

# **\$CHOLARSHIP TIPS**

## **1. Start Early**

Begin looking into scholarship possibilities during your junior year, and be ready to complete applications in the fall of your senior year. *Finding and applying for scholarships takes a great deal of time and effort!*

## **2. Large Scholarships**

The colleges themselves generally award scholarships for larger amounts. Contact the financial aid office of the college(s) you are considering, and ask them for information on the scholarships they offer.

## **3. Private Colleges**

Private colleges are often more generous when awarding scholarships, thus making them competitive in price with public colleges. Don't rule out a private college until you have seen their financial aid package.

## **4. Local Scholarships**

Apply for local scholarships (Rotary, PTA, Elks, etc). These scholarships are generally for smaller amounts (\$100 - \$1,000), but they are usually easier to get.

## **5. Deadlines**

Be aware of deadlines. Most scholarship applications will not be considered if turned in after the deadline.

## **6. Network**

Tell everyone, including your high school counselor, that you are looking for scholarships. Check for scholarship opportunities with your place of employment, your parents' place of employment, your church, and with any organizations to which you or your parents belong. Also, look for scholarship opportunities in your local newspaper(s).

## **7. Recommendation Letters**

Make sure that teachers and counselors are given plenty of time to write recommendations and to prepare transcripts.

## **8. Financial Aid**

Remember that most financial aid is not awarded in the form of a scholarship. Pursue all financial aid opportunities.

## **9. Scholarship Recipients**

You will have a much better chance of getting a scholarship at a college where you are in the top 25% of the applicants.

## **10. Renewable Scholarships**

Always check to see if financial and scholarship awards are renewable. A one-year scholarship is for one year only; a renewable scholarship can become a four-year scholarship.