Scholarship Information for International Students

Searching for Scholarships

Start at the Mason Scholarship Webpage: http://financialaid.gmu.edu/scholarships/

International Sites to Begin Your Search

Try the U.S. Department of Labor’s - http://www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch/
Check out the Education Website - http://www.educationusa.info/centers.php
International Options at Mason- http://globalad.gmu.edu/programs/internships/
International Education Financial Aid - www.iefa.org
Premier Scholarship Database - www.internationalscholarships.com/
SmartStudent Guide - www.edupass.org
Ford Foundation - www.fordip.net/
International Students Scholarships and Grants - www.isoa.org/list_scholarships.aspx
NAFSA - www.nafsa.org/students.sec/international_students_2/
Fulbright Fellowship Program - www.foreign.fulbrightonline.org
British Council (different opportunities) - www.britishcouncil.org/

Finally check with your country’s embassy, a consulate here in the U.S. or with the appropriate government office back in your country to see what they offer.

Scholarship Scams Warning Signs

Scholarship “Fees”
Scholarship is “Guaranteed”
Exclusive - “You can’t get this information anywhere else”
Credit card /bank account information needed
Unsolicited - “You’re a finalist” in a contest you never entered”
Do your homework, visit the Federal Trade Commission at Scholarship Scams www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

Application Tips:

Apply early.
Only apply to scholarships you are eligible for.
Pay close attention to deadline dates.
Follow all instructions carefully and answer all questions.
Allow enough time for recommendation letters.
Provide good contact information for yourself.
Keep copies of everything you send.
Inform your school of any scholarships you receive.
Always be sure to send a thank you letter.

Scholarship Essays:

Get organized.
Follow directions.
Demonstrate originality and creativity.
Develop a theme that fits the scholarship.
Turn in a professional looking essay.
Give it the “once over”.

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