



College Keystones



A College Planning Relief Publication

Preparation is Paramount When Applying for Scholarships

To help ease the application process for college scholarships, you need to be prepared and know there are common things that are going to be repetitive as you apply for more and more such scholarships. Others will be specific only to a particular application. By having those items you will need to offer again and again readily available, you can make the process easier for yourself and get those college scholarship applications done in less time. Being able to get several college scholarship applications done in a single afternoon will be achievable only if you can streamline the process.

The general information on a college scholarship application is going to be basically the same. They are going to want to know your name, address, phone number, and other personal information. Where you attended high school as well as previous college information will be asked. Make sure you have the dates and addresses for such enrollment available.

There are plenty of special skills you may have to offer. All of that information needs to be listed on your college scholarship applications. By developing a list of them, you won't have to worry about leaving out such information on future college scholarship applications. You may be asked about volunteer work and activities that you have taken part in.

Once again, a detailed log of all of them will make copying them into the application even easier. Make sure your master list of all information is correct so that you can avoid mistakes on your applications. You will also find you are less likely to put off completing such applications when you don't have to dig around for the information or the documentation to complete them.

The fact that you can often complete applications for college scholarships online makes the process simple as well. You can complete your lists on the computer and save them. When you need to make changes it is very easy to do it and then to save the updates. You can also copy and paste the information when you have online applications to complete. This is much faster than writing it all down again and again.

Personal references are needed on most applications for college scholarships, so make sure you have the permission of individuals to use their contact information before you just list them. Having their name, address, and contact information written down will ensure you can always access it quickly.

There are some other documents that are often asked for when you complete college scholarship applications. One of them is a personal narrative. Make sure you follow the instructions though. Many of them want specific guidelines or a specific word length. You can have some basic points you wish to cover written down and then modify the structure to fit the requirements.

You should have at least five letters of recommendation available as well. Make many copies of them so you will have enough for all of the college scholarship applications you wish to complete. These letters of recommendation should be from family friends, teachers, employers, and others that know about you as a person and why you are deserving of funding for your education.

Another piece of information you may need to provide are your transcripts. They may be required from high school as well as other colleges you have attended. The need for them will depend on the college scholarship application requirements. Many of them now will simply ask you to have official transcripts sent to them if you are a finalist for a scholarship award. Others want an unofficial copy turned in with the college scholarship application, so have such copies ready just in case.

If you are looking for a detailed plan to build your scholarship list and be prepared for the process, contact your College Planning Relief Specialist today to get started.

We are in the business of helping families through the major life transition of sending their children to college. For many, it will be the most expensive time of their lives and, if not handled properly, could cost them their retirement. If you or someone you know needs the help and guidance of a trained financial professional, don't hesitate to contact me. Remember, you shouldn't have to choose between your child's college and your retirement.