

# SCHOLARSHIP FACT SHEET

## WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Congratulations! You are well on your way to starting your post secondary education and, applying for scholarships will make your journey that much easier!

### HOW DO I START?

- Take ownership of your educational planning - remember teachers and counsellors are here to assist you, not lead you
- Investigate and research all scholarship resources. Leave no stone unturned! Investigate and research generic scholarship websites AS WELL AS the list of scholarships and timelines found in this binder. Start networking- talk to your family members, local organizations, churches, clubs, guidance counsellors, teachers, your employer --- you never know who is offering a scholarship!
- Make applications to all scholarships for which you may qualify.

### BURSARIES, GRANTS, ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS, GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS --- WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES?

- Bursaries and Grants are awards that do not need to be repaid. Many of them are awarded based on financial need, although others are also based on academic merit or involvement in specific activities.
- Entrance Scholarships are offered by the university or college that you select, depending on your grades. Many students are automatically considered for entrance scholarships when they apply, however, some scholarships do require a separate application often accompanied by an essay. Research each scholarship and its requirements.
- General Scholarships are not tied to attendance at a specific school, and are given out for a variety of achievements. General scholarships come from various places like government, private institutions or people, or special foundations. These are often some of the best sources of financial aid, but they take a bit of researching and investigating on your part to find them!

### WHICH SITES SHOULD I START INVESTIGATING?

#### scholarships

- [www.schoolfinder.com](http://www.schoolfinder.com)

- [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)
- [www.aucc.ca](http://www.aucc.ca)
- [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com)
- [www.maple.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.maple.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

----departments

----guidance

### **studying outside Canada**

- [www.scholarshipexperts.com](http://www.scholarshipexperts.com)
- [www.scholarships-bourses-ca.org](http://www.scholarships-bourses-ca.org)

### **financial aid**

- <http://osap.gov.on.ca>
- <http://canlearn.ca/English/fin/financial2.html>
- <http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/postsec/settingout/supporting/>

### **DON'T FORGET....**

- To check out the Scholarship Binder in Guidance
- To review the Scholarship Do's and Don't
- To use the Scholarship Checklist
- That it 's all up to you! 😊



## **APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS** **DO'S AND DONT'S**

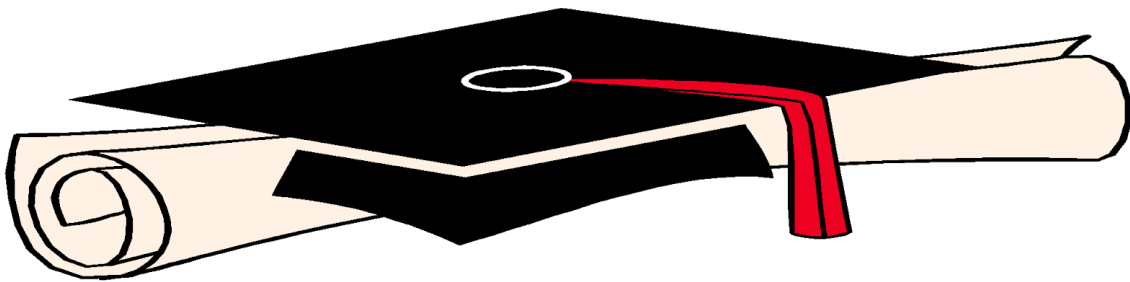
### **DO'S**

- Do Complete a rough draft of each application before you complete the original.
- Do get your parents, teachers and or guidance counsellor to help you to proof read your rough draft.
- Do read over the instructions carefully before you begin.
- Do take careful note of the deadline date.
- Do apply to as many possible scholarships as you feel you qualify.
- Do be sure to type your final copy.
- Do document your extra curricular or community achievements.

- Do present yourself in a positive light without exaggerating.
- Do pay close attention to all details.
- Do make a photocopy of your entire application and file it away safely. You may need it if the original goes missing and or if you have to prepare a similar application.
- Do give your completed application to the sponsor well ahead of the deadline.
- Do ask for help if you get stuck filling out your application.

## DON'T

- Don't let the original copy of the application form get soiled or torn.
- Don't forget to give your references at least two weeks to produce a letter of recommendation for you.
- Don't forget to thank the individuals who act as references for you.
- Don't lie on or embellish your application form.
- Don't forget to check to be sure that you are sending everything that was requested
- Don't miss deadlines.
- Don't send important documents by ordinary mail. A little extra money will buy fast, secure delivery through Priority Post or courier.



## APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS CHECKLIST

### HAVE I COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING?

- Considered the types of scholarships I might be eligible for?
- Checked all available resources (colleges, universities, websites, binder in Guidance, networks etc.)?
- Spoken with parents/guardians re: scholarships offered through their workplace?
- Contacted Guidance Counsellor (for school nominated scholarships)?
- Contacted university/college Awards Office?
- Arranged to receive reference letters with appropriate teachers, community leaders etc.?

a) The referee (person who will write the reference letter) has been given:

- Adequate time to write the reference letter and has been given a specific date for pick up
- A copy of the scholarship information including the name and address of whom they should be addressing their letter
- A copy of your resume or summary of activities, achievements, awards
- A personal thank you for assisting you with this process

b) Arranged for other supporting documents?

- Official transcripts through Guidance
- Proof of residence, experiences etc.
- Other

- Had written essay/letter (if applicable) proof read by a reliable person?
- Photocopied and saved on disk all relevant information pertaining to scholarship applications for future reference?
- Mailed, hand delivered, couriered, faxed, scholarship application and documentation by the deadline (check to see how they would like you to send the information)?