



OSAC Scholarship Application: Useful Insights

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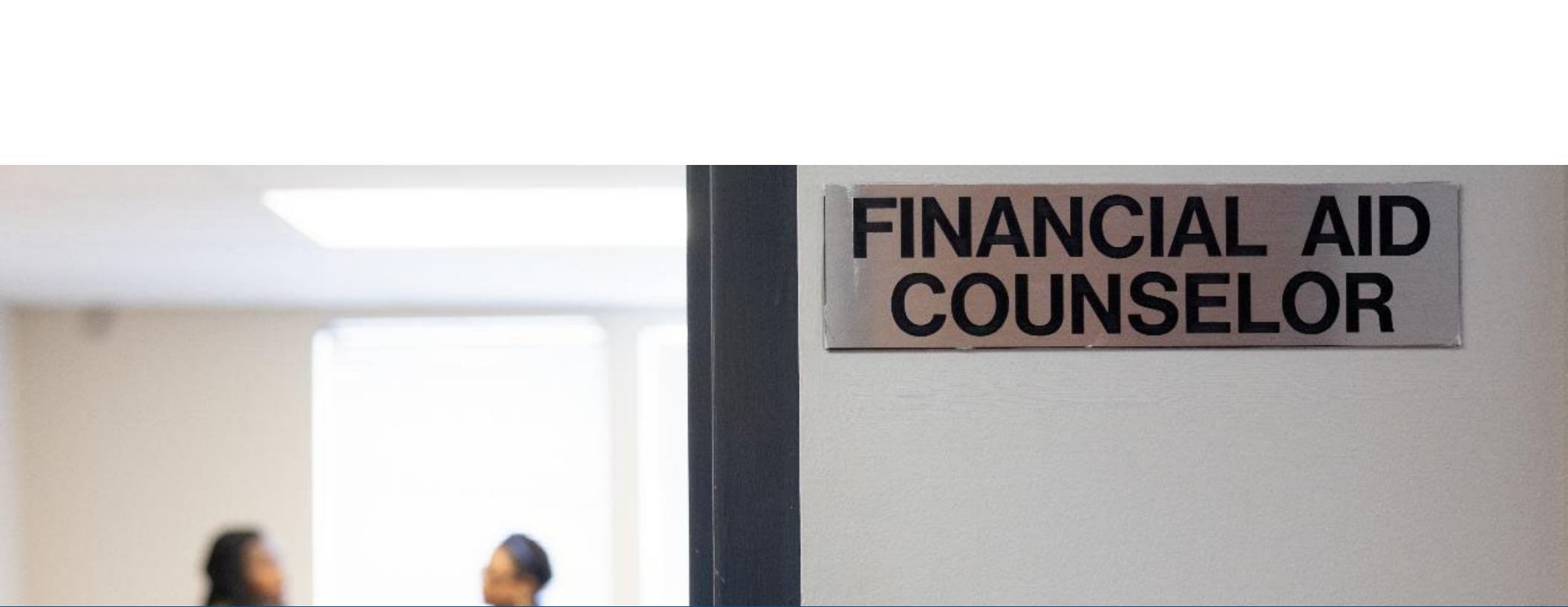
Agenda

01 Types of Scholarships and Criteria

02 The Scholarship Catalog

03 Application Samples

04 Common Mistakes



**FINANCIAL AID
COUNSELOR**

Types of Scholarships and Criteria

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Merit vs. Need

Requirements vs.
Preferences

Renewable
Scholarships

Auto Add
Scholarships

Merit Scholarships



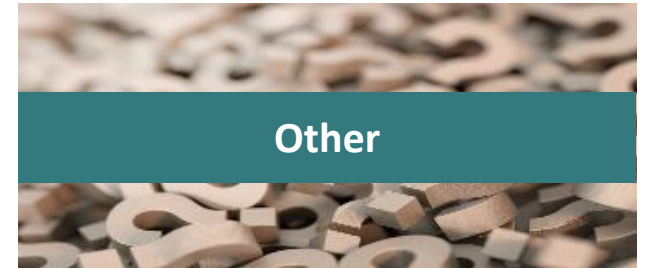
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Merit Scholarships are defined as anything other than financial need.

For Example:

- Major
- Graduating High School
- Special Interests/ Affiliations
- Career Focus

Types of Scholarships



Financial Need

Financial Need is a formula that colleges use to determine the amount of need-based aid you can receive.

$$\text{Cost of Attendance} - \text{Student Aid Index} = \text{Financial Need}$$



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Need Based Scholarships



Photo by Allison Shelley/Complete College Photo Library

Need Based Scholarships means that financial need is a consideration when awarding the scholarship

Scholarships: Requirements Vs. Preferences

Requirements

Students must meet **all required criteria** to be eligible for that scholarship.

Examples:

- Residency
- FAFSA/ORSAA Completion
- Financial Need
- Graduates of Specific High School

Preferences

Preferences are **not mandatory**. Students are encouraged to apply even if they do not meet all the preferences.

Examples:

- First-generation immigrants
- Gender
- Certain Activities
- Age

470 - Candace Callan Scholarship

470: Candace Callan Scholarship

Requirements

- Residence (county): Residents of Lane, Douglas, and Linn Counties
- Colleges: Oregon community, trade, and vocational colleges in Douglas, Lane, or Linn County only
- Major: Trade or vocational programs
- Preference for applicants who identify as female
- Preference: Applicants who have recently turned their lives around
- GPA: High school, 2.00+
- Enrollment: Minimum half-time (6 credits), undergraduate study
- FAFSA/ORSAA: Required - based on financial need
- Automatic renewal with completion of the annual renewal application. May be received for a maximum of four years.

Preference

- Preference for applicants who identify as female
- Preference: Applicants who have recently turned their lives around

732 - Charles Patrick Memorial Scholarship

732: Charles Patrick Memorial Scholarship

Requirements

- Graduates of Oregon high schools
- Residence (state): Oregon residents
- Will enroll as college junior or above for fall term/semester in undergraduate study
- GPA: 3.50+
- Major (preference): **Open to ALL majors.** *Preference:* Environmental Sustainability, Land Management, Environmental Health, and other STEM-related majors.
- FAFSA/ORSAA: Required - based on financial need
- Colleges: Any 4-year, private, nonprofit, Title IV, postsecondary school in Oregon
- Enrollment: Full-time, undergraduate study
- Automatically renewable for one additional year if renewal criteria met

Preference

- *Preference:* Environmental Sustainability, Land Management, Environmental Health, and other STEM-related majors.
- But open to all majors

416 – Crowley Family

416: Crowley Family

Requirements

- Graduates (including GED recipients and home-schooled graduates) of Medford (Oregon) high schools
- Career field: Teaching, with goal of becoming a classroom teacher; applicants returning to school to pursue a teaching career are encouraged to apply
- Preferences: Female students; demonstration of strong work ethic and interest in community service
- Colleges: Public and nonprofit only
- Enrollment: Full-time enrollment required
- FAFSA: Required - based on financial need
- Apply-competes annually, may be received for a maximum of 4 years.

Documents & Additional Requirements

- Non-Oregon Resident Requirement:
OSAC will *automatically* receive your FAFSA record if you are an Oregon resident or a non-Oregon resident with at least one Oregon institution selected on the FAFSA. If you do not fall into either category, you must upload Page 1 and 2 of your FAFSA Submission Summary to be considered for this scholarship. This information is required for financial need consideration.

Preference

- Preferences: Female students; demonstration of strong work ethic and interest in community service

Two Types of Renewable Scholarships

1

Auto Renewal

Students must complete a separate renewal application to keep their scholarship.

- Shorter Renewal Application
- Invitations are sent to students in December and January
- Do Not Compete Against Other Applicants

2

Apply and Compete

Students must apply for the scholarship each year through the OSAC Scholarship Application.

- Full Scholarship Application
- Students must add the fund to their application to apply
- Must Compete Against Other Applicants

Auto Add Scholarships

- Automatically Added
- Students Meet Basic Criteria
- Cannot be Removed from Application

Woodard Family Scholarship
(HS)



No Additional Documents Required

#05130

Added

EDIT

A photograph of a young man with dark, wavy hair and a dark t-shirt leaning over a desk, looking at a laptop. An older woman with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a colorful patterned sweater, sits at the desk with her hands clasped, looking at the man. The background shows an office or library setting with a fire alarm pull station and a framed picture on the wall. A semi-transparent purple vertical bar is on the left side of the image.

Application Details

Finding Scholarships | Personal Statements

Activity Chart | Transcripts | Submission Tips

Photo by Allison Shelley/Complete College Photo Library

OregonStudentAid.gov

The screenshot displays the OregonStudentAid.gov website with a dark teal background. Three white rectangular boxes are arranged horizontally, each representing a different service. The first box, titled 'Application', contains a thumbnail of the application portal and a link 'Apply Here' at the bottom. The second box, titled 'Scholarship Catalog', contains a thumbnail of the catalog and a link 'Scholarship Catalog' at the bottom, which is circled in purple. The third box, titled 'Scholarship Workbook', contains a thumbnail of the workbook and a link '2025 26 Scholarship Workbook' at the bottom.

Application

[Apply Here](#)

Scholarship Catalog

[Scholarship Catalog](#)

Scholarship Workbook

[2025 26 Scholarship Workbook](#)

Finding Scholarships



1. Search by High School

Including: High School Type
and Name



2. Search by Membership/ Employer

Affiliated with your parents/caregivers
or self



3. Keyword Search

Example: “sports”, or “Marion
County”



4. Full Catalog

Download the OSAC catalog and read
listings

Adding Scholarships

What to do after you find scholarships

- Refer to the list of scholarships you created
- In **Section 2** of the application, **add each scholarship from your list**
- You will not be automatically considered for all 600+ scholarships

Personal Statements



Details

- 3 required essays, 1 optional essay
- 1,900 character limit per essay
- Tell a complete picture of yourself
- Focus on something unique about yourself
- Try not to repeat info like GPA

Personal Statements

Statement 1- Required

What are your specific educational plans and career goals and why?

What motivates you to achieve them?

Statement 2- Required

What have you done for your family, school or community, that you care about the most and why?

Personal Statements

Statement 3- Required

Describe a personal accomplishment, impactful change, or experience that has occurred in your life. What skills and strengths were needed to respond and what did you learn about yourself?

Statement 4- Optional

Is there any additional information you would like the selection committee members to know. This could include financial situations not reflected on the FAFSA/ORSAA or other information not covered in the application.

Tips for Success

- 1 Answer the entire question
- 2 Avoid slang, abbreviations, and humor
- 3 Proofread your application and get feedback
- 4 Share your unique skills or accomplishments
- 5 Avoid repeating the question

Activities Chart



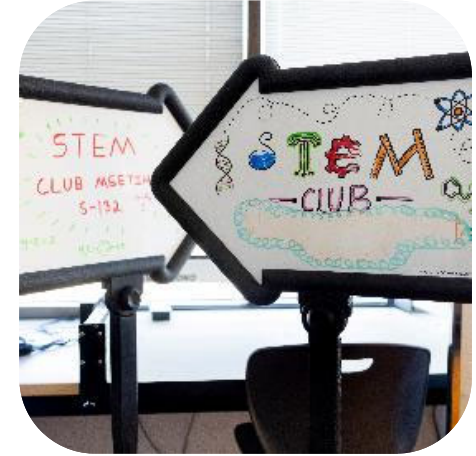
Mixture of Activities

Include school, volunteer,
and paid work



Include

Dates, Hours logged,
Responsibilities



Limit

Limited to 20
activities

Activities Chart- Tips



What to include

- Well rounded mix of activities
- Leadership skills
- Awards/Recognitions
- Demonstrate Initiative

Things to consider

- Start in 9th /10th grade
- Continuously update

Example 1- Activity Chart

Example #1

OSAC Scholarship Application - Activities Chart

One, TestCase
Name

58783
App #

Act Cat	Activity Title	FromTo Date	Frequency	Hours Per Week	Total Hours	Responsibility / Accomplishments
WRK	Babysitting	6/2025 - 6/2025	onetime	8.0	40.0	Watching Kids

Example 2- Activity Chart

Example #2

OSAC Scholarship Application - Activities Chart

One, TestCase

58783

Name

App #

Act Cat	Activity Title	FromTo Date	Frequency	Hours Per Week	Total Hours	Responsibility / Accomplishments
WRK	Babysitting	6/2025 - 6/2025	onetime	8.0	40.0	Watching Kids
WRK	Dominos Delivery Driver	5/2025 - Present	ongoing	20.0	180.0	Independently delivering hot meals to hungry customers
WRK	House Painting	7/2024 - 7/2024	onetime	80.0	80.0	Helped my uncle paint the exterior of his house
SCH	Classroom Assistant	9/2024 - 12/2024	onetime	12.0	144.0	Assisted ceramics teacher prepare materials for lessons and loaded the kiln.
SCH	Language Club Fundraiser	10/2024 - 10/2024	onetime	5.0	5.0	Raised money for the language club during a carwash
SCH	Fall Carnival	9/2023 - 9/2023	onetime	5.0	5.0	Took tickets at the door for the annual fall carnival for high school freshman and their families
VOL	Park Cleanup	7/2023 - 7/2023	onetime	9.0	9.0	Picked up trash in our local park
VOL	Christmas Toy Drive	12/2024 - Present	seasonal	2.0	6.0	Donate a new toy each year for families in need
VOL	Used Clothes Donations	6/2023 - Present	ongoing	1.0	25.0	Donate my gently worn clothes that I grow out of to Goodwill

Example 3- Essay

Example #3

OSAC Scholarship Application - Personal Statements 1 & 2

One, TestCase

Name

58783

App #

Required Personal Statement #1 What are your specific educational plans and career goals and why? What motivates you to achieve them?

I want to go to school to be a doctor.

Example 4- Essay

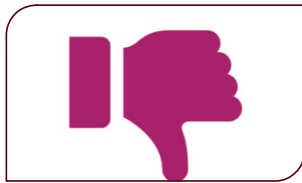
Example #4

Required Personal Statement #2 What have you done for your family, school, or community that you care about the most and why?

I have been an advocate for positive change and community health my whole life. My family used to volunteer weekly at a local soup kitchen. It immersed my siblings and I in the diverse community that we are a part of. Additionally, volunteering with the less fortunate gave me a sense of appreciation and gratitude for what I have in life. Working in the soup kitchen helped build my communication skills so I can confidently communicate with different types of people. Everyone I met had a different background and culture leading to wide variety of interactions. Even though I was just a young person serving food, my interactions were meaningful. Volunteering at the soup kitchen has made me feel like I've impacted my community in a positive way and has encouraged me to seek other opportunities to help people. I believe this experience provided an opportunity to develop a better sense of self, develop my understanding of who I want to be, and has helped me explore ways to help the people around me.

Transcripts

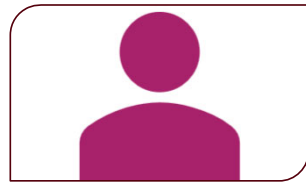
1



Rejected

Missing/
incomplete
transcript is
only reason

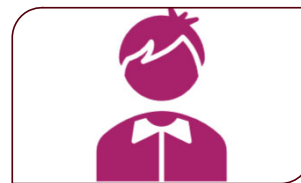
2



Registrar

High School
registrar
can upload
transcripts

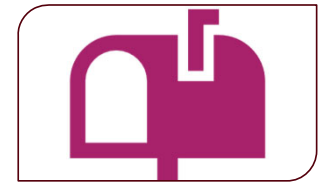
3



Student

Students can
upload
transcript,
DO NOT
EMAIL

4



Mail

Mail a
hardcopy,
remove the
SSN

Transcripts: Additional Details

1



HS Students

- Include grades 9-11
- Senior year fall term

2



Home School

- See our website for instructions

3



College

- Include coursework through fall term

Other Documentation-

What is it?

Additional information required for individual scholarships

What to do?

Scan and uploaded to the student's application

Tip # 1

You may need letters of recommendation

Tip # 2

Read the instructions on how to submit letters of recommendation



Common Mistakes



Test Applications

Applicant Type

- ☐ This is a test application. (I am a counselor, parent of an applicant, volunteer, educator, a high school junior or other non-applicant.)

 If test application is selected, this application will not be considered for any financial aid.



College Standing: Section 1

College Choice

Which college do you plan to attend for the 2026-27 school year?

College or University Name *

Oregon Coast Community College (OR)

☐ I will be dual enrolled with another school while attending this school.

College Standing as of Fall Term 2026

College Standing *

Senior



Degree Plan: Section 1

College Plans

Degree Plan *

Intended Degree *

Master of Science (M.S.)

Major *

Molecular Medicine.

Second or Double Major (optional)

Major

Expected Completion Date *

06/01/2032

After Submission

1. Review your transcript



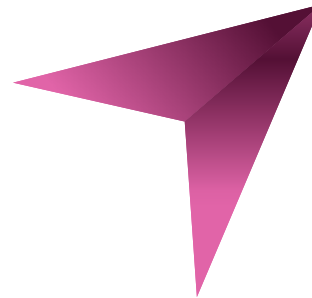
2. Check your application status



3. Update your email address



4. Check your student portal



5. If awarded accept or decline the award





Photo by Allison Shelley/Complete College Photo Library



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More Information at:
www.OregonStudentAid.Gov



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