

## Upgrade Program – San Antonio Education Partnership

131 El Paso St., San Antonio TX 78204

[www.upgradesatx.org](http://www.upgradesatx.org) | (210) 207-4563 | [upgrade@saedpartnership.org](mailto:upgrade@saedpartnership.org)

<b>Name of Key Area</b>	College Affordability & Financial Aid
<b>Title</b>	Scholarships
<b>Goal</b>	For Students to Learn Easy Ways to Apply for Scholarships
<b>Advisor &amp; Date</b>	Christopher Goldsberry, Ph.D
<b>Description</b>	Tips and Resources to Apply for Scholarships

Scholarships are free money, or “gift aid,” for school, and are based on a variety of factors depending on the scholarship, particularly merit and/or need. It could also be singly or a combination of an academic area of study, GPA, extracurricular activities, etc. Scholarships require time and planning, but can pay off in the long run. For example, you may apply for 10 scholarships over the course of 10 hours, and receive one scholarship for \$1000. Although it’s a lot of time, it is like getting paid \$1000 for 10 hours of work. Not bad, right? Over time, scholarships can help to reduce the amount of loans you take out. Scholarships may require a personal statement, typically of 500-800 words. Some important things to know about applying for scholarships:

- Scholarship monies are typically sent from the donor to your college, but not always.
- Scholarships may require you to maintain a certain GPA.
- Scholarships do not have to be paid back.

Always start seeking your scholarships locally and work your way out:

- College or University Scholarships (often awarded by the school’s Financial Aid Office)
- Departmental Scholarships
- Student Organizations/Clubs
- Transfer Scholarships
- Citywide Scholarships
- National scholarships

Some examples of what these scholarships are and how to find them are:

- College or University Scholarships (often awarded by the school’s Financial Aid Office): these scholarships are typically available to new incoming students as well as current students. Many scholarships have a need-based component, so it is important that students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the school’s priority deadline. To find out more information on each scholarship available and the requirements, students can generally visit each individual school’s financial aid and/or scholarships website.
- Departmental Scholarships: these institutional scholarships have varying deadlines and require separate applications; in some cases, an essay is required. Please carefully review the requirements for all scholarships and obtain any additional applications from the appropriate department. Some scholarships apply to incoming freshmen and transfer students; others apply only to upperclassmen, while others may be appropriate for all undergraduate and graduate students.

- **Transfer Scholarships:** these scholarships are for students who are entering as Transfer students and often have a number of Transfer hours and a Transfer GPA to be eligible. Requirements vary from scholarship to scholarship. Pay special attention to each school's deadlines. For example, UTSA's deadline for the Distinguished Transfer Scholarship for the Fall semester is full admission by the preceding May 1 and for the Spring semester is full admission by the preceding October 15.
- **Nationwide Scholarships:** these scholarships are those found outside the school and across the nation. They are offered by both public and private donors. Students often utilize safe search engines to look for scholarships that fit their profiles, such as [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com). There is no single application for all scholarships. Every scholarship has requirements set by its specific donor and typically has its own individual application.

**Helpful Hints:** When applying, beware of anything that asks for a credit card number or social security number. As scholarships are essentially "free" money, students do not have to pay for them. Applying to scholarships that require essays will increase the probability of receiving one as not many students apply for those scholarships. Most scholarship essays will be similar in topic and length, so feel free to recycle essays as long as they are updated to meet that particular scholarship's requirements. If you need help developing your personal statement, please feel free to contact us. We wish you well in your scholarship hunt!

#### **Check Out These Links:**

cafécollege Scholarship Brochure:

<http://cafecollege.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Scholarships-Brochure-with-live-links.pdf>

cafécollege Individual Scholarship List:

<https://cafecollege.org/individual-scholarships/>

19 Scholarships for Adults:

<https://www.thepennyhoarder.com/life/college/scholarships-for-adults-returning-to-college/>

Adult Learner Guide to Scholarships & Grants\*

<https://www.saintleo.edu/blog/paying-for-college-a-scholarship-guide-for-adult-learners>

\*Although this guide includes marketing material from St. Leo's, the content is very helpful and informative.

CollegeBoard Scholarship Search – Set Filters for Adult Learners:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

College Greenlight:

<http://www.collegegreenlight.com>

Fastweb:

<http://www.fastweb.com>

Scholarships.com:

<http://www.scholarships.com>

Student Scholarship Search:

<https://www.studentscholarshipsearch.com>

College for All Texans:

<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com>

Federal Student Aid – An Office of the U.S. Department of Education:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships>

Adapted from: *San Antonio Education Partnership, The University of Texas at San Antonio, Saint Leo University*

Last Edited: 07/11/19

Some scholarships you might consider applying for specifically are:

Scholarship	Deadline	Website
Upgrade Scholarship	May 30 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="https://www.upgradesatx.org/jump-start-to-college-scholarship/">https://www.upgradesatx.org/jump-start-to-college-scholarship/</a>
Jeannette Rankin Foundation Scholarship	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	<a href="https://rankinfoundation.org/for-students">https://rankinfoundation.org/for-students</a>
Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship	Varies per school	<a href="https://www.ptk.org/scholarships.aspx">https://www.ptk.org/scholarships.aspx</a> or some schools have a separate application
Hispanic Scholarship Fund	February 15 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="https://www.hsf.net/scholarship">https://www.hsf.net/scholarship</a>
The University of Texas at San Antonio General Scholarships	Freshmen: January 1 <sup>st</sup> Transfer: February 15 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.applytexas.org">www.applytexas.org</a>
The University of Texas at San Antonio of Texas Distinguished Transfer Scholarship	Full Fall admission by: May 1 <sup>st</sup> Full Spring admission by: October 15 <sup>th</sup>	No application – automatic consideration on 3.8 cumulative GPA and transfer 24 or more semester credits of academic coursework (dual credit and work in progress not included)
Texas A&M University San Antonio Scholarships	Priority Deadline: January 15 <sup>th</sup> Final Deadline for Fall: June 30 <sup>th</sup> Final Deadline for Spring: November 1 <sup>st</sup>	<a href="http://www.tamusa.edu/scholarships/">http://www.tamusa.edu/scholarships/</a>
HACU Scholarship Program	To Be Announced	<a href="https://www.hacu.net/hacu/scholarships.asp">https://www.hacu.net/hacu/scholarships.asp</a>
San Antonio Area Foundation Scholarships	Varies by scholarship fund	<a href="http://www.saafdn.org/Scholarships/ApplyforaScholarship.aspx#1314898-list-of-scholarship-funds">http://www.saafdn.org/Scholarships/ApplyforaScholarship.aspx#1314898-list-of-scholarship-funds</a>
Alamo Colleges Foundation Scholarships	September 8 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="https://www.alamo.edu/foundation/scholarships/">https://www.alamo.edu/foundation/scholarships/</a>
St. Philip's College Scholarships	Varies by scholarship fund	<a href="https://www.alamo.edu/spc/scholarships/">https://www.alamo.edu/spc/scholarships/</a>
Live Your Dream Scholarship	November 15 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="https://www.liveyourdream.org/get-help/apply-for-an-educational-grant/index.html">https://www.liveyourdream.org/get-help/apply-for-an-educational-grant/index.html</a>
TADC Scholarship	July 10 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://txadc.org/Scholarships.php">http://txadc.org/Scholarships.php</a>
AFSA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Chance Scholarship	August 31 <sup>st</sup>	<a href="https://www.afsascholarship.org/secondchance/">https://www.afsascholarship.org/secondchance/</a>
iAdelante! Scholarships	To Be Announced	<a href="https://www.free-4u.com/adelante!_fund_scholarship_program.htm">https://www.free-4u.com/adelante!_fund_scholarship_program.htm</a>

Adapted from: *San Antonio Education Partnership, The University of Texas at San Antonio, Saint Leo University*  
Last Edited: 07/11/19

*Do your research! Utilize the search engine tools from above, and identify scholarships you will want to apply for.*

Scholarship	Deadline	Website

