

# Scholarship Information at Iowa State

## 12 Tips for Scholarship Applications

1. **Look local** - Check to see what money is available in your local community and through groups and organizations you belong to.

- See if your parents or guardians' employers offer scholarships to children of employees.
- Ask your advisor or upperclassmen in your program of study.
- Use geographical Internet searches such as "scholarships in the state of Iowa."

2. **Apply for scholarships of all sizes** - Don't sleep on scholarships with lower monetary values! Scholarships with large payouts are often the most competitive, whereas scholarships with smaller awards typically have fewer applicants. Applying for these increases your chances of being selected. Every little bit helps when it comes to paying for tuition, books, housing, and even grocery bills for the semester.

3. **Choose to put in the work** - Do not shy away from scholarships that boast unique applications! Scholarships that require video submissions or projects often make people think twice about committing the time. This typically leads to fewer applicants and a better chance of being selected.

4. **Don't repeat the essay prompt** - The scholarship judges will already know what you are writing about, so allow yourself to jump right into your answer!

5. **Answer the question in full** - Ensure you are answering the prompts clearly and thoroughly, in addition to following the directions for formatting.

6. **Be mindful of the word limit** - When given a word limit on a scholarship essay, ensure you do not go over it. You do not want to give the judges a reason to scrap your application or disqualify you before they ever read it for not following the directions.

7. **Don't give up!** - As the saying goes, 'you miss 100% of the shots you don't take.' Even if you have been unsuccessful with previous scholarship applications, there is no way you will even be in consideration to win a scholarship if you don't at least apply. Continue to find scholarships with prompts you enjoy, and keep applying!

8. **Be proactive and apply early** - Some scholarships distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis may have limited funds. If this is the case, you are more likely to qualify for scholarship dollars before the money is gone if you apply early and do not wait till the last minute.

**9. Use a scholarship matching tool** - Using a scholarship matching tool can more quickly help you identify scholarships that best align with your values and interests. A few examples are listed below:

- U.S. Department of Labor's [free scholarship search tool](#)
- [Scholly](#)
- [Cappex](#)
- [Unigo](#)
- [Fastweb](#)
- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [The College Board](#)
- [Peterson's](#)

**10. Review how you appear online** - Check in on your social media accounts and professional networks to see what appears when you search your name on the web. This helps you remain aware of what others see if they were to search for you.

**11. Provide helpful information to someone writing you a letter of recommendation** - This helps them write an impactful letter and saves them time. Helpful information might include an overview of the scholarship, your relevant experiences, your plans for the future, and a copy of your resume. Always be sure to follow up with a thank you to the person who wrote your letter afterward, thanking them for their time.

**12. Seek out similar applications but do not simply reuse essays** - Applying for multiple scholarships that have similar requirements can allow you to maximize the time you invest in scholarship writing by using your existing framework to apply for similar scholarships. Remember to be intentional about writing specifically to the prompts and requirements for each scholarship and avoid using a cookie-cutter version.

Sources Referenced:

<https://money.com/collection-post/tips-winning-college-scholarships/>

<https://www.goingmerry.com/blog/how-to-get-scholarships/>

<https://www.collegevestudentloans.com/blog/10-tips-for-scholarship-success/>

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# Scholarship Timeline at Iowa State:

Application Timeframes	Incoming Freshman	Current Student	Incoming Transfer Student
<a href="#">Office of Student Financial Aid</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021
<a href="#">Agriculture &amp; Life Sciences</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021 (priority deadline)	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021 (priority deadline)	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021 (priority deadline)
<a href="#">Business</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021
<a href="#">Design</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021
<a href="#">Engineering</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021 (Invites sent by College of Engineering)	Nov. 1, 2020 - Feb. 1, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 1, 2021 (Spring 2021 entry deadline) Jan. 1, 2021 - Jun. 1, 2021 (Fall 2021 entry deadline)
<a href="#">Human Sciences</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021 (priority deadline) After Jan. 11, 2021, contact the college
<a href="#">Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 11, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021	Sep. 1, 2020 - Mar. 1, 2021
<a href="#">Graduate</a>	Contact the college	Contact the college	Contact the college

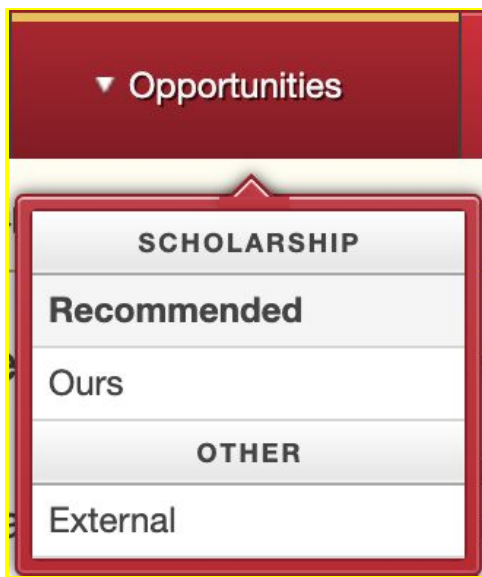
Application Timeframes	Veterinary Medicine Years 1-3	Veterinary Medicine Year 4
<a href="#">Veterinary Medicine</a>	Sep. 1, 2020 - Jan. 19, 2021	TBD

## Scholarship Information at Iowa State:

### OneApp - Sign in with you Net-ID

**Incoming Freshmen and Transfer Students:** Please sign in with your Office of Admissions account. After you have accepted your offer of admission, the next time you sign into your My Account page with your Admissions account, you will be prompted to register your Net-ID.

When you are finished applying for scholarships listed on your Recommended Opportunities page, consider applying for additional scholarships outside of Iowa State University. You can find a list of outside opportunities on ISU's Financial Aid website at [www.financialaid.iastate.edu/scholarships](http://www.financialaid.iastate.edu/scholarships).



### **After you complete the General Application?**

Once you have completed the General Application, you will be automatically directed to additional scholarship opportunities (departmental/college as well as other recommended opportunities)—if applicable to you. Instructions will guide you through the application process.

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### **Am I able to go back into the application and update it after I have submitted it?**

You can go back into your application even after it has been submitted to edit the application. Editing can take place until the application deadline. To edit your application, go to “My Applications,” click on “Update” under the application you want to edit, make the needed changes, and click “Update Your Application.”

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### **I am having issues with my application. Could it be the browser I am using?**

The scholarship application supports only the current and immediately previous major releases of:

- Google Chrome
- Mozilla Firefox
- Microsoft Edge
- Apple Safari



If you are not using one of the supported browsers, we recommend updating to avoid potential issues.

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**Additional ISU Scholarships not using OneApp to award 2020-21 scholarships. Found at <https://www.financialaid.iastate.edu/scholarships/additional>**

- 1. Center for LGBTQIA+ Student Success**
    - a. Open to currently enrolled students
  - 2. Department of Residence**
  - 3. Hixson Opportunity Awards**
    - a. Open to Incoming Freshmen
  - 4. Military Science**
    - a. Air Force ROTC
    - b. Army ROTC
  - 5. Multicultural Vision Program**
  - 6. Return to Iowa-Generations Scholarships**
    - a. Open to non-resident incoming freshmen and transfer students who have a parent of grandparent who graduated from Iowa State
  - 7. Study Abroad Scholarships**
  - 8. University Honors program**
    - a. Open to currently enrolled students
  - 9. Veterans Center**
  - 10. Roy J. Carver Scholarship**
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## **Privately Funded Scholarships (TONS AND TONS OF THESE!)**

**Found at** <https://www.financialaid.iastate.edu/scholarships/private>

If you receive a scholarship from a source other than Iowa State University, please notify us as soon as possible. You can do this by reporting the award on **AccessPlus** (go to 'Financial Aid' and then 'Report Additional Aid') or by calling the Scholarship Unit at 515-294-5627.

Privately funded scholarships received must be processed through the Office of Student Financial Aid

**Ex: 2021 Health & Wellness Scholarship**

<https://www.financialaid.iastate.edu/scholarships/view?id=3747>

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## **State of Iowa Scholarships**

**Found at**

<https://www.financialaid.iastate.edu/scholarships/state-of-iowa>

1. All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship
  2. Robert D. Blue Scholarship
  3. Governor Terry E. Branstad Iowa State Fair Scholarship
  4. Iowa National Guard Service Scholarship
  5. GEAR UP Iowa Scholarship
  6. Future Ready Iowa Grant
  7. Education and Training Voucher (grant)
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## Why was my scholarship check split between the fall and spring semester?

Outside donor scholarship checks \$500 or over will automatically be split between the fall and spring semester unless accompanied by documentation from the donor that all funds should be applied to one semester.

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## Where do I find out if I have received scholarships from Iowa State University?

If you receive a scholarship from Iowa State University, it will appear on the financial aid offer. The financial aid offer can be found in AccessPlus under the Financial Aid section

