

## **SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS 101**

### Types of Scholarships & Grants

**Scholarships** are gifts—you do not have to pay them back. Scholarships can be based on need or merit or both. You may receive scholarships from colleges, organizations, or foundations. Different scholarships are available for different types of students. Scholarships may be based on your grades, what you want to study in college, whether you are male or female, or your after-school activities.

**Grants** are gifts—you do not have to pay them back. Grants are available from the government and from colleges. By submitting the FAFSA, you will be eligible for numerous grants. They are usually based on need. They do not need to be repaid. Colleges provide grants based on various criteria. Contact the college's financial aid office to find out more about the grants offered by a college.

### Scholarship Tips

You can improve your chances of getting a scholarship by:

- **Meeting deadlines and eligibility criteria**
- Getting good grades
- Doing well on the ACT or SAT tests
- Submitting your college applications early
- Following directions carefully

### Scholarship & Grant Websites

Many helpful scholarship links are listed on the new DSL webpage:

<http://www.nlcphs.org/Academics/DSL/college.htm>

Scholarships for CPS students are updated regularly on the CPS choose your future website:

<http://www.chooseyourfuture.org/scholarships/>

Comprehensive list of grants available on the Illinois Student Assistance Commission website:

[http://www.collegezone.com/studentzone/416\\_871.htm](http://www.collegezone.com/studentzone/416_871.htm)

### Scholarships with Upcoming Deadlines—What should be on your radar NOW?

#### **Women In Public Finance Scholarship Program—Due by email or mail 9/11/09**

The purpose of the Women in Public Finance scholarship program is to:

- 1) Recognize college-bound high school females who have exhibited scholastic achievement, preferably with a demonstrated aptitude in mathematics, and demonstrated leadership skills;
- 2) Encourage the consideration of careers in finance and, more specifically, public finance; and
- 3) Provide an opportunity for award recipients to meet women established in the public finance area and expose young women to various career options and opportunities.

To qualify for the Achievement Award and scholarship, applicants must:

1) Be a college-bound high school female entering her junior or senior year in the fall of 2009; 2) ***Demonstrate aptitude in math*** (include a photocopy of unofficial high school transcript with the application); 3) ***Demonstrate leadership skills through extracurricular activities, volunteer positions or work experience***; 4) ***Have an interest in pursuing a business, government or legal career***; and 5) Complete and return the via email or mail by September 11, 2009

### **Questbridge National College Match Program—Due online 9/30/09**

<http://www.questbridge.org>

The QuestBridge National College Match helps ***outstanding low-income high school seniors gain admission and full four-year scholarships to some of the nation's most selective colleges. If you are a student who has achieved academic excellence in the face of economic challenges, we encourage you to apply to the National College Match.*** You may be concerned about tuition costs, but QuestBridge's partner colleges offer generous financial aid packages that cover 100% of demonstrated financial need, making them very affordable for low-income students.

### **Mikva Community Leadership Scholarship—Due by mail or fax 9/25/09**

Scholarship application was emailed to students last week.

Eligibility Requirements: ***Current or past involvement in a Mikva Challenge program***

Award: \$2,500

### **Golden Apple—Nomination online or by mail due by 12/1/09—the sooner, the better**

[http://www.goldenapple.org/pages/a\\_scholar\\_yourself/91.php](http://www.goldenapple.org/pages/a_scholar_yourself/91.php)

The Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois program recruits and prepares a diverse group of bright and talented high school graduates and college sophomores who ***have the promise for successful careers as excellent teachers in high-need schools throughout Illinois.***

Scholars receive preparation at summer institutes (including a \$2,000 stipend per summer) and financial support at college (\$2,500 per year).

### **Gates Millennium—Due online by 1/11/10**

<http://www.gmsp.org>

Eligibility Requirements: ***3.3 unweighted GPA; Meet federal pell grant eligibility requirements;*** Demonstrated leadership.

What the program entails: Support for the cost of education by covering unmet need and self-help; Renewable awards for Gates Millennium Scholars maintaining satisfactory academic progress; Graduate school funding for continuing Gates Millennium Scholars in the areas of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health or science; Leadership development programs with distinctive personal, academic and professional growth opportunities.

### **Posse (for nominees only)—First Round 9/9/09**

#### **COMING SOON:**

- **Scholarship receptions for qualified students**
- **Gates Millennium workshop for qualified students**
- **Continue to check email and visit the CPS scholarship website frequently**