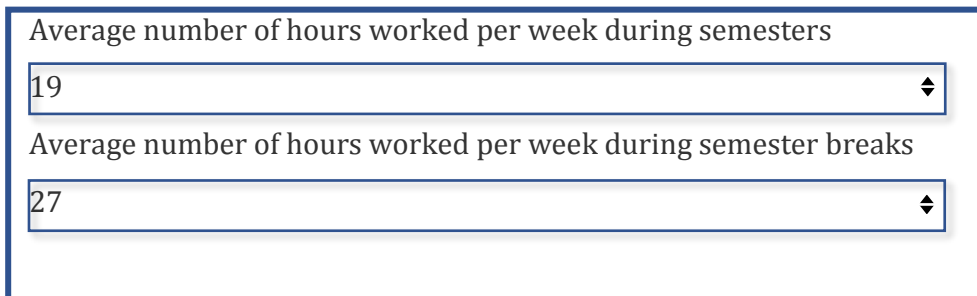
PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Reusable Scholarship Applications

Expecting to complete 50+ applications suggest the need for an assembly line mentality. Hence the benefit of reusable scholarship statements, essays, and letters of recommendation. A reusable master application contains the answers to every application you submitted.

Many questions on your scholarship applications will be answered with

- Drop down fields: birthday, school status, graduation dates & others



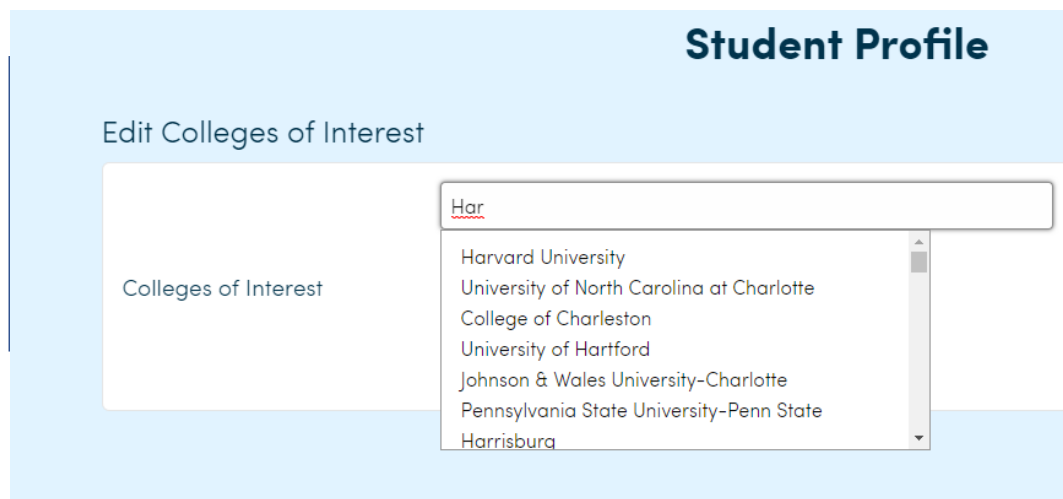
Average number of hours worked per week during semesters

19

Average number of hours worked per week during semester breaks

27

- Auto-fill fields: possible universities, desired majors, & others



Student Profile

Edit Colleges of Interest

Colleges of Interest

Har

- Harvard University
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- College of Charleston
- University of Hartford
- Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte
- Pennsylvania State University-Penn State
- Harrisburg

- Click fields: states, activities, clubs, employers, & others

Select the state(s) in which you reside and/or attend college.

- ☐ Colorado
- ☐ Illinois
- ☐ Indiana

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

How to Create and Use a Reusable Application

You can create a reusable master application to reduce the amount of time needed to complete applications, but also to improve the quality of the answers in your applications.

Questions that provide an open text box for you to fill in with answers, offer excellent opportunities for prepared, refined, and perfected answers.

First Name Last Name Address City
High School Email address Parents Names City

How would this scholarship help you complete your education?

Limit: 50 words

To create your reusable master application:

1. Create a document named "<Your Name> Master Application"
2. Open the document every time you being to complete an application
3. First, write answers to questions on the application in your document
4. Edit and refine your answers in your master document
5. Paste your refined answers into the scholarship application
6. Save your document and use those same answers in future applications

Use your reusable master application as you complete other applications:

1. Open your master application as you complete every application
2. Paste answers from your master application into fields with questions
3. Add and refine new answers for new questions on the applications
4. Save your master application document each time for future use

TIP FOR PARENTS

Sit next to your children as they complete the first 3-5 scholarship applications. Remind them to type answers into both the application and their reusable master document.

Reusable Letters of Recommendation

Many scholarships request that you submit one or more letters of recommendation to receive their scholarship. The letters of recommendation confirm your qualifications for the scholarship. They provide an unbiased witness to your character and accomplishments.



- ✚ You ask 4-5 people to provide a letter of recommendation
- ✚ Offer to draft the letter for them and allow them to edit and refine it
- ✚ Ask them to print the letter of recommendation on their letterhead
- ✚ Scan the letter and save it as a PDF
- ✚ Upload the letters to applications as requested
- ✚ Generate at least one new letter each year so that you have current and letters from the past

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

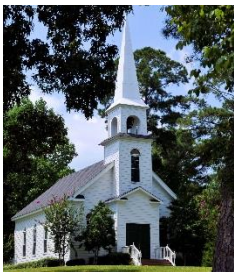
Soliciting Letters of Recommendation

Ask 4-5 people, one from each group, to provide a letter of recommendation. Circle the positions of those you will ask. Write the names of the people you will ask in the blank on the right of the box.



People from School:

Teachers
Counselors
Administrators
Coaches



People from Church:

Ministers, Pastors, Reverends
Youth Advisors/Counselors
Teachers
Others



People from Community Organizations You Served:

Executive Directors or Paid Staff
Local Chapter Presidents or other officers
Volunteer Coordinators
Participants in the Programs Served



People from Work:

Managers or Supervisors
Co-Workers or Peers
Loyal Clients
Suppliers or Vendors



Influential People in Your Community:

Family or friends who would be known by the scholarship committee
Elected officials acquainted with you or your family
CEOs, business owners, or others referred to you by your acquaintances
Influential alumni from the universities you are applying to attend

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Drafting Letters of Recommendation

In today's world, you should offer to draft the letter on the writer's behalf. Then, allow them to edit and perfect the letter. Finally, see if they will give it to you on their letterhead. Scan it and save it as <Recommender's name> Letter of Recommendation for <Your Name>. We provide section headers in this example to help you understand. *Do not include them in your letters.*

Salutation

Date

Scholarship Committee Members

Introduction

I am honored to recommend <your name> to receive your scholarship. I have known <your name> for YY years (or because he/she...). He/she will represent your organization well as a recipient of your scholarship

Letter of Recommendation: Body

- Use 3-4 statements connected to the person signing the letter
- List the statements using bullets
- Focus on the results portions of your scholarship statements

Letter of Recommendation: Closing

These are my experiences with <your name>. I believe that <your name> will represent your organization well as a recipient of your scholarship. I am honored to recommend him/her to receive your scholarship.

Signature

Respectfully yours,

Name of the person making the recommendation

Title of the person making the recommendation

Remember to change the wording for each letter so that scholarship committees do not see duplication as they review multiple letters per application.

In Conclusion

Apply for 2-3 Scholarships a Week

If you involved family, friends, teachers, and coaches in your work;

If you've completed each of the activities listed in this workbook, you are ready to start submitting scholarship applications..

Using your reusable statements, essays, applications, and letters of recommendation; you should be able to complete a scholarship application in 30-40 minutes.

Go to page 17. How many scholarships did you list in column 3?

You can apply for 3 scholarships a week in 2 hours a week.

$3 \text{ (per week)} \times 52 \text{ (weeks)} = 156 \text{ applications in 1 year.}$

Share your success with those who have helped you succeed so they know the results of their assistance.

PREPARE 36 SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENTS

Share Your Success or Questions with Us

In the preface to this workbook, we asked you to consider the following concept

TIP FOR PARENTS

Keep your children motivated with a graph or chart to record and list the amount of money they receive (earn).

If you spend...	...and receive...	...You just earned per hour
100 hours	\$4,000	\$40.00
150 hours	\$25,000	\$166.000
300 hours	\$360,000	\$1,200.00

Any one of those salaries would be good for a 16-year-old, 22-year-old, or even many 40 something adults."



We would love to hear about, and share, your successes with others. Let us know how many of scholarships you earned and how much money you earned.

Send an email to Success@LarrytheScholarshipGuy.com

Text "scholarshipsuccess" to 66866

In addition, we want to help you complete all 3 steps outlined in this workbook. We offer video clips, online courses, virtual coaching, and in-person workshops to help you remove barriers, brainstorm solutions, and complete the work of each step. Send an email to

Events@LarrytheScholarshipGuy.com

References and Notes

ⁱ <https://www.consumerreports.org/student-loan-debt-crisis/student-loans-vs-mortgages-what-makes-student-debt-different/>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.consumerreports.org/student-loan-debt-crisis/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.bankrate.com/loans/student-loans/student-loans-survey-february-2019/>

^{iv} <https://iop.harvard.edu/student-debt-viewed-major-problem-financial-considerations-important-factor-most-millennials-when>

^v <https://www.bankrate.com/loans/student-loans/student-loans-survey-february-2019/>