Scholarship Scams

Scam Warning Signs
You have to pay a fee
Money-back offers or guarantees
Credit card or bank account information required
Provides “exclusive” information

Common Scams

“Phishing”
Unsolicited emails that bear the logo of your bank or credit card
Appear legitimate but are traps to lure you into giving out your personal or account information
NEVER give out Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers to unsolicited emails or calls

“Pharming”
Unsolicited emails that encourage you to visit a website or click on suspicious links
Make sure your inbox spam filters are up to date
BE CAREFUL about giving out your contact information or email address

Reporting Scams

National Fraud Information Center (NFIC)
File an online complaint at www.fraud.org

Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
File an online complaint at www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams, call 202-326-2222, or write to: Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20580

State Attorney General’s Office
File your complaint with the Consumer Protection Division in your state. Visit www.naag.org to find your state Attorney General’s Office

US Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)
File an online complaint involving mail fraud at postalinspectors.uspis.gov, call the Crime Hotline at 877-876-2455 or write to Criminal Investigations Service Center 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Ste. 1290 Chicago, IL 60606-6130

Better Business Bureau (BBB)
File an online complaint about a business at www.bbb.org or call 703-276-0100

2020–2021 Important Dates for College Students

September 2020
National College Savings Month

October 2020
FAFSA application period begins, submit ASAP to maximize chances for aid

November 2020
National Scholarship Month

January 2021
Complete FAFSA & Submit

February 2021
Financial Aid Awareness Month

April 2021
National Financial Literacy Month, Federal income tax due for 2020 - April 15th

May 2021
National Candidates’ Reply Date – May 1st

June 2021
Last day to submit 2021-2022 FAFSA – June 30th

2020–2021 Test Dates
Due to Covid-19, test dates are subject to change by the testing entity. Below is information on test entities and where to confirm test dates:

ACT (American College Testing)
www.act.org

CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)
clep.collegeboard.org

GRE (Graduate Record Examination)
www.ets.org/gre

GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test)
www.mba.com/us

LSAT (Law School Admissions Test)
www.lsac.org

MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test)
www.aamc.org

SAT and SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) Subject Tests
collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat

Financial Aid

Important Resources

Fastweb
www.fastweb.com

Finaid
www.finaid.org

Federal Student Aid for Students
studentaid.ed.gov

Financial Aid Calculators
www.finaid.org/calculators

FTC Project Scholarship Scam
www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

Mapping Your Future
www.mappingyourfuture.org

The Guide to Federal Student Aid
studentaid.ed.gov/guide

Financial Aid Applications

FAFSA
studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

FSA ID Management

CSS PROFILE
https://cssprofile.collegeboard.com

FAFSA 4Caster
https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/estimate

FAA (Access to Central Processing System)
faaaccess.ed.gov

More Student Aid Resources

Scholarship Search
www.fastweb.com

AmeriCorps
www.americorps.gov

City Year
www.cityyear.org

Student Loans
www.studentaid.gov/loans

EduPASS: International Students
www.edupass.org