



College
Financial Aid
Advisors

TOP 5 TIPS
FOR A SUCCESSFUL
SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH

www.collegefinancialaidadvisors.com



Meet **Jodi Okun**, the visionary behind College Financial Aid Advisors.

With an unwavering passion for making higher education accessible, Jodi has successfully guided thousands of families through the labyrinth of the financial aid process. Her expertise, driven by an unbridled commitment to empowering students and their families, has cemented her as a foremost influencer in the financial aid industry. With over fifteen years of hands-on experience in the financial aid field, including roles within financial aid offices at prestigious institutions like Occidental and Pitzer colleges, Jodi brings a wealth of knowledge to the table. Her dedication to education extends to her role as an educator, where she has taught financial aid curriculum courses at the University of California San Diego, shaping the next generation of industry professionals.

Jodi's advocacy for education is not confined to the classroom; she's been a brand ambassador for Discover Student Loans, sharing their belief in the transformative power of a college education and their commitment to equipping families with the financial resources they need. As the About.com Money Expert and one of the 'Top 30 Social Influencers in Personal Finance & Wealth,' Jodi's impact reaches far and wide. She is not just a financial aid expert but also a dynamic social media strategist, speaker, consultant, and small business advocate, dedicated to helping individuals secure the financial foundation they need for a brighter future.

Talk to Jodi!



Scan the code
and book a meeting.

A 15-minute Strategy Session to
answer your personal questions
about financial aid.

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TOP 5 TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH

FROM THE CFAA SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

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You...yes, you...can find, apply to, and be awarded significant scholarship money to help you pay for college.

Scholarships are a great way to fill in the gaps between what a college costs, the amount of financial aid you receive, and the amount of money your family has available.

Here are the **TOP 5 Scholarship Search Tips** to help you get started:

1. MAKE YOURSELF SHINE

You are truly a wonderful and unique person. There is a scholarship out there that recognizes and rewards the real you. Start by identifying what makes you stand out. Are you an athlete, activist or artist? Are you part of a minority group in your intended field of study or career path? Focus on scholarships related to your unique characteristics, interests and abilities to narrow the search.

2. APPLY EARLY, APPLY OFTEN

Don't assume you are not eligible to receive scholarships. There are some which look for specific qualifications, but many are available to everyone. The only scholarships you definitely cannot win are those you do not apply to. You can begin accumulating college scholarships as early as 13, but the best time to apply is when you have time. The earlier you begin to apply, the more scholarships you will have a shot at winning.

3. GET YOURSELF ORGANIZED

Some scholarships have a rigorous application process, and require applicants to meet a number of criteria, while others are simply awarded on a lottery basis. Seek out scholarships you think you might be able to win, list out their deadlines and application requirements, and add them onto a master schedule. Some might have deadlines as early as October through December, while others might have a little more application flexibility.

4. CONDUCT A WIDE SEARCH

There are some great databases which can help you find scholarships, but don't limit your search to them. Look for trade associations in your field of study, conduct Google searches around your interests and location, and get others involved. Ask parents, relatives, neighbors, friends and community members to recommend scholarships for you. You might be surprised to find some generous scholarships that have very little competition.

5. COLLECT ALONG THE WAY

Many students wait until they are actually applying to start collecting information they need for scholarship applications. Start documenting your achievements when you are young, and keep all your information and certificates in one location. Think about people you encounter along the way who can provide letters of recommendation about your character. Get those letters now instead of waiting until you are on a deadline later.

DON'T DELAY!

Start searching for your scholarships today with the CFAA Scholarship Process.

Visit our website at collegefinancialaidadvisors.com, to receive helpful information, and get on the road to finding the money you need to help pay for college!



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