Finding Undergraduate Scholarships

Here are some tips to help you when looking for scholarships!

1. **Search** for scholarships even after you’ve enrolled in college. Don’t know where to start? Check out some of the resources we’ve found below!
   a. Free Scholarship Matching Services
      i. Fastweb
      ii. Scholarships
      iii. College Board
      iv. High Five Scholarships
      v. Next Step U
      vi. Unigo
      vii. Niche
      viii. Mustang Jobs
   b. Bulletin Boards
      i. Financial Aid Office
      ii. Library
      iii. Career Services
      iv. Housing
      v. University Union

2. **Apply** to every scholarship for which you are eligible!
   - Pursue less competitive scholarships (i.e. small awards, essay contests, etc.)
   - Less competitive scholarships are easier to win and small money awards add up!

3. **Deadlines** can be hard to keep track of. Use a calendar & checklist to stay organized!

4. **Instructions** vary depending on each application. Tailor your application to meet the sponsor’s goals. Read & follow directions carefully!

5. **Personalize** your essay. Be passionate. Write about something of interest to you. This will help your application stand out from the crowd. Talk about your impact on others and be specific by giving examples.

6. **Google** yourself. Make sure you have a professional online profile. Clean up and remove any inappropriate and immature material from your Facebook account or other social media.

7. **Create** a professional email address such as firstname.lastname@gmail.com or use your calpoly alias, user@calpoly.edu.

8. **Proofread** all documents for spelling and grammar errors before submitting your application. Have others revise your work, such as at the Writing and Rhetoric Center or set-up an appointment with us!

9. **Photocopy** your application to keep for your records before mailing it.

10. **Send** a thank you note whether or not you are awarded the scholarship. Always be grateful for the opportunity to apply.