

CONTEST TIME

Everyone has impacted your life. Whether it be the teacher, who got you to read a book you didn't want to for class that you ended up loving, a friend that introduced you to your new favorite musician or even an aunt that helped you thru a crisis, everyone plays a role in everyone else's life. There's always that one person, maybe even two or three, that impact your life more than anyone else. It's the one that you know your life would be completely different, if it hadn't been for them. Who's yours? I'm guessing you won't have to think too hard. **Tell us who it is and why. Your next coffee could be on us. To submit your entry email info@claimyouryouth.com.**



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DREAM JOB CONTEST WINNER! ENJOY YOUR NEXT TRIP TO STARBUCKS ON US!

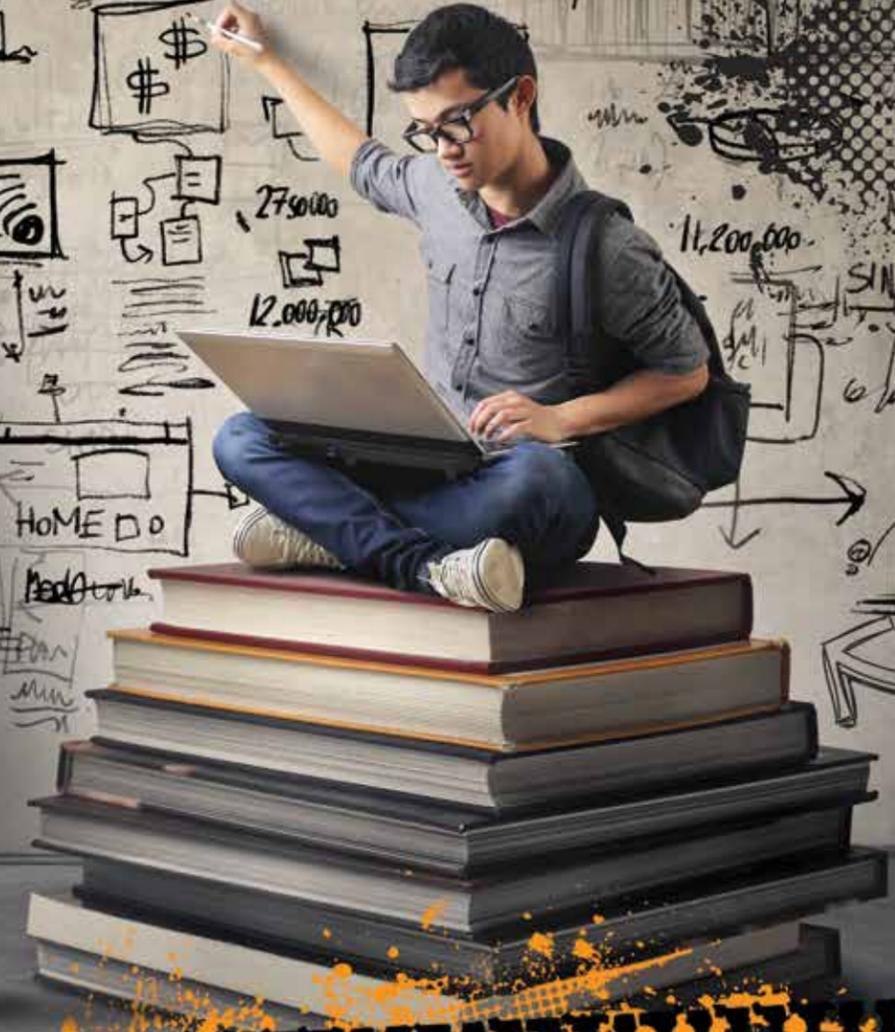
“My dream job would be to become a veterinarian and create a non-kill shelter for animals. I also want to give animals a foster home that will give them a beautiful and amazing new life.”

– Emma, age 13

FALL 2017

CLAIM YOUR YOUTH

SCHOLARSHIPS



CLAIM YOUR YOUTH



CAMPUS TOURS

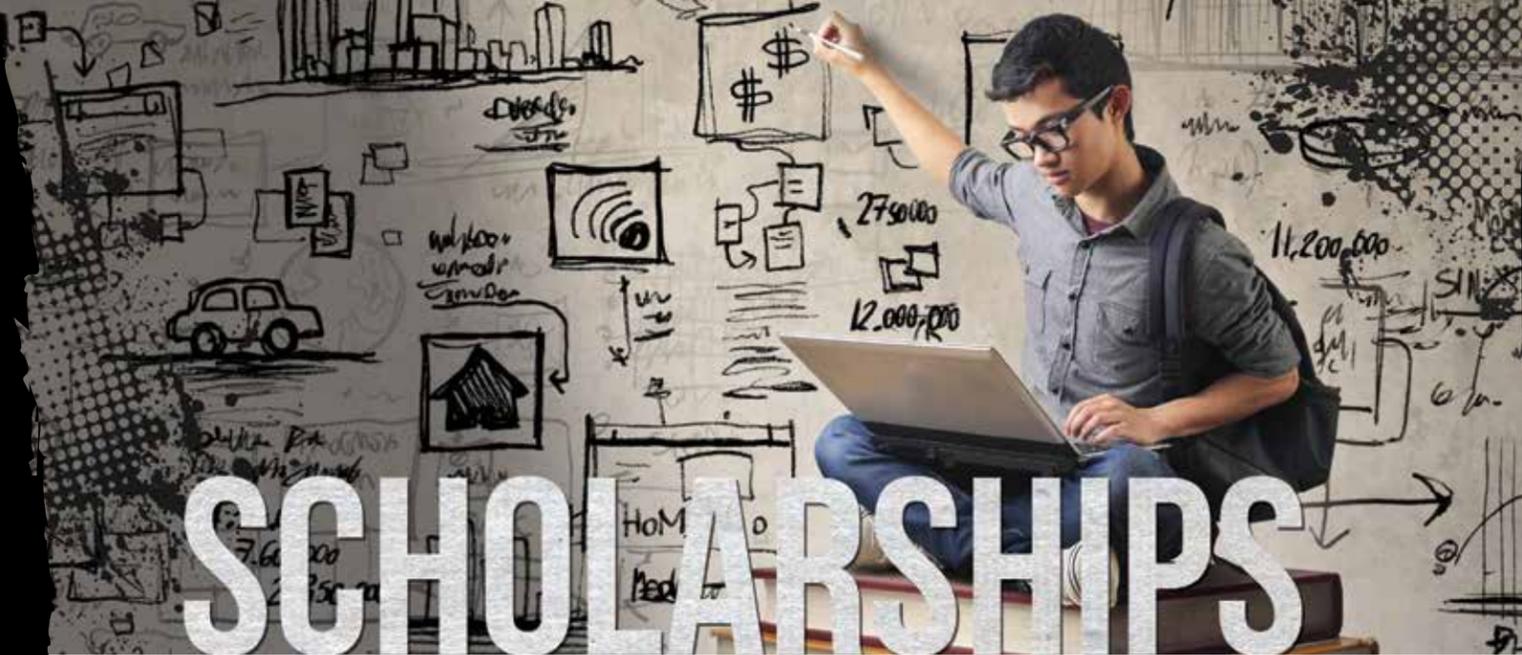
PAGE 3

THE APPLICATION PROCESS PAGE 3

What's Inside

Guess what independence, adulthood, and college means? Money! No, not for you, for your education. We live in a country and era of great opportunity, but unfortunately the cost of achieving what you wish to accomplish is a weighing factor of which school you will ultimately attend.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



SCHOLARSHIPS

continued from page 1

Here's what you have to look forward to concerning a price tag:

- Tuition- Your classes.
- Fees- Student services such as athletic facilities, the library, transportation, and student government.
- Room & Board- Housing and meals.
- Books & Supplies- Required textbooks and materials for your classes.

Depending on the university, all costs vary. For example, there is an average difference of around \$15,000 a year between in-state and out-of-state tuition. The University of New Mexico costs \$6,950 and \$21,936 respectively. On the other hand, somewhere like Ohio State University costs \$10,036 and \$28,229 respectively, and private schools like Harvard University cost \$47,074 annually without an in-state option. Wait, that's just tuition? Yep. You can be prepared to tack on around \$2,000 for fees, another \$10,000 for room and board, and around \$1,500 for books and supplies. Here's what it looks like after the mandatory add-ons from just an in-state perspective:

- UNM- \$6,950 to \$20,857
- OSU- \$10,036 to \$26,137
- HARVARD- \$47,074 to \$66,858

Yikes! Okay, there are ways around this though. Tuition and fees are tuition and fees, but in-state students have the luxury to live at home (pending parents' approval), and even if on-campus, things like meal plans aren't required. Why do you think Ramen becomes so popular in college? Also, regarding books and supplies, why do you think Amazon is so popular? If you don't want to go the route of still living with your parents, eating Ramen noodles every night, and settling for used books with scribbles scattered throughout, then don't worry, we have an answer: scholarships.

The best way to earn a scholarship is to apply early and often. Just like applications, there are deadlines for scholarships, and just like universities they vary in type and cost. You're going to want to start early, research a variety of opportunities, and then narrow your search to a short-list. Two important things to remember is that you must meet the application deadline and make sure you're eligible for the scholarship because there are different types out there. Some are full rides and some are partial, some are based on your achievements and high school marks and test scores, some for athletes, some for minorities, and some are focused on specific activities, skills, or interests from chess to veganism. There are millions of chances to earn scholarship money so do an broad search for these awards – you'll be surprised.

To recap, start your search early, even during your junior year because some accept applications a year before. Another benefit to starting early is you have a network of people wanting to help you like your friends, teachers, and family – especially your parents. Then, get organized and never miss a deadline! Make sure to be thorough, honest, and diligent during the process. Lastly, be careful. A word of advice: don't pay to win a scholarship, it could be a scam! You're trying to receive money, not give it away.

On a final note, it's not the end of the world if you don't receive a scholarship. There's always financial aid, and no, the world isn't against you. Student loans are very common, and there are great options to make sure that you receive the education you want, not just the one you can afford.

Wayne Gretzky famously said, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." In other words, you WON'T be awarded if you DON'T apply. Keep an open mind and good luck!

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

It's almost time for college. How scary is that? Well actually, how exciting is that? This is such a wonderful time in a student's life: the next step in your education, but the first step toward your independence and becoming an adult. Okay, now it's scary again.

It doesn't have to be. Applying to colleges should be fun! One misconception of college is that you must make sure you know exactly what you want to do with your life before submitting an application, but that's not true. Find your passions, a general idea of your future, and then do your research on universities that will best fit your goals. You live in the golden age of the internet, use it for more than social networking and kitten videos, and by the way, social networking also helps in the application process – kitten videos, not so much.

Best advice: **START EARLY AND GET ORGANIZED.** Next, after widespread searching and making a short-list, look to the very end of the process: **WHEN IS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE?** There are universities that have early application options that fall in November and December, but most require submission by the end of January. However, there are schools that let you apply even toward the end of the spring semester. Then, carefully read through the application and guidelines and gather all required materials BEFORE you begin. You will discover that universities may have different procedures so that's why it's important to be organized. A checklist and spreadsheet help! It's better to work without added pressure in order to stand out rather than to be overlooked due to a minor mistake.

Be prepared to fill out a basic application form, write a general essay specified by the institute, and be asked to provide supplemental materials like achievements, experience, and extracurricular activities.

Then, there's the fee. Yep, your college expenses are already beginning and you haven't even been accepted yet. However, some great schools like Butler and Marquette have no application fees while others like Stanford require a \$90 fee. The application fee will be the least of your financial worries concerning college so don't base your decision on the cost to apply.

Lastly, wait patiently for your letters and enjoy the rest of high school!



CAMPUS TOURS

One of the most exciting aspects of applying to universities is touring the campuses. However, this poses two questions. First, should you visit a campus before you apply or should you wait until after you're accepted? Second, are your parents made of money? The answers are "yes" and "absolutely not." This emphasizes the importance of a short-list. It would be impractical and expensive to start traveling all willy-nilly over the country to every school you wish to attend. So after some extensive research and difficult decision-making, you now have your short-list of wishful ambitions, realistic possibilities, and safety nets.

The benefits of visiting a campus before applying may help narrow your focus to the schools where you feel most comfortable, build a network of academic department and admission office contacts, and in some cases it's actually required during the application process for an on-campus interview. Waiting to visit these campuses after acceptance is a very good move as well because it simply saves time and money.

Now, what do you for look while on campus? First, use your campus guide. It's their job to answer all your questions – you can also get a feel for the university by the tone of their voice. Are they truly excited or just going through the motions? Also, remember that your education is your main priority; find out how large the classes are and what the lecture halls are like because you want to make sure you don't become lost in the crowd or uncomfortable. Ask how and where the current students study, what the library is like, and the accessibility – and price – of transportation and parking. Now, to the fun stuff! Don't worry, your parents are aware that a balance is needed during your college experience, so don't be afraid to ask your guide about extracurricular activities and student clubs, and also what is fun around town.

Ultimately, find out what sets one school apart from the other whether that be the faculty, student body and life, alumni success rate, research resources, architecture and weather, or whatever! What draws you to this place because – and being a teenager you should already know this – it's all about you (regarding college at least).