College Board Opportunity Scholarships

Key Messages and FAQs

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- The College Board made a \$25 million investment in scholarships over 5 years beginning with the class of 2020. Approximately 4,000 students each year will earn a total of \$5 million in scholarships, ranging from \$500 to \$40,000.
- This is a unique scholarship program. It doesn't require an essay or an application, and it doesn't have a minimum GPA or SAT® score requirement. Instead, it rewards all students' efforts and actions on their way to college. The more effort that students put in and actions they complete, the more chances they have to earn a scholarship.
- The 6 steps in this program help students *plan* by making a good starter list of schools, help them *prepare* so they can take their best shot, and help them *pay* for college.
 - 1. Build Your College List

Get started by exploring colleges you're interested in. (700 scholarships, each worth \$500)

2. Practice for the SAT

Use Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy to get ready for test day. (1,500 scholarships, each worth \$1,000)

3. Improve Your Score

Show how practice pays off by improving your SAT score. (150 scholarships, each worth \$2,000)

4. Strengthen Your College List

Make sure your college list has a mix of safety, match, and reach schools. (300 scholarships, each worth \$500)

5. Complete the FAFSA

Fill out the free government form to apply for financial aid. (800 scholarships, each worth \$1,000)

6. Apply to Colleges

Apply to the schools you want to attend (500 scholarships, each worth \$1,000)

- Complete Your Journey (25 scholarships, each worth \$40,000)
- The program is open to all students who attend high school in the United States, Puerto Rico, other U.S. territories and US citizens and residents attending Department of Defense Education Activity schools abroad-regardless of GPA, test scores, and family income-no matter what their plans or goals are after high school.
- Students can sign up at <u>cb.org/opportunity</u>.

At least half of all the scholarships-\$2.5 million each year-will be awarded to students whose families earn less than \$60,000 per year.

FAQs

Who's eligible for the College Board Opportunity Scholarships?

College Board Opportunity Scholarships are open to all Class of 2021 students who attend high school in the United States, Puerto Rico, other U.S. territories, and US citizens and residents attending Department of Defense Education Activity schools abroad.

The College Board wants as many students as possible to earn scholarships through the College Board Opportunity Scholarships. Therefore, students unable to submit the FAFSA, such as undocumented students, can still qualify for the final Complete Your Journey award of \$40,000.

How can students participate?

Students can visit the College Board Opportunity Scholarships website (<u>cb.org/opportunity</u>) to learn more and to sign up for the program. Students can opt into the program via their College Board account and start earning scholarship opportunities for their college planning efforts. If a student doesn't have a College Board account, they can create one for free to join the program.

Are there family income requirements?

The program is open to students regardless of family income. At least half of all the scholarships (\$2.5 million per year) will be designated for students whose families earn less than \$60,000 per year.

Scholarship Actions	Amount	Scholarships Awarded	Action Window
Build Your College List	\$500	700	December 2019-July 2020*
Practice for the SAT	\$1,000	1,500	December 2019-October 2020*
Improve Your Score	\$2,000	150	September 2020-January 2021*
Strengthen Your College List	\$500	300	August 2020-October 2020
Complete the FAFSA	\$1,000	800	October 2020-February 2021
Apply to Colleges	\$1,000	500	October 2020-February 2021
Complete Your Journey	\$40,000	25	March 2021

What are the key program dates?

*Due to the cancellation of the spring SAT administrations, the Improve Your Score scholarship drawings for April, May, and July, have been postponed. You can read more about the <u>official program updates</u> for the class of 2021.



The Complete Your Journey scholarship drawing will take place in March of the students' senior year.

Can these scholarships be applied regardless of institution type (two year, four year, for profit)?

These scholarships can be used for any college or university designated a Title IV institution under the Higher Education Act. Title IV schools are institutions of higher education where students are eligible for federal student aid. This includes public, private, for-profit, and vocational schools that are Title IV colleges and universities.

For more on College Board Opportunity Scholarships, including official rules and additional FAQs, visit <u>cb.org/opportunity</u>.

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