searching for scholarship opportunities

1 Scholarship Search Engines
- There are many high-quality, free scholarship search engines online. Students should not have to pay for a scholarship search. The search engines listed below allow you to conduct a personalized search based on your answers to their profile questions. When conducting your search, think carefully about your attributes and interests. Make a list of all the words that uniquely describe you such as "ecology major", "piano player" or "Polish-speaking". Use these descriptors to conduct a targeted search. Scholarships requirements are usually quite specific, and to search for scholarships in this way may help you identify the most opportunities.

- Visit our online listing of outside scholarship opportunities at:
  www.ofas.uci.edu/content/OutsideScholarships.aspx.

- Search for scholarships using online search engines:
  www.collegeboard.com/paying
  www.scholarships.com
  www.scholarshipexperts.com
  www.fastweb.com
  www.finaid.org

- A simple Google search can also be effective. Try entering search terms that describe you and your interests such as "Music Scholarships" to locate opportunities.

2 Campus or Community-Based Organizations
Check with campus or community-based organizations such as religious groups, volunteer organizations or sports leagues with which you’re involved to inquire if they offer any scholarship opportunities. Check with your local community foundation, rotary or Lion’s Club. Even if they don’t offer a scholarship opportunity, they may know about other opportunities because scholarship sponsors often send information to these types of groups to help spread the word.

3 Employer Sponsored Assistance
Check with your and/or your parent(s)’ employer(s) to inquire if they offer any scholarships or tuition assistance plans.