

# About getting scholarships

Every year there is a request for a list of scholarships for deaf and hard of hearing students. While the list is provided, the following should be considered. Just because you have a hearing loss does not mean you will get the scholarship. It really is a subjective process meaning that the applicant has to find a way to make their application stand out from the others to make it to the finals.



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This starts way early in the applicant's life before becoming a senior in high school. Being active in school, church and/or community can help you stand out. It also may mean the applicant is involved in county, state, and possibly national and international activities. Start with belonging and being active in clubs and organizations at a young age and this may start with volunteering along with family members.

Examples include the following:

**School:** Clubs and Teams: Yearbook, Pep Club, Sports, Speech/Debate teams, Drama Club, Book Club, etc. NOTE: If an applicant wants to be involved with sports but does not have the skills, they can become involved with keeping stats or managing for the team.

**Church:** Be active within the church. Volunteer to help with organizing events, work in the nursery, etc.



**Community:** Help other organizations at community events (serving food, collecting tickets, helping with walks and marathons, collecting donations, working at town's museums, food banks, animal shelters, etc.) Town celebrations and fairs are a great time to help. Belong to community clubs such as Cub/Boys/Girls Scouts, 4-H, FFA, or other specialty clubs such as model airplanes, baseball cards, coins, saddle clubs, shooting groups, fencing, dance, summer sports, competing in various drawing, writing and speech competitions. etc.

These activities may lead to state and national activities such as competitions, conferences, camps, etc.

The list is endless. Maybe there is the opportunity to participate in something that is unique to your area such as clogging, fencing, tractor pull, mules and donkeys, etc. You do not need to be in the big city to have access to activities that will look good on scholarship applications.

Adapted from:

<https://www.unigo.com/pay-for-college/scholarship/3-reasons-why-i-deserve-a-scholarship>

Applying for scholarships is an odd game; the more you apply, the better your chances of winning. Remind yourself the reasons on why you deserve this scholarship, no matter the outcome because. . . .



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## 1. I'M HARD WORKING

Why do I deserve this scholarship? – because I'm hardworking! I work hard in school and out of school. I never give up, even when things get tough. I always try my best, and I'm proud of the progress I've made.



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## 2. I'M ACTIVE IN MY COMMUNITY

I care about making my community a better place. I've volunteered at the local library, food bank, and animal shelter. I've also helped to organize community clean-up days.

## 3. I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT MY FUTURE CAREER

I know what I want to do with my life, and I'm passionate about it. I've shadowed professionals in my field of interest, and I've done research on the best schools for my chosen career.

## 4. I'M PERSISTENT

A genuine advantage that you need in order to be successful at scholarships. If you apply to a few and then give up, you're implying that you don't deserve to win. Refuse to accept it, and your perseverance may be rewarded.

## 5. I'M UNIQUE

There is only one of you. This means the chances of someone entering the exact same scholarship application as yours is highly unlikely. It's up to you to find a way to highlight the special qualities you possess, so others see them, too.



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## 6. I CAN OVERCOME OBSTACLES

"Please tell me I can't do something because I'll try even harder to prove you wrong!" Like many other students you know, You've traveled a bumpy road to get to where you are today, but those obstacles gave you strength and helped you appreciate the truly important things in life. Carry your scars

like badges of honor!

*If you possess these qualities as well, you must do one more thing in order to win a scholarship — **APPLY!** You can't win if you don't apply, and although you may lose more contests than you win, just opening one "congratulations" letter is so worth the effort and reward.*



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# SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

## Restrictions on Scholarships for the Deaf

The wide variety of scholarship programs dedicated to the needs of students with a hearing loss leads to an equally wide variety of eligibility requirements. Every scholarship program will have its own list of criteria that student applicants will have to meet in order to be considered for an award.

Some scholarships target students who have been deaf since birth, while others address the needs of those with severe hearing loss brought about by disease or accident. Many scholarship programs will require that applicants be totally deaf, while others may make provision for students that have a partial hearing loss. Some are specific to living in a specific place to taking up a particular field of study and having a certain ethnic background. Students should read all scholarship applications carefully in regard to definitions of hearing impairment, requirements for eligibility and deadlines.

## National Scholarships for Deaf Students

The following examples are just a few of the many scholarships available to deaf and hard of hearing college students.

### Sertoma International Scholarship for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing

*Scholarship Deadline: typically around March*

The program provides financial assistance to college-bound students with clinically significant bilateral hearing loss. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors, or undergraduates pursuing a four year degree at an accredited college or university. Award amounts vary, and are determined by financial need, academic merit, and degree of hearing loss.



1. The **Hard of Hearing or Deaf Scholarship** is for students with clinically significant bilateral hearing loss, graduating from high school, or undergraduate students pursuing four-year college degrees in any discipline.
2. The **Communicative Disorders Scholarship** is for graduate students pursuing advanced degrees in audiology or speech-language pathology from institutions in the U.S. These scholarships, worth \$1,000 each, are awarded in the spring to help offset the cost of tuition, books and fees incurred during the following school year.

Get and submit application at  
<https://sertoma.org/what-we-do/scholarships/>  
PH: (816) 333-8300

### Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

*Scholarship deadline: typically early March*

The **AG Bell College Scholarship** is extremely competitive merit-based program. It is one of the largest scholarship programs targeting deaf and hard of hearing students. More than \$100,000 in scholarship awards are given annually, with individual awards ranging from \$1000 to \$10,000. Applicants must meet stringent eligibility requirements, including having an un-weighted GPA of 3.25, current enrollment in an accredited mainstream college or university, and a profound hearing loss that was diagnosed prior to the student's fourth birthday. Listening and spoken language must also be the applicants' primary mode of communication.



Get and submit application at:  
<https://www.agbell.org/Connect/AG-Bell-College-Scholarship-Program>



**Cochlear scholarships** available to college-bound students with a Cochlear Implant. The scholarship provides financial assistance to undergraduate students enrolled in an accredited college or university. Award amounts vary, and are determined by academic achievement, and a demonstrated commitment to community to the Cochlear ideals of leadership and humanity.

*Scholarships typically open in March, due in September*

1. **Graeme Clark Scholarship** is a unique award open to Cochlear Nucleus Implant recipients. Applicants must be a citizen of the United States or Canada.
2. **Anders Tjellström Scholarship** is a unique award open to Baha and Osia recipients. Applicants must be a citizen of the United States or Canada.

Get and submit applications at

<https://www.cochlear.com/us/en/home/ongoing-care-and-support/connect-with-us/scholarships>

**Minnie Pearl Scholarship** is a four year undergraduate scholarship open to deaf and hearing impaired students. Applicants must be a high school senior with a cumulative 3.0 GPA, and must be planning to enroll in an accredited college or university within the United States. The Minnie Pearl Scholarship pays up to \$1000 per year, for a maximum of \$4000.

Get and submit application at:

<https://www.pdfFiller.com/5596886-fillable-minnie-pearl-scholarship-application-form-hearingbridges>

Minnie Pearl Scholarship Program  
Bridges  
415 4th Avenue S., Suite A  
Nashville, TN 37201  
Ph: 615-248-8828  
Email: [ap@hearingbridges.org](mailto:ap@hearingbridges.org)



**Wells Fargo Scholarship Program for People with Disabilities**

*Scholarship deadline: typically in February*

The Wells Fargo Scholarship Program for People with Disabilities is designed to help people with disabilities obtain the education or training necessary to succeed in the career path of their choice. To apply, you must have an identified disability (defined as someone who has, or considers themselves to have, a long-term or recurring issue that impacts one or more major life activity), be a high school senior or graduate planning to enroll, or who are already enrolled, in full or half-time undergraduate study at an accredited two or four-year college or university in the United States, and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. For more information or to apply, please visit the scholarship provider's website.

Get and submit application at:

<https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/pwdscholarship/>



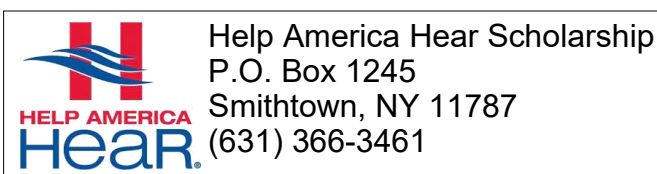
**Foundation for Sight and Sound - Help America Hear Scholarship**

*Scholarship Deadline: typically May 1st*

The scholarship is open nationally to high school seniors who have a hearing loss, which requires the use of hearing aid(s) in their daily life.

Get and submit application at:

<https://helpamericahear.org/scholarship/>



### [Travelers Protective Association Scholarship Trust for the Hearing Impaired](#)

*Deadline: Ongoing applications must be submitted to the Trust by the end of each quarter: March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st.*

The Travelers Protective Association of America established the TPA Scholarship Trust for the Hearing Impaired in 1975 to provide financial aid to children and adults who has deafness or hearing impairment and who need assistance in obtaining mechanical devices, medical or specialized treatment or specialized education as well as speech classes, note takers, interpreters, etc. and in other areas of need that are directly related to hearing impairment.

Along with the completed application, applicants must include medical certification of their disability, an official transcript, expected financial costs, and a personal statement describing their hearing loss.

Get and submit application at:

<https://www.tpahq.org/tpa-hearing-trust/apply/>

TPA Scholarship Trust for the Hearing Impaired

2041 Exchange Drive

Saint Charles, MO 63303

(636) 724-2227

[support@tpahq.org](mailto:support@tpahq.org)



### [Louise Tumarkin Zazove Foundation Scholarships](#)

*Deadline: typically in May*

Each year, the Louise Tumarkin Zazove Foundation Scholarships are distributed for varying amounts to U.S. citizens or permanent residents with significant bilateral hearing loss who exhibit financial need for attending an accredited non-profit higher learning institution physically located within the United States. Qualified candidates must be working full-time towards an undergraduate degree, have at least 50 dB unaided hearing loss in both ears, and submit at least three letters of recommendation discussing their educational potential.

Get and submit application at:

<https://www.ltzfoundation.org/copy-of-scholarship>

Louise Tumarkin Zazove Foundation Scholarships

2903 Craig Road

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

[philip@ltzfoundation.org](mailto:philip@ltzfoundation.org)



### [TDI Communication Access Scholarship](#)

TDI's Communications Access Scholarship Program was set up to recognize the community volunteerism work that the graduating high school seniors who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, late-deafened, or deaf-blind have contributed to. These students are recognized for their passion and capacity to lead and serve, as well as their commitment to making a significant impact on their schools and communities. Must be a senior, attending college in the Fall and a U.S. Citizen/permanent resident.

Get and submit application at:

<https://tdiforaccess.org/iwantto/applyscholarship/>



## J Paris Mosely Scholarship

*Deadline: March*

The J. Paris Mosley Scholarship is an award with nationwide eligibility for those intending to matriculate to an accredited nonprofit educational institution who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing OR who have a relative living in their household who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Applicant should use American Sign Language in everyday life, have a 2.5 minimum high school GPA, and has financial need. Preference is given to those of African American, Latino American, or Native American descent.

Get and submit application at:

<https://collegenowgc.org/cleveland-foundation-scholarship-listing/the-j-paris-mosley-scholarship/>

## **Scholarships closer to home:**

Be sure to check with your school counselor or advisor about local scholarships to apply for. They probably are not deaf-specific, however, being active in your home town may lead to good chances in receiving these scholarships. These can be from churches, businesses, service clubs and individuals.

## Gloria T. Olson Scholarship from Quota Club of Bismarck/Mandan

*Deadline: typically May*

Qualifications for scholarship applications is that the person is hearing impaired OR is in a field of study which focuses on hearing or speech.

Applications are typically sent out on North Dakota Teacher's of the Deaf Listserv

## Optimist International Communication Contest

*Typically speech due end of February and presented in April/May*

Write and present a 4 to 5 minute speech, signed or voiced, on selected topic at the District Meeting held in April/May Open to deaf and hard of hearing students with hearing loss of 40 dB in the better ear from North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota and Manitoba. Winner receives \$2500.00 scholarship for technical or college/university of their choice. Assistance in preparing the speech is available by contacting the North Dakota School for the Deaf.

## **Scholarships for specific career:**

### Google Lime Scholarship Program

*Scholarship deadline typically December*

For students pursuing a **Computer Science or Computer Engineering degree**, or a degree in a closely related technical field (such as software engineering or electrical engineering with a heavy computer science course load) who are maintaining a strong academic performance who can demonstrate a commitment to and passion for computer science and technology. This scholarship is specifically for students with a visible or invisible disability; students with all disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Get and submit application at:

<https://www.limeconnect.com/programs/page/google-lime-scholarship>



## Schools for the Deaf

The following are examples of schools dedicated to the deaf community, and the financial aid programs that they offer.

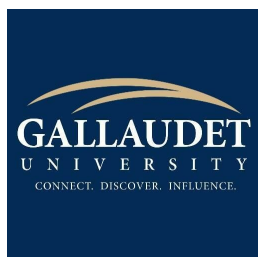
[Rochester Institute of Technology](#) is home to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. NTID administers a wide range of scholarships for their attending students, including the **Barlow Endowed Scholarship**, the **Alice Beardsley Memorial Scholarship for Interpreting Students**, and the **Lillian M. Cowin Memorial Scholarship**. Award amounts and eligibility requirements vary greatly according to program, and interested students should contact the NTID's Office of Financial Aid for details on specific scholarships.

Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships  
Bausch and Lomb Center  
56 Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rochester, New York 14623-5604  
Email: [ritaid@rit.edu](mailto:ritaid@rit.edu)  
Phone: 585-475-2186



[Gallaudet University](#) is one of the premier colleges dedicated to serving the deaf and hearing impaired community. In addition to participating in the Federal government's college grant and student loan programs, Gallaudet also offers scholarships of their own to attending students. Chief among Gallaudet's programs is the **President's Honors Distinction Scholarship** which provides full tuition, room and board to eligible students who have been accepted into the college's Honors Program. Other Gallaudet scholarships include the **Provost's Honors Distinction Scholarship** (\$12,000), the **Provost's Excellence Scholarship** (\$8000) and the **Dean's Prestige Scholarship** (\$6000).

Financial Aid Office  
Chapel Hall G-02  
800 Florida Avenue NE  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
(202) 618-6844 (videophone)  
(202) 651-5290 (voice)



**Whichever college or university you choose to go to.....**

**Check with their financial office for scholarship information**

Schools often sponsor their own financial aid programs, as well as administering the more common federal and state-funded college grants and student loans.

Students will want to contact the school's office of financial aid for details on available programs for which they may be eligible.

***On the following page is a list of college and universities in North Dakota and contact information for financial aid offices.***

## Financial Aid Offices of Colleges and Universities in North Dakota

<p><b>Bismarck State College</b>  <i>Location: Bismarck</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-224-5494  <a href="mailto:bsc.financialaid@bismarckstate.edu">bsc.financialaid@bismarckstate.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Cankdeska Cikana Community College</b>  <i>Location: Fort Totten</i></p> <p>Phone: 1-888-783-1463            (701) 766-4415  <a href="http://www.littlehoop.edu/admissions-financial-aid/financial-aid/">www.littlehoop.edu/admissions-financial-aid/financial-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>Dakota College at Bottineau</b>  <i>Location: Bottineau</i></p> <p>Phone: 1-800-542-6866            701-228-2277  <a href="http://www.dakotacollege.edu/admissions-financial-aid">www.dakotacollege.edu/admissions-financial-aid</a></p>
<p><b>Dickinson State University</b>  <i>Location: Dickinson</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-483-2371  <a href="http://www.dickinsonstate.edu/admissions/tuition-and-cost-to-attend/financial-aid/">www.dickinsonstate.edu/admissions/tuition-and-cost-to-attend/financial-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>University of Jamestown</b>  <i>Location: Jamestown</i></p> <p>Phone: 800-336-2554            Email: <a href="mailto:admission@uj.edu">admission@uj.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.uj.edu/current-student/financial">www.uj.edu/current-student/financial</a></p>	<p><b>Lake Region State College</b>  <i>Location Devils Lake</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-662-1517            or 701-662-1516  <a href="http://www.lrsc.edu/admissions-aid/financial-aid">www.lrsc.edu/admissions-aid/financial-aid</a></p>
<p><b>Mayville State University</b>  <i>Location: Mayville</i></p> <p>1-800-437-4104, Ext: 4767            701-788-4893  <a href="http://mayvillestate.edu/paying-school/financial-aid/contact-financial-aid/">mayvillestate.edu/paying-school/financial-aid/contact-financial-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>Medcenter One College of Nursing</b>  <i>Location Bismarck</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-323-6271</p>	<p><b>Minot State University</b>  <i>Location: Minot</i></p> <p>Phone: 800-777-0750            701-858-3375  <a href="https://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/">https://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/</a></p>
<p><b>North Dakota State College of Science</b>  <i>Location: Wahpeton</i></p> <p>PHONE: 701-671-2207  <a href="http://www.ndscs.edu/paying-college-financial-aid">www.ndscs.edu/paying-college-financial-aid</a></p>	<p><b>North Dakota State University</b>  <i>Location: Fargo</i></p> <p>866-924-8969            701-231-6200  <a href="mailto:ndsu.onestop@ndsu.edu">ndsu.onestop@ndsu.edu</a>  <a href="http://www.ndsu.edu/onestop/finaid/">www.ndsu.edu/onestop/finaid/</a></p>	<p><b>Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College:</b>  <i>Location: New Town</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-627-8031 or            701-627-8013  <a href="http://nhsc.edu/admission-financial-aid/financial-aid/">nhsc.edu/admission-financial-aid/financial-aid/</a></p>
<p><b>Rasmussen College</b>  <i>Locations: Fargo</i></p> <p>Fargo: (701) 277-3889  <a href="https://degrees.rasmussen.edu/learn/financial-aid">https://degrees.rasmussen.edu/learn/financial-aid</a></p>	<p><b>Sitting Bull College</b>  <i>Location: Fort Yates</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-854-8000  <a href="https://sittingbull.edu/financial-aid/">https://sittingbull.edu/financial-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>Trinity Bible College</b>  <i>Location: Ellendale</i></p> <p>Phone: 800-523-1603  <a href="http://www.trinitybiblecollege.edu/about/admissions/financial-aid/">www.trinitybiblecollege.edu/about/admissions/financial-aid/</a></p>
<p><b>Turtle Mountain Community College</b>  <i>Location: Belcourt</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-477-7896  <a href="https://www.tm.edu/departments/financial_aid/">https://www.tm.edu/departments/financial_aid/</a></p>	<p><b>United Tribes Technical College</b>  <i>Location: Bismarck</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-221-1850            Email: <a href="mailto:financialaid@uttc.edu">financialaid@uttc.edu</a>  <a href="https://uttc.edu/tuition-and-aid/">https://uttc.edu/tuition-and-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>University of Mary</b>  <i>Locations: Bismarck, Fargo, Watford City and Grand Forks</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-355-8142  <a href="https://www.umary.edu/admission-aid/financial-aid">https://www.umary.edu/admission-aid/financial-aid</a></p>
<p><b>University of North Dakota</b>  <i>Location: Grand Forks</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-777-3000  <a href="https://und.edu/one-stop/financial-aid/">https://und.edu/one-stop/financial-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>Valley City State University</b>  <i>Location: Valley City</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-845-7543  <a href="https://my.vcsu.edu/financial-aid/">https://my.vcsu.edu/financial-aid/</a></p>	<p><b>Williston State College</b>  <i>Location: Williston</i></p> <p>Phone: 701-774-4248  <a href="http://www.willistonstate.edu/admissions/Student-Financial-Aid/">www.willistonstate.edu/admissions/Student-Financial-Aid/</a></p>



# Tips for Applying for Scholarships



CBS News

## 1. Prepare and Stay Organized

You will need to provide multiple documents for scholarship submissions. Don't wait until the last minute to complete applications.

- Double check deadlines/Create a calendar of scholarship deadlines.
- Gather copies of transcripts, letters of recommendation, and audiograms
- Have a list of your volunteer involvement, extracurricular activities.
  - ◆ Family events, church, school, and community, etc.
- Make copies of each scholarship as you complete to make it easier to complete the following scholarships that are completed.



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## 2. Request Letters of Recommendations in Advance

- Request letters of recommendation from teachers, advisors, coaches, bosses, peers or others
- Ask the person at least 4 weeks in advance.
- Provide a file of personal information, activities, awards, leadership involvement, etc.

## 3. Pay Attention to Details and Requirements

- Many scholarships come with extensive criteria that must be followed. It can be how to format the essays, deadlines or required documents.
- Missing one item or presenting it incorrectly can kick you out of the running for the scholarship.



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Go Graph

## 4. Don't copy and paste past essays/information

Judges may still be able to tell that you didn't write something fresh just for them.

## 5. Know your audience

Research who is offering the scholarship. Know their mission, events, charities, donations, and any additional information that may be helpful. This basic knowledge can help gear your answers toward that organization, which results a more personable piece.

## 6. Emphasize what makes you unique

Share experiences and activities that make YOU unique. Lots of students participate in sports in high school, but maybe you volunteered to help coach children or started a collection of some kind for charity. Consider what you can say about yourself that most others will not be able to say.



kindpng

## 7. Be personal and passionate

Share your stories, feelings and personal experiences. Why are you pursuing the career you picked?

## Tips for Applying for Scholarships - continued

### 8. Present yourself professionally

Write as though you are speaking to a professional in a formal setting, not your best friend through Snapchat. Try to avoid sarcasm, emojis, text abbreviations like LOL or slang terms like “lit.”

### 9. Always proofread before submitting

Correct any grammar and spelling errors, and double check that you have answered the prompt correctly. Try reading your essay aloud to see how it sounds. Have someone else read through to catch any mistakes.



### 10. Send a thank you note.

Send a thank you note to the scholarship provider for their time and consideration. The note doesn't need to be too formal, just the gesture itself can go a long ways. Also, thank those people who write your letters of recommendations.

Also check with your school counselors and local/state services clubs. This could be: Lion's Club, Elk's Club, Sertoma Club, Rotary Club, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanas, Optimist International, VFW/American Legion, Moose Lodge, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Jaycees, etc. They have many scholarships that are not necessarily for deaf and hard of hearing students.

The more applications you fill out, the more chance you have to win a scholarships.

Below are a few scholarship listings for North Dakota that may be useful.

#### State Academic, CTE and Scholarships

<https://www.nd.gov/dpi/familiescommunity/students/academic-cte-and-north-dakota-scholarships>

#### Great Nonprofits Scholarships for North Dakota

[https://greatnonprofits.org/state/North%20Dakota/category:Scholarships/sort:review\\_count/direction:desc](https://greatnonprofits.org/state/North%20Dakota/category:Scholarships/sort:review_count/direction:desc)

#### Unigo

<https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/by-state/north-dakota-scholarships>



**Also consider applying for corporate scholarships.** Many large companies and corporations sponsor scholarships. You can also check out where parents work such as Bobcat, Amazon, etc. Check out

<https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/corporate-scholarships/>