

Notify the Scholarship Desk of ALL scholarship offers.

KEYS TO HIGHER ED

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Don't have internet access or a computer at home?
Come to the Counseling Center—We have three available for you to use! Come before or after school; you will need a hall pass from your teacher to use during school hours.

YOU CAN GO TO COLLEGE, NO MATTER WHAT

Today the cost of higher education is reaching new heights, and many students are looking for ways to fund their years in college through scholarships and financial aid.

The average cost of a full year at a Utah college or university is \$10,000. With the rising tuition rates and expense of extra fees, like text books and living expenses, you can accumulate high debt that may take decades to repay.

No situation is so dire that you'll have to put your college dreams on hold.

Worst case scenario, the college you thought was your top choice is now more expensive than you thought, and you'll need to investigate other options in cutting college costs, like

considering community college for a few years, living off campus and commuting, or staying closer to home at an in-state university.

Best case scenario, you've been preparing for this



Dedication and a little hard work will pay off if you don't give up.

exciting time for a while, and have your ducks in a row when it comes to filing your FAFSA and exploring your grant and scholarship opportunities, the best options for getting your hands on free money to fund your col-

lege education.

If you've fallen behind on schedule, it's never too late to do a free scholarship search to find scholarships on characteristics specific to you.

The scholarships you'll find will be scholarships you have a decent chance of getting, and for many, you don't need a stellar GPA, athletic prowess or hundreds of hours of volunteer service to be eligible.

For many, it's enough being just you.

So apply early, and apply often for your best shot at padding your financial aid package with a decent amount of free money you won't ever need to pay back, unlike student loans.

-Scholarships.com

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

FAFSA

January 1st seniors may apply for federal financial aid. Watch for workshops and information to help you understand the process as we approach the new year. FAFSA.gov

Scholarship Search

Make friends with your computer to search for opportunities. Come to the Counseling Center often to see updates in the filing cabinet. Watch for the Bulletins posted in your English class for new info.

Websites

There is a list of websites found on the Copper Hills Scholarship page: copperhillshigh.org. Get familiar with the various sites that offer helpful search engines for you as you look for scholarships.

Volunteer!

The time you spend helping others will make you stand out amongst your peers.



volunteermatch.org

College Search

What matters to you?

- Location
- Size
- Tuition
- Degree
- Student Population

Do the research to select the best college for your needs.

Don't choose a school based on where your friends are going.

Take a tour of the campus.

Students should decide on their top schools by the start of their senior year.

Timeline: What Should You Be Doing?

- | Sophomores | Juniors | Seniors |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join Clubs • Volunteer • Take PLAN tests • Apply for Scholarships • Register on scholarship websites • Maintain good grades • Start researching colleges | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take PSAT test • Apply for scholarships • ACT/SAT test (take at least 2) • Volunteer • Join Clubs • Maintain good grades • Narrow college choice to 2or 3 • Attend leadership opportunities (Summer) • Register with NCAA (sports scholarships) • Take concurrent enrollment classes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare portfolio • Retake ACT/SAT • Complete scholarship applications • Apply for colleges (Nov) • Fill out FAFSA (Jan) • Visit college campuses • Maintain good standing in school • Compare financial aid awards an decide on college • Choose housing • Send final transcript • Get a job (opt.) |



WHAT IS AN ADMISSIONS INDEX SCORE? AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT ME?

Your cumulative grade point average (GPA) and your ACT or SAT test score combine to give you your Admissions Index Score. This number tells the college what kind of a student you are. The higher your score, the better your chances of getting into the school of your choice, and receiving an academic scholarship.

A student will be accepted in good standing if they have an index of 100 or above. (For example: GPA of 3.5 and an ACT score of 18 equals 100)

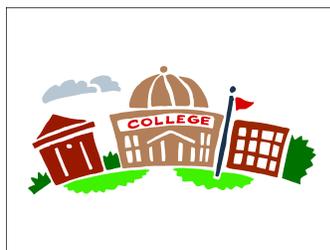
To give you an idea of requirements, a student wishing to apply for University of Utah will need an Index of 84 (2.6 GPA, ACT 18and/or

SAT 860 minimum). For consideration of scholarship at the University of Utah, you will want to have a score of 128 or better.

Visit Weber State University to see an Index Score chart:
<http://www.suu.edu/prostu/admissionindex.html>

A NIGHT ON CAMPUS

Many schools host junior/senior activities to provide the students an experience of life on campus. Some host specific events for diverse students to visit, even providing transportation to assist you in attending.



Visit your school to see first-hand what college is all about.

These are great opportunities to get away from home, spend the night in a dorm, and see if that

particular school is right for you. College students are available to guide

you around and often you have the chance to attend a sporting or other event .

The cost is very low and the experience is priceless. You will need to register early to get the date that works best with your schedule.

Watch the mail, or check with the Scholarship Desk for dates and details on these opportunities.

Understanding Scholarships

Merit Based	Private	Athletic
Academic Success; based on ACT/SAT scores, GPA, etc.	How to find these? Internet search, ask employer, parent's employer, community ...	Students must register: ncaaclearing-house.org. There is a small fee.
Must apply for admissions before priority deadline, at most schools.	Deadlines Vary—Don't miss them!	You will need to provide your ACT/SAT score. Use code 9999 when registering for test.
Funds only to be used at the particular school for which you have applied.	Most applications require an essay, two letters of recommendation, and transcript.	A minimum course requirement on high school transcript is needed. Check for eligi-
To see opportunities check with your intended school—call or visit website.	Many opportunities for Diverse and low income students.	Talk to your sports coach, high school athletic director, college coach for info.
Don't assume you won't qualify—apply!	Apply online for many of these.	Maintain your GPA.
Some scholarships require separate application. Check with your school.	Average reward is \$1,000; apply for all you can.	Compile a DVD of game highlights.

Prepare to Apply

<p style="text-align: center;">•Track your accomplishments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List all you have done from 9 grade on. •List leadership positions—school, community, church, etc. •List activities—did you participate in clubs? Did you help your friends with their activities? 	<p style="text-align: center;">•Volunteer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Being involved in the community will not only help those around you but will help in your eligibility to apply for scholarship opportunities. •Track all your hours. •Gather your friends and do group projects. •Attend school functions such as the Student Government activities, where they provide 	<p style="text-align: center;">•Organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Keep track of scholarships you have applied for and those you are waiting to apply for. •Make copies of everything. •Understand how you will receive the payment. Will they send you the check or will it go to the school you are attending?
<p style="text-align: center;">• Essays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The most common requirement for scholarship applications. •Be creative and let the ideas flow. Ask for help. Organize each paragraph. Your essay should appeal to the specific reader. •While writing, pay attention to detail and proof read! Ask your English teacher or other trusted individual to edit •Your essay will be a huge factor in whether you are awarded the scholarship; sometimes it is the only way they can 'see' who you are. 	<p style="text-align: center;">•Transcripts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Registrar's Office will give you a copy of your transcript. You will want to know if the application requires an 'unofficial' or an 'official' transcript. •Copies of your transcript are free. •Make sure to follow up with additional transcripts after graduation. Some scholarships require proof that the good grades continued even after the application was filed. •Remember to forward concurrent enrollment and AP transcripts to your intended college. 	<p style="text-align: center;">•Take Your Time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Small scholarship awards are still worthwhile. Apply for all the little and the big awards. •You wouldn't expect to get paid for not showing up at your job; scholarships require work, don't get lazy—apply. •Be thorough in your applications. Missing required documentation / information will exclude you automatically. •Keep your focus three months out. Don't worry about end of year opportunities at the beginning of the year.

COLLEGE ADMITTANCE TESTS:

(ACT)
www.actstudent.org

(SAT)
www.collegeboard.com

Copper Hills School Code:
450-450

If you qualify for financial assistance from the government, such as free or reduced lunch, please see Mrs. Summers for fee waivers for these tests. (You are allowed up to two[2] waivers for each test.)

You will need to provide the letter you received upon acceptance for free/reduced lunch in order to prove your eligibility.

More information is available at the scholarship desk.



Resume

You may want to consider starting a resume now to document your experiences.

These can include after-school employment, extra-curricular activities, volunteer work, other awards, leadership, and scholastic accomplishments.

Don't be afraid to brag, but be honest.

Your achievements are your biggest assets, track your accolades and seek opportunities to add to your accomplishments. You want to stand out among your peers.



***Don't forget to return
your Senior
Accomplishment***

Chart! This will be used to find students for additional recognition and specific scholarship notification.

*Turn yours in to Mrs.
Summers in the Counseling
Center.*

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

1. Choose a recommender who knows you fairly well.
2. Do not use anyone to whom you are related.
3. Ask two to three people to write your letters.
4. Provide at least a week for them to get the letter to you.
5. Give your recommender additional information about yourself; this helps them write a well-rounded assessment of you.
6. Include information as to how you would like them to deliver the letter and include stamped & addressed envelopes if you would like them mailed.
7. Make copies of the letters you receive, to use for future applications.
8. Here is a list of things you will want to include when providing background information to your recommender:

- Date you will need the letter.
- To whom the letter will be sent (consider personalized or generic, "To Whom it May Concern").
- Your college/career goals.
- List of ALL activities, clubs, sports, awards, student government, etc. Be specific, detailing any involvement 9-12 grades).
- Volunteer/service hours performed

at school, church, and community. Detail service—one time volunteer session is not as impactful as once a month for three years. You may want to include how the service has impacted you.

- Scholastic/academic accomplishments, such as awards, GPA, AP or Honors or Concurrent Enrollment courses you have taken.
- Work Experience: include recognitions (i.e. Employee of the Month), awards, etc.
- Write a paragraph about yourself to provide additional insight. You may want to include what motivates you, anything special or unique about you, particular skills you have and interests outside of school. Remember that most mentors know only one side of who you are; you want them to write a recommendation about the whole you, so the more you tell them, the more they can 'brag' about you. Be honest, but don't hold back any achievements or accomplishments.

Recommendation letters are extremely valuable! This may be the only thing that helps a committee know you deserve the offer more than the next name on the stack of papers.

Choose your recommender wisely.

DEFERRING COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

To 'defer' means you would like postpone attending college.

Many students will enroll in the military or plan to serve a religious mission for a period of time.

Every student is strongly encouraged to plan for college as if they will attend Fall

semester upon graduation.

Scholarship applications and college admissions should not wait for the return of a student after any time away.

When you apply as a senior in high school you are eligible for many more scholarship opportunities that, when awarded, may be held for you

until you return.

This will save time, money and the stress of last minute registration when you choose to enroll later.

Students who do not apply and defer will be ineligible to apply for many entering freshmen scholarships and application fees may increase while you are away.

INTERVIEWS

If your application process requires an interview, or you are interviewing for a job, pay attention to the following:

Do research on the sponsoring organization. Being knowledgeable about why they are offering money or what the company does will give you the advantage as you answer questions.

Ask your own questions. Don't be afraid to sound like you have thought about your application and you would like to know more. Being informed will help set you apart.

Dress the part. Appropriate attire is semi-formal for most scholarship/job interviews.

Be mindful of body language, posture, language, and eye contact. Show them you want to be there and that you care about their questions and your answers.

Practice answering questions. Role play with your parents or other individual:

- What field are you planning on entering and why?
- What are your plans after graduation?

- Why do you think you should receive this scholarship/job?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- Tell me about when you have been a leader.

First impressions count. Make yourself stand out so you will receive the reward.

Send a thank you note for taking the time to interview you.

Where to find scholarships:

Online

Employer

Local businesses

Local Organizations

College Website

Interest Clubs

Church or Religious Organizations

Newspapers

Military Service

SCHOLARSHIPS AT YOUR SCHOOL

Know where you want to go to college? Check out their scholarship page for opportunities.

These scholarships will be only available for use at that school and often only one award may be used, so you might have to choose the best offer if you receive more than one.

Often the academic, diversity, and financial need scholarships will be automatically awarded—no separate application.

If you already have decided on a major, check with that department at the school. You may find information on the website or by calling the department.

Unique scholarship opportunities may be available. For example, the U of U offers scholarships to students who participate in research projects. Ask your school for information.

Housing scholarships are also available for students. Check with the college and on websites for opportunities.

Class Rank

Oftentimes applications will ask for your class rank. This number tells them, based on how many students are in your graduating class, where you fit in according to your overall GPA.

Other information scholarship committees will require is a list of all the AP and Honors classes our school offers and the highest level of AP and Honors classes you have taken.

Knowing these things about you and how successful you are academically continues to help them paint the picture of the applicant.

When you need this information, please bring your form to the Counseling Center. Alicia Summers at the Scholarship Desk can assist you.

CONTACT YOUR COLLEGE'S ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Each Admissions Department has many people willing to take the time to give you one-on-one service in helping you understand what is available at your school.

Don't be afraid to call their office for guidance as you plan your steps toward higher education.

They will walk you through the application and registration processes saving you unnecessary stress.

Academic Advisors are vital in helping you register for the correct classes as well. Make sure you are on the right track and will graduate on time.



Contact an Academic Advisor for personal assistance.

Copper Hills High

Counseling Center
801-256-5320

Scholarship Desk
801-256-5339

Scholarship Specialist

Alicia Summers

Alicia.summers@jordandistrict.org

Hours:

M-F 11:30-3:00

We're on the Web!
copperhillshigh.org

Beware of Scams!

- No scholarship search or application should cost you money.
- Do not provide credit card information.
 - Never invest more than a postage stamp to get information.
- If you're suspicious of an offer, it's usually with good reason.



Please notify the scholarship desk when you receive a scholarship. Even if you do not plan to accept it.

A printable form is available online and at the Scholarship Desk.

Internet tools that get results

The internet has many sites that will do the work in searching for scholarships and colleges for you. Register for free and receive many scholarship opportunities that fit you. There are also resources to help you prepare toward higher education, such as test preparation activities and financial aid insight.

Comparing different colleges has never been easier than it is today. You can search a myriad of criteria ranging from size to cost to campus life. See the amenities side by side to determine what suits your personality.

Recommended sites:
Utahfutures.org
Scholarships.com
See more on CHHS website.

You will appreciate the time you save by working with some experts in the area of scholarship search.

Tip: You may want to create a separate email address for receiving information from these internet resource centers.



Money may not grow on trees, but with a little bit of perseverance, your college fund can be cultivated to provide a flourishing future.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FINANCIAL AID

Choosing a degree to pursue is one of the biggest decisions you will make. It will affect what you will do for the rest of your life. It will also affect what your income will be. Making wise decisions today will greatly benefit you tomorrow.

Be careful about how much you borrow for your education, sensibility in obtaining loans will pay off in the long run. If you can keep your debt low during your schooling, you will be better able to afford a comfortable way of life after graduation.

The government has options for some that will reduce the amount of out-of-pocket expenses. You can file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as January 1st in your senior year. You will need to have the previous year's tax information to complete the online form.



Every student should plan to file a FAFSA, regardless of their expectation to receive funding.

When you have made the final choice in registering for college, make an appointment with that school's financial aid office to go over your FAFSA. They can help you understand your options, and if your financial circumstances have changed, such as loss of job, they will be able to make accommodations for you.

You will want to apply as early as possible to ensure funding. The government sets aside a limited amount of money for student aid, and once it's gone you will not receive any grants or loans. You will also want to verify the deadline for filing with your individual school. Some are earlier than others.

The Counseling Center has a variety of information available to help you understand financial aid. Visit the Scholarship desk today.

The official website for filing is www.fafsa.gov. Remember this is a FREE application.

Do Not Day to file!

Would you like to see what you would qualify for today? The FAFSA4caster allows you to enter your information without officially applying. Look for the link on the FAFSA website.