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# Lesson Plan: College Board Opportunity Scholarships (For Counselors)

With this useful lesson plan, you can share an overview of the College Board Opportunity Scholarships, a program that motivates students and rewards them with scholarships throughout their journey to college. Find supplemental resources at [cb.org/opportunity](https://collegeboard.org/opportunity).

Classroom/Group Guidance Activity

Time Allotted: 30–35 minutes

Class of 2020 and beyond

## Objectives

1. Counselors will outline:
  - a. Key features of College Board Opportunity Scholarship
  - b. Eligibility and six key actions that support students prepare, plan, and pay for college.

## Steps

1. Share video [College Board Opportunity Scholarships Video \(2 minutes\)](#)
2. Access and highlight the online information and resources located here: [cb.org/opportunity](https://collegeboard.org/opportunity)
3. Share the purpose of the **College Board Opportunity Scholarships**: To help students navigate through the college application process and reward effort and initiative with multiple chances to earn scholarships.
4. Inform your students the following, and have them review related resources:
  - a. To participate, go to [cb.org/opportunity](https://collegeboard.org/opportunity) to learn more and join the program December 2018.
  - b. The more effort you put in, the more chances you get to earn a scholarship ranging from \$500 to \$2,000.
  - c. If you complete six steps related to the college admission process, you're eligible to earn a \$40,000 scholarship. Scholarships are awarded—through monthly drawings—to students who complete each step.
  - d. **These are the six steps:**
    1. **Build Your College List: \$500**—Get started by exploring colleges you're interested in on [BigFuture™](#).
    2. **Practice for the SAT®: \$1,000**—Use [Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy®](#) to get ready for test day.
    3. **Improve Your Score: –\$2,000**—Show how practice pays off by improving your SAT score.
    4. **Strengthen Your College List: –\$500**—Make sure your college list has a mix of academic safety, fit, and reach schools.

5. **Complete the FAFSA: –\$1,000**—Fill out the free government form to apply for financial aid.

6. **Apply to Colleges: –\$1,000**—Apply to the schools you want to attend.

Complete all six steps to be eligible for the **Complete Your Journey Scholarship: \$40,000**

5. Review eligibility requirements:

a. The College Board Opportunity Scholarships program is open to class of 2020 high school students in the United States, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories. There's no citizenship requirement. Class of 2021 students are eligible next year. *Note:* Students who attend Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools outside of the U.S. are unable to participate at this time.

6. Encourage next steps:

a. High school students in the class of 2020 can complete the first step now. Build your college list for a chance to earn a \$500 scholarship.

b. Log in or create a College Board account on BigFuture. Explore colleges. Create a list of colleges you're interested in. You need to save six or more colleges to your list to be eligible for the Build Your College List scholarship.

c. Remind all students that resources to help prepare, plan, and pay for college are available at collegeboard.org.

## Supplemental Resources

[Frequently Asked Questions About College Board Opportunity Scholarships](#)