

# Scholarship Workshop: Hunting for Scholarships

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Financial Aid





# FIRST THINGS FIRST, YOUR ESSAYS

Essays make or break a scholarship application



# Scholarship Essays 101

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- Proofread your essays!
  - Check Your Spelling
  - Watch for Grammar
- Don't be so cliché
  - “I will only be able to attend college if I get this scholarship”
- Make it personal, use your own words, show your flair
- Answer their underlying question!
- NO PLAGIARIZING! Give credit, where credit is due.
- Take your time, and plan it out
  - DON'T PROCRASTINATE!!



# Scholarship Essays 101

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## ➤ Essays to Have Ready

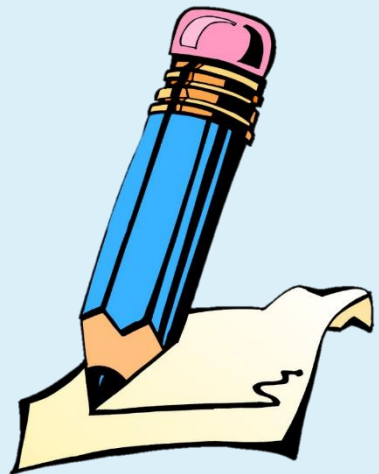
- There are common questions the majority of scholarship applications ask for
- Be sure to tweak them for each scholarship, some are slightly different!
- To get started, work on it at least 30 minutes a day
- Update them as needed



# Common Scholarship Essay Topics

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- Why should you be awarded this scholarship?
- What type of career do you wish to pursue and why?
- Who is a leader you admire, and why?
- What made you decide to pursue a degree in your field?
- What is your most significant accomplishment so far?
- Have you faced any obstacles or challenges in pursuing your education?





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# SECOND, YOUR ACADEMIC RESUME

Tell us more about your educational background

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# Academic Resumes 101

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❖ This document showcases your academic and project achievements

- If your GPA is less than 3.0, don't include it. If questioned, explain carefully about it.
- Educational background
- Work/Project experience
- Volunteer work
- Career Goals/Objectives
- Honors/Awards Received
- Be HONEST
- Cover letters are great to include as well



# Academic Resumes 101

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## ❖ Keep in mind:

- Be humble and honest, a donor may follow up with you on something that is false or over exaggerated on your resume
- Education and experience should be listed first
- More isn't always merrier. If you are a member of 10 student clubs, but only active in 3, ONLY include the ones you are active in.
  - Leadership matters more than just membership





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# WHERE CAN I FIND SCHOLARSHIPS?

## Anywhere!

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You can find scholarships in your local newspaper, on campus, in scholarship books, smart-phone apps, and most commonly, online!

The most important thing about finding scholarships is to set aside time and be patient.





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# LET'S FOCUS ON ONLINE SEARCHES

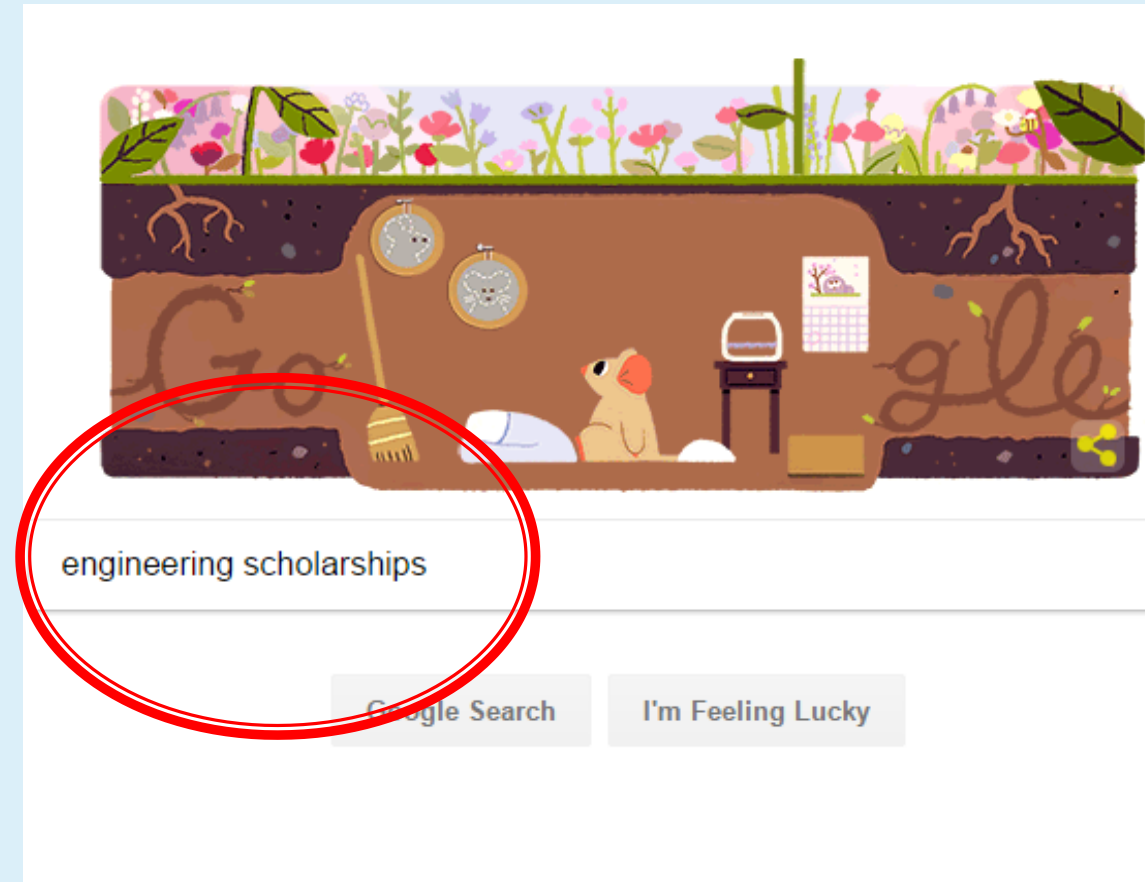
Online searches can be tricky, so here is some helpful advice for finding the right scholarships for you

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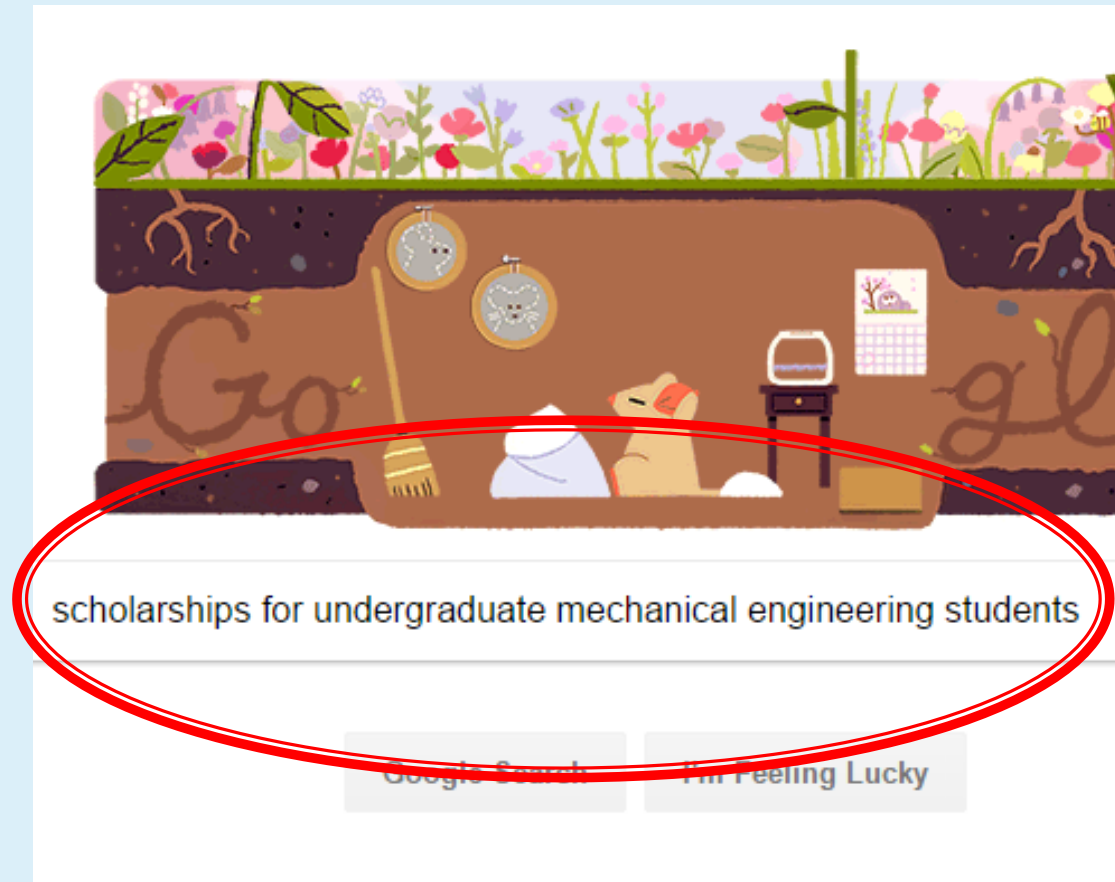
# Don't be too vague when using search engines

You will get too many broad scholarships and not find what you are looking for, missing out on the best scholarships for you



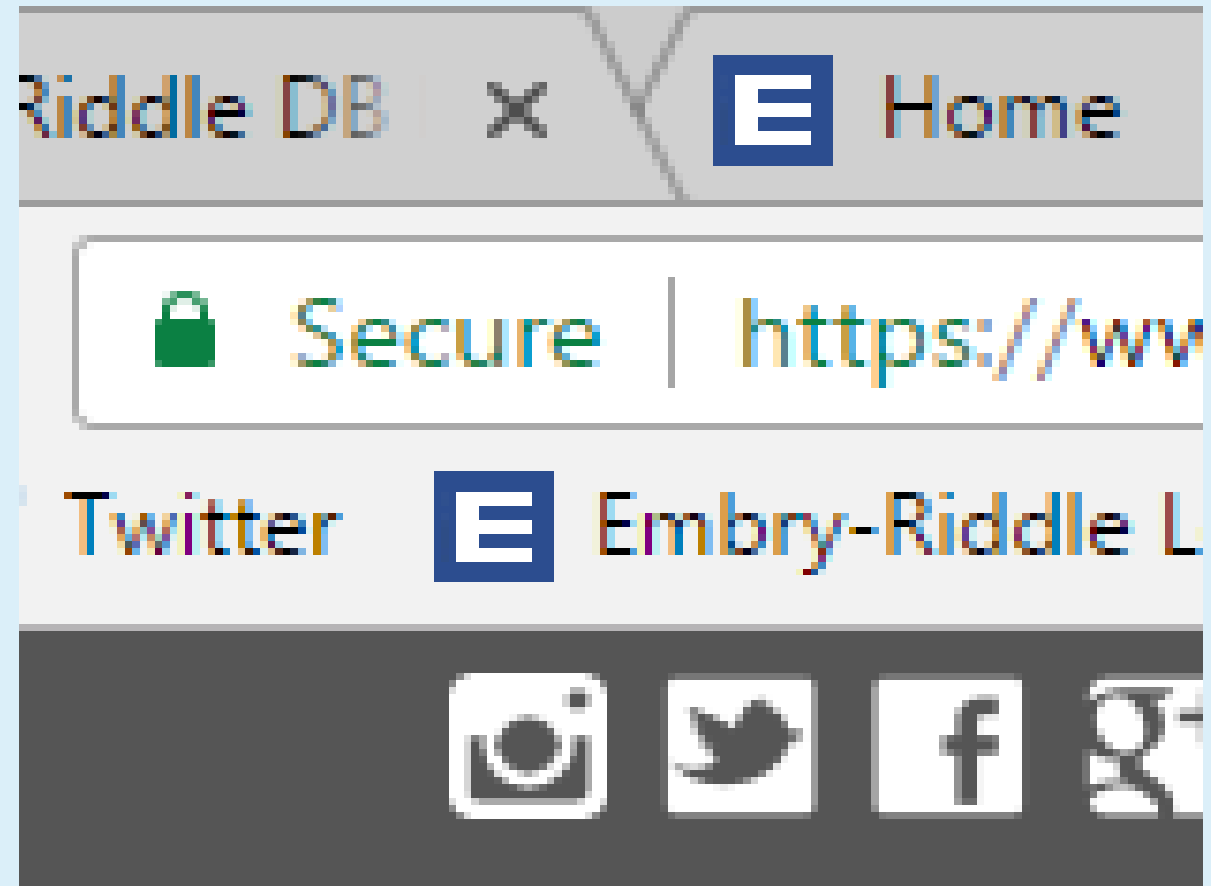
# Being more specific will take less time in your search

Add your major, your home state/country, your grade level, gender, sexual orientation, etc.  
There are scholarships for everyone!



# Aim to use secure websites (HTTPS://)

These websites prevent pop-ups and phishing attacks while you are online. They also have greater protection for your information when you sign-up and search



# Be Organized!

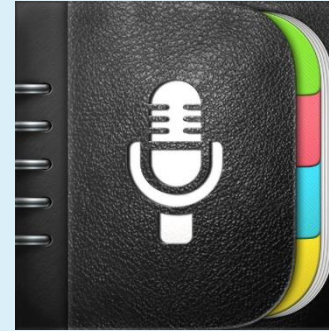
When searching for scholarships, keep track of those you are interested in, have applied to, and who has gotten back to you.

Make an Excel sheet, or even download an app that can help you keep track!





## Suggested Apps:



**Notes: Supernote Recorder**  
Available on App Store

**Notes: Supernote Recorder**

**Wunderlist: To-Do**

**Wunderlist: To-Do List and Task**  
Available on Google Play





# Suggested Websites to Search

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- <https://scholarshipamerica.org/what-we-do/students-parents/>
- <https://www.cappex.com/>
- <https://www.scholarships.com/>
- <https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search#>
- <https://www.chegg.com/scholarships>
- <https://community.saltmoney.org/community/plan-school-costs>





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Questions?

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Let's Get Searching!

