

The scholarship process can be daunting for an incoming freshman or transfer student; however, there are many opportunities for financial aid. Completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) ensures students are eligible for all federal and state aid. Additionally, each 4-year institution has a scholarship process that may include a scholarship portal where students can apply for college-specific scholarships. **External scholarships are scholarships that are not offered through a university.** They can be offered by a community, government, or private agency. External scholarships can be found on websites and databases. **Below you will find external scholarship opportunities for transfer students and incoming freshmen.**

National Scholarships

Hearts for Community Service Scholarship

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students

Amount: \$5,000

Description: Warrick Dunn Charities' Hearts for Community Service scholarships help to offset the financial burden of attending a post-secondary institution.

Requirements:

- Have a minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 grading scale (GED scores accepted)
- Submit application, recommendation letters, and written essay from June 15- July 31st
- Available to student residents from the following Warrick Dunn Charities, Inc. markets: Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin

For more information and to apply please visit: [Hearts for Community Scholarships - Warrick Dunn Charities \(wdc.org\)](https://www.wdc.org)

Phi Theta Scholarships

Available for Transfer Students

Amount: Varies

Deadline: Varies

Description: Phi Theta Kappa is the official honor society for two-year colleges and offers various scholarships exclusively to its members.

For more information and to apply please visit: [Transfer Student Scholarships Opportunities | Phi Theta Kappa \(ptk.org\)](https://www.ptk.org)

Regions Riding Forward Scholarships

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students

Amount: Varies

Deadline: March 31, 2024

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://doingmoretoday.com/riding-forward/scholarship-contest/>

ROTC Scholarship

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students

Amount: Varies

Description: Scholarships and other monetary support are available when you join ROTC

Requirements:

- Be a U.S. citizen, Be at least 17, and under 31 in year of commissioning
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent & a high school GPA of at least 2.50, unweighted, if you're in high school while applying

For more information & to apply please visit: [ROTC Scholarships | goarmy.com](https://goarmy.com/rotc-scholarships)

TEACH Grant

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students pursuing an Education Degree

Amount: \$4,000

Description: The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program provides grant funds to students who are enrolled in a TEACH Grant-eligible program of study, at a school that participates in the TEACH Grant Program.

Requirements:

- Students must agree to teach full time for at least four years in a high-need field at a [low-income elementary school, secondary school, or educational service agency](#).

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach>

State-Wide Scholarships

Ned McWherter Scholars Program

Available for Incoming Freshman

Amount: \$6,000 annually

Description: The Ned McWherter Scholars Program encourages academically superior Tennessee high school graduates to attend college in Tennessee.

Requirements:

- Attend an eligible Tennessee college or university full-time within 16 months following graduation from high school,
- Have at least a 3.75 unweighted cumulative high school grade point average on a 4.0 scale, and a minimum composite score of 32 on the ACT or 1430 on the SAT.

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://www.collegefortn.org/ned-mcwherter-scholars-program/>

SEAFWA'S Law Enforcement Scholarship

Available for Transfer Students

Amount: \$1,000 (Annually)

Description: SEAFWA's Law Enforcement Chiefs' Scholarships are awarded to students who advocate for wildlife conservation. This award is intended for students with a passion for the outdoors and an interest in the management and protection of fish and wildlife resources.

Requirements:

- Be enrolled as a junior or senior (60 credit hours) at an accredited institution and
- Be pursuing an undergraduate degree in wildlife resources or law enforcement.
- Apply between January 1st and April 1st, 2024.

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://seafwa.org/>

SETC Scholarships

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students

Amount: \$5,000

Description: The Southeastern Theatre Conference is proud to award scholarships for individuals continuing their study in theater. Applications for all graduate and undergraduate SETC scholarships are accepted from Jan. 1 to April 1, annually. Winning scholars are announced by June 30 and invited to attend the following year's SETC Convention with registration and membership fees waived.

Requirements:

- Be attending an academic institution in one of the following ten states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia or West Virginia.
- Apply between January 1st and April 1st, 2024.

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://setc.org/scholarships/>

The Unico Scholarship Program

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students

Amount: \$5,000

Deadline: April 15, 2024

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://unico.org/scholarship/>

Regional Scholarships

CMFT Scholarships

Available for Incoming Freshman & Transfer Students in Middle Tennessee

Amount: Varies

Deadline: February 1, 2024

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://www.cfmt.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/>

DYMON Scholarships

Available for Incoming Freshman in Middle Tennessee

Amount: \$1500

Deadline: March 1, 2024

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://www.dymon.org/scholarships>

Scarlett Family Foundation Scholarship

Available for Incoming Freshman and transfer Students in Middle Tennessee

Amount: Up to \$30,000 (based on financial need)

For more information and to apply please visit: <https://www.scarlettfoundation.org/students>

Other Scholarship Resources

Scholarship Directories

Scholarship directories are a great resource for discovering scholarships from organizations that you may not have realized offered scholarships for students. While these websites typically vet the scholarships posted, it is important to remain vigilant. When applying to scholarships listed on these websites, follow these steps to ensure your safety:

- 1) Stick with scholarships from organizations that you recognize.
- 2) Apply for these scholarships directly on the organization's website instead of the scholarship directory's website.

An example of a reputable scholarship directory is BigFuture a scholarship platform created by the College Board, which is the not-for-profit membership organization that offers the SAT and AP program. You can view the scholarships listed on their website at the following link: [Scholarship Directory – BigFuture | College Board](#)

Banks/Federal Credit Unions

Many banks and federal credit unions offer scholarships to their members. You can search for these scholarships on your bank's website or by asking a local representative. Below is an example of a scholarship that is offered by a local federal credit union:

[Enrich Your Future Scholarships › Enrichment Federal Credit Union \(enrichmentfcu.org\)](#)

Place of Employment

Many companies offer their employees – or children of employees – scholarships and tuition reimbursement. Check with your employer, or a guardian's employer to see what financial assistance they may have. Below is an example of a scholarship that is offered by a fast-food establishment:

[Remarkable Futures Scholarships | Chick-fil-A](#)