



SCHOLARSHIPS— Free Money

College&Career Pathways 2026

What we'll cover

- **3** keys to success
- **4** steps in the search
- Things to consider



But first . . .

- Scholarships defined
- Types of scholarships
- What role can scholarships play in paying for college?



Common myths

My grades aren't
good enough.

I'm not athletic.

My parent makes
too much money.

I haven't chosen
a major yet.

Three keys to success

Communication

**Eligibility
requirements**

Competition

Typical timeline for search

- Junior year—Research and some national deadlines
- Senior year
 - College deadlines
 - Monthly check-in with school counseling office for new applications
 - VSAC timelines

Your college or university

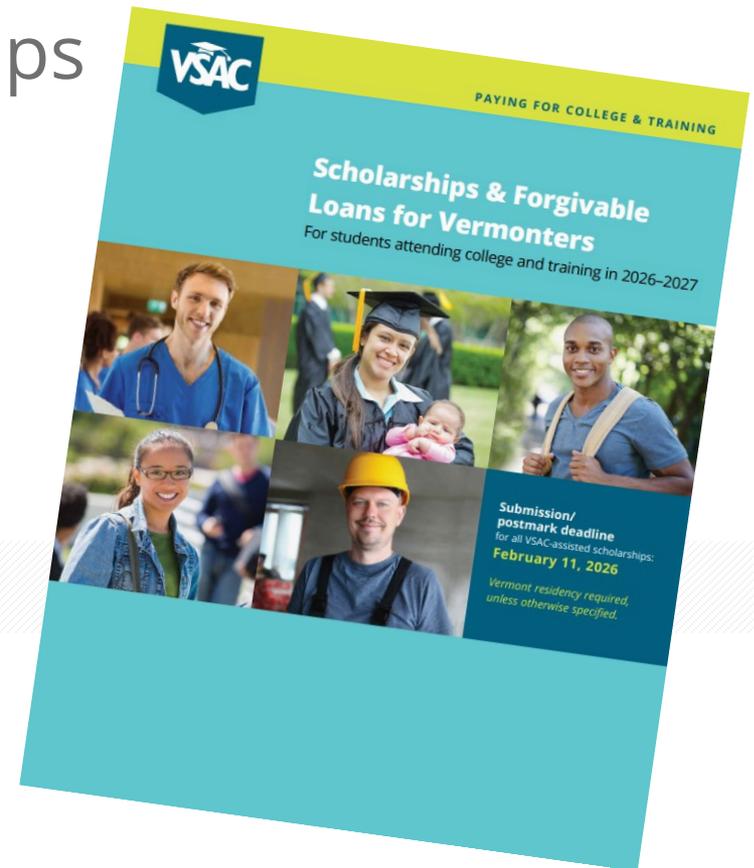
- **Remember:**
 - Meet college deadlines
 - Check with each college to learn how receiving a scholarship will affect other financial aid.



VSAC scholarships booklet

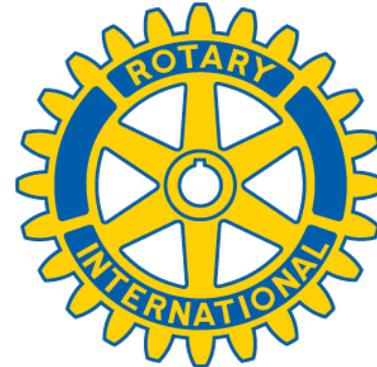
- Read and follow instructions.
- VSAC-assisted scholarships
- Other scholarships

Available online
& in print
October 2026



Focus on local sources

- High school
- Town offices
- Employers
- Community groups



Consider global searches

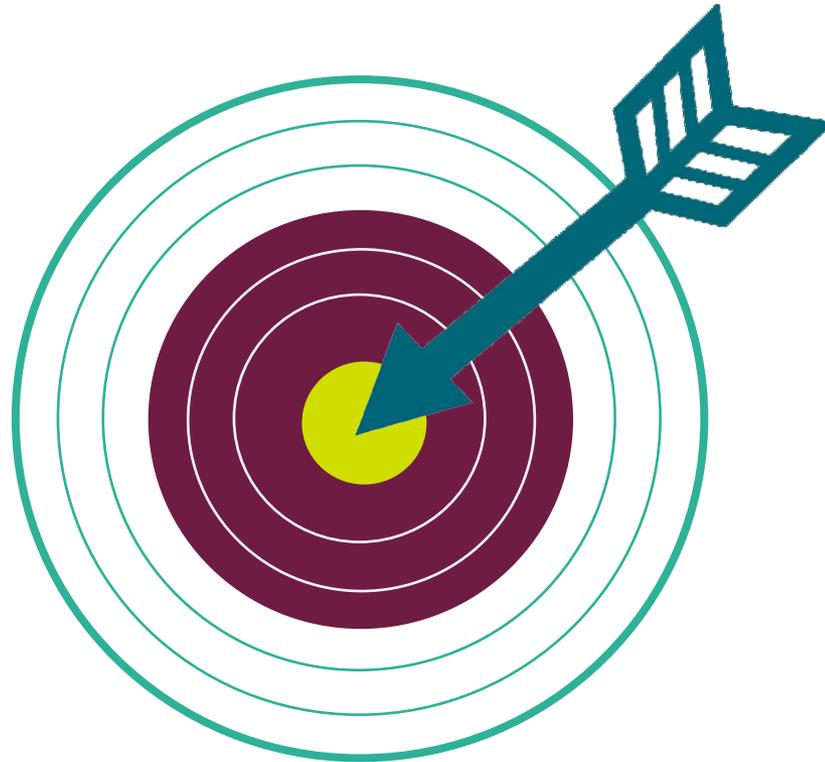
- fastweb.com
- collegeboard.org
Big Future
Scholarships
- raise.me
- unigo.com
- bold.org

The collage features four overlapping screenshots of scholarship search websites:

- fastweb.com**: The top screenshot shows the fastweb logo and navigation menu (SCHOLARSHIPS, INTERNSHIPS, FAFSA, ONLINE LEARNING, STUDENT LOANS, STUDENT DEALS, ARTICLES) with a 'SIGN UP' button.
- BigFuture**: The second screenshot shows the BigFuture logo and 'Scholarship Search' heading, with a search bar and 'Sign In' button.
- RaiseMe**: The third screenshot shows the RaiseMe logo and navigation menu (How it Works, Students, Educators, Resources) with 'Log In' and 'Sign Up' buttons. The main text reads: 'Find a clearer path to college, earlier. Earn micro-scholarships from colleges for your achievements as early as 9th grade.' A 'Sign up—it's free!' button is also visible.
- UNIGO**: The bottom screenshot shows the UNIGO logo and navigation menu (COLLEGES, SCHOLARSHIPS, EASY SCHOLARSHIPS, MONTHLY SCHOLARSHIPS, STUDENT LOANS, ARTICLES) with 'LOG IN' and 'SIGN UP!' buttons. Below the navigation is a banner for AARP with a 'RENEW' button and a 'Software Development Degree' advertisement with an 'OPEN' button.

At the bottom of the collage is a large teal banner with the text: **COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**, 3.6 million college scholarships and grants worth over \$23 Billion, and a large orange button that says **START YOUR SEARCH** with a right-pointing arrow.

Types of scholarships



What about scams?

- May I have your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship?
- *"You're a finalist"* (in a contest you never entered).
- We'll do all the work.



Four simple steps

STEP 1 **Identify** eligible scholarships.

STEP 2 **Read & follow** instructions.

STEP 3 **Submit** on or before the deadline.

STEP 4 **Confirm** receipt of documents.

Next steps

- Selection
- Notification



Remember . . .

Competition-based

- Be the best applicant.

Scholarship searches

- Consider global, but focus local.

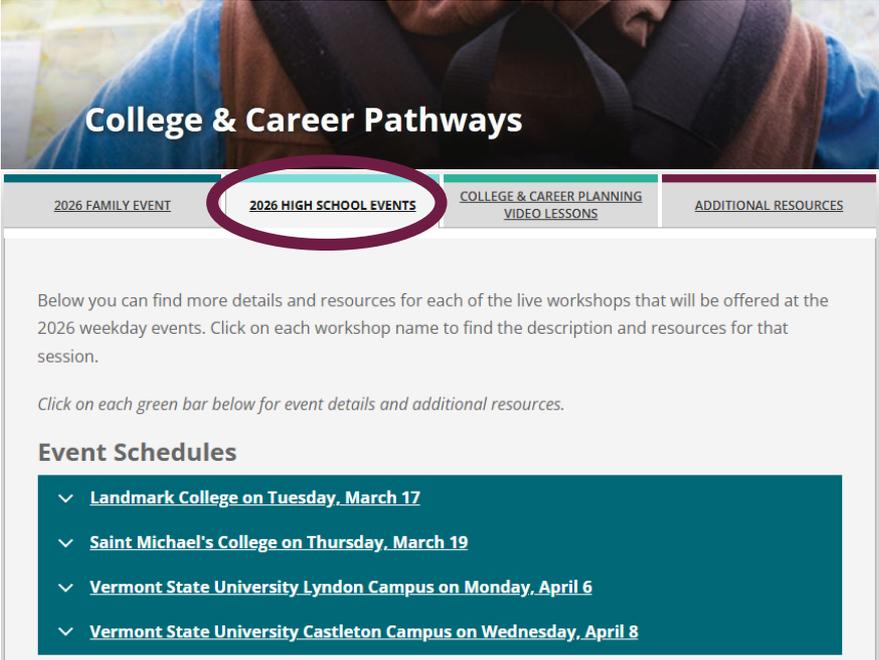
Be aware

- Effect of scholarships on other aid.
- Scholarship scams.



VSAC resources

- VSAC website: vsac.org/scholarships
- College & Career Pathways workshop resources: vsac.org/ccp



College & Career Pathways

2026 FAMILY EVENT **2026 HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS** COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING VIDEO LESSONS ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Below you can find more details and resources for each of the live workshops that will be offered at the 2026 weekday events. Click on each workshop name to find the description and resources for that session.

Click on each green bar below for event details and additional resources.

Event Schedules

- ✓ [Landmark College on Tuesday, March 17](#)
- ✓ [Saint Michael's College on Thursday, March 19](#)
- ✓ [Vermont State University Lyndon Campus on Monday, April 6](#)
- ✓ [Vermont State University Castleton Campus on Wednesday, April 8](#)

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