



# BigFuture Scholarships

Classroom Guidance Series for  
School Counselors

August 2023



# What are the BigFuture Scholarships?

BigFuture awards hundreds of \$500 scholarships and 2 \$40,000 scholarships **EVERY** month to students who complete college and career planning tasks.

Let's review:

- Who is eligible
- How to earn entries
- How to get started

# Who is eligible?

- Open to all sophomores, juniors and seniors
  - Must have a College Board account
  - Attend high school or are enrolled in a home school in the United States, Puerto Rico, and any other U.S. territories as well as U.S. citizens and residents attending Department of Defense Education Activity schools.
- There are no minimum GPA, test score, citizenship status, or family income requirements.



# BigFuture Scholarships

BigFuture awards hundreds of \$500 and 2 \$40,000 scholarships monthly!

1

## Start Your Career List

Save 3 or more careers on Career Search.  
Opens: December of sophomore year  
Deadline: By the end of February of senior year

2

## Build Your College List

Save 6 or more colleges on College Search  
Opens: December of sophomore year  
Deadline: By June 30 of junior year

3

## Explore Scholarships

Save 3 or more scholarships on Scholarship Search  
Opens: July 1 before senior year  
Deadline: By the end of February of senior year

4

## Strengthen Your College List

Save 1 safety, 2 match, and 3 reach schools on College Search  
Opens: July 1 before senior year  
Deadline: By October 31 of senior year

5

## Complete the FAFSA

Complete the FAFSA®, submit a state aid form, or be legally ineligible to submit both the FAFSA and a state aid form.  
Opens: December 1 for class of 2024  
Deadline: By the end of February of senior year

6

## Apply to Colleges

Submit applications to at least 2 colleges.  
Opens: October 1 of senior year  
Deadline: By the end of February of senior year

# How do students enter the drawings?



- When students complete one or more of the BigFuture Scholarship steps, they'll be automatically entered into drawings for \$500 or \$40,000
- The sooner students complete steps and the more steps they take, the more entries they'll earn.
- Their entries for each month will be included in future drawings.
- Students whose families earn less than \$60,000 per year have extra chances at BigFuture Scholarships and earn double the entries for every drawing.
- Students can opt out of monthly scholarship drawings at [bigfuture.org/scholarships-opt-out](https://bigfuture.org/scholarships-opt-out).



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Can I win more than one scholarship?**

Students can win more than one \$500 scholarship but only one \$40,000 scholarship.

### **Can I use a BigFuture Scholarship at a 2 year college?**

BigFuture scholarships can be used at 2 year and 4 year colleges that are Title IV accredited schools.

### **Do students have to take a PSAT-related test or SAT to participate in BigFuture Scholarships?**

No. The program is open to all students, even those who don't take a College Board assessment. None of the six steps on BigFuture require sitting for an SAT assessment.

### **How will students receive the money if they earn a scholarship?**

Winners will receive a check made payable to their college or university. The checks will be mailed to winners during the summer after their senior year of high school.

### **What can I use the scholarship money on?**

BigFuture Scholarships can be applied to tuition, books, fees, and other relevant educational expenses.

**Just one step to get started:  
Visit [bigfuture.org](https://bigfuture.org) and sign in.**

BigFuture will guide students to...

- Join Search to connect with colleges
- Start their career list
- Build their college list
- Qualify for \$500 and \$40,000 awards
- And more...

