

Financial Aid & Scholarships



Counseling Department

Am I eligible?

- The answer is YES!
- No matter your background/age/college you plan on attending, there are scholarship opportunities and financial aid for everyone.
- Sometimes, scholarships go unclaimed because no one applies.
- Just think of all the free money out there...

*Anytime you see something underlined in this presentation, you can click on it and the link will take you to the referenced webpage!



FAFSA-Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- Before each year of college, apply for federal grants, work-study, and loans with the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form.
 - Your college uses your FAFSA data to determine your federal aid eligibility.
 - You can include/list up to 10 colleges on the FAFSA
 - Many states and colleges use FAFSA data to award their own aid.
 - In NYS, this is called the TAP Application
 - After submission, you'll receive your *Student Aid Report*.
 - [Understanding your Student Aid Report](#)

- [How Financial Aid Works](#)

Starting the FAFSA

- In order to complete the FAFSA you will need:
 - Your parent/guardian
 - The 2019 tax return forms for the individual who claims you on their taxes (usually the primary parent)
 - [Non-Tax Filers Go Here](#)
 - Your driver's license number (if you have one)
 - Your Alien Registration number if you are not a U.S. citizen
- [Step by step guide when starting the FAFSA](#)
 - 1) Go to fafsa.gov
 - 2) Create an FSA ID (make sure to write this down so you don't forget it)
 - 3) Follow the steps to complete all questions
 - 4) Follow the link to the TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) application at the end of the FAFSA. This is the NY state aid form which autofills with the information you put on your FAFSA.

Upcoming Financial Aid Events:

Virtual Financial Aid

Night at Vertus:

- Held over zoom on Wednesday, October 28th at 6pm.
- Live presentation with Milladge Griffin, a Financial Aid Counselor from MCC
- Bring any specific questions or concerns you have!

FAFSA-Thon through RCAN:



Your Current Situation Isn't Your Final Destination!



Need help with financial aid?

Save the date for FAFSA-Thon!

- Saturday, November 14 (9am-9pm)
- Saturday, December 5 (9am-9pm)
- Saturday, January 16 (9am-9pm)

Even better... RCAN is available anytime you need help!

Seniors, make an appointment by texting-
Your name and a list of what you need help with to:
(585) 571-RCAN (7226)



Types of Scholarships

There are three types of scholarships:

- **Institutional** – funded through a college or university
- **Private** – funded through private businesses, civic organizations, labor unions and other groups
- **Governmental** – offered by federal and state governmental agencies

PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Many businesses, civic organizations and other groups offer scholarships. You'll need to research and apply for them on your own, but it's well worth your effort. Here are some places to look into for scholarship opportunities:

- Places of employment (of parents and/or student)
- Local libraries
- College Campus Libraries or Career Centers
- High school Counseling Office
- Online
- Organizations such as the Black Scholars

Black Scholars Application Portal

*If you qualify as a Black Scholar Honoree, follow these steps to access scholarships:

1) Go to the Black Scholars website at:

<http://www.ulr.org/Programs/YouthEducationDevelopment/BlackScholars.asp>

X

2) At the bottom of the webpage, **“Click Here to Begin Application”** button

3) Write down login and password (**remember to use your personal email**)

4) Save your application before logging off.

Examples of Scholarships Found on the Black Scholars Portal:

Rochester Area Community Foundation: <http://www.racf.org/Scholarships/How-to-Apply-or-Renew>

The Community Foundation administers more than 125 local scholarship opportunities!

Apply for scholarships for New York State Residents:

<https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-state/new-york-scholarships/>

United Negro College Fund (HBCU Scholarships): <https://www.uncf.org/>

Thurgood Marshall Fund (HBCU Scholarships): <https://www.tmcf.org/>

Jackie Robinson Scholarship Foundation: <https://www.jackierobinson.org/apply/>

Vertus Specific Scholarships

- O'Strong Scholarship
- Vertus Curiosity Award

Look for more information on both of these scholarships in spring 2021!

Websites to Explore

- Create accounts on the following websites
- You can sign up for automatic notifications when a scholarship comes through that matches your criteria/you are eligible for
- Check out the Following Scholarship Sites:
 - [Fastweb](#)
 - [College Board](#)
 - [Peterson's](#)
 - [FinAid](#)
 - [Careeronestop](#)

Scholarships offered by Local Colleges:

- **The College of Brockport:** https://www.brockport.edu/admissions_aid/scholarships/
- **Fingers Lake Community College:** <http://give.flcc.edu/pages/scholarships>
- **Keuka College:** <https://www.keuka.edu/give/scholarships>
- **MCC:** <https://www.monroecc.edu/tuition-aid/types-of-aid/scholarships/>
- **Nazareth College:** <https://www2.naz.edu/tuition-aid/types-aid/scholarships-grants/>
- **Roberts Wesleyan:**
<https://www.roberts.edu/undergraduate/tuition-and-aid/grants-scholarships.aspx>
- **Rochester Institute of Technology:** <https://www.rit.edu/emcs/financialaid/scholarships.html>
- **St. John Fisher College:** <http://www.sjfc.edu/admissions/freshman/scholarships/>
- **SUNY Geneseo College:** <https://www.geneseo.edu/scholarships/freshman-scholarships>
- **University of Rochester:** <https://enrollment.rochester.edu/financial-aid/undergrads/#tab3>

GOVERNMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Learn more about governmental scholarships and how to apply:

- [NYS Excelsior Scholarship](#)
- [Reserve Officers Training Corps \(ROTC\)](#)