

Go for the free money first—scholarships!



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Scholarships are money for college you don't need to pay back. And no—they're not just for straight-A students! There are scholarships for almost every hobby and interest, but you have to apply for them. Start applying early in high school and apply all through college.

Places to look for scholarships:

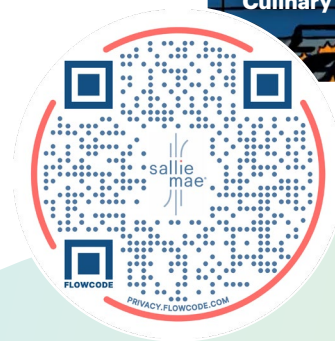
- Your school
- Religious organizations
- Community groups
- Companies
- Clubs

Want to get money for doing what you love?

Register for personalized scholarship matches.

- ✓ Create a profile and get matched with scholarships that have you written all over them. The more detailed your profile, the more matches you'll get.
- ✓ Ding! Get alerts when scholarships matching your profile pop up. New ones are added every day.

Go to Salliemae.com/findfreemoney



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Here's the deal with grants



Grants are money for college you don't need to pay back. They help pay for tuition, books, housing, and other school expenses.

Grants are need-based—and the only way to see if you're eligible is by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).



ways you can get grant-ready

- 1** Find out if your state government has grants for residents attending in-state schools.
- 2** Submit your FAFSA® as soon as possible in December—some grants are given on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 3** Review the financial aid offers from the colleges you've been accepted to—they'll list any grants you're eligible to receive.
- 4** Check with the financial aid office at your school for any additional forms or info they require for the grants to be awarded.
- 5** Confirm whether or not your grant is renewable each year, and make sure you know what's needed for you to remain eligible.