

Scholarships: Bridging the Gap



**Financial Aid Department
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
University**

MAXIMIZING YOUR
SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION EFFORTS

I. What stops us?



- A. TIME**
- B. PREPARATION**
- C. CONFUSION**

II. Time



**BE SMART. PLAN AHEAD. SAVING THE
RIGHT INFORMATION WILL ELIMINATE
HOURS OF RECREATING DATA. PLUS, YOU
CAN CUT AND PASTE PARAGRAPHS INTO
ESSAYS.**

A. Approach it as a project and set aside one full day for research and one evening a week for follow-up.

- B. Pick 4-5 good personal references.
Obtain 3 letters of recommendation.
Consider the following sources:
 neighbors
 mentors
 teachers
 employers
*Be cognizant regarding time.

III. Preparation



**ORGANIZE SCHOLARSHIPS BY DEADLINES.
HAVE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION ON
FILE. DRAFT TEMPLATE ESSAYS AND
CREATE YOUR ACADEMIC RESUME.**

- A. Create generic information to use for essays and applications.
1. Who you are.
 2. Your likes and accomplishments.
 3. Your awards and recognitions.
 4. Why you're interested in your career choice.
 5. Why you want to attend the school you've selected.
 6. Who are the people who've inspired you?
 7. Any volunteer activity.

B. Create your academic resume. You can use an on-line form and be sure to include school history, clubs or sports, volunteer activities, hobbies, employment and accomplishments.

IV. Confusion.



**LEARN TO UNDERSTAND THE SCHOLARSHIP
INFORMATION. DO NOT BE AFRAID TO MOVE
ON TO OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS; YOU DO NOT
HAVE TO APPLY FOR EVERY ONE.**

A. Focus primarily on scholarships for which you meet the requirements, BUT do not discount the scholarships you may not think you qualify for.

B. Confirm deadlines. Can you meet the deadline and gather all the information required? If not, move on.

C. Be realistic. Keep your expectations where they need to be. Remember to use this as an additional source of college funding ... not the only source. Be prepared for some rejection; you will develop that great ability to bounce back!

D. Normally, applicants DO NOT hear from a scholarship group except to confirm receipt of their application, or if they are seriously considered as an award winner. Do not be surprised if you never hear from them.

ACADEMIC RESUMES



HOW DO WE CREATE ONE?

- **Jane Doe**
- **123 Main Street**
- **Deland, FL 32725**
- **Home: 386-555-5555**
- **Cell: 386-555-5555**
- **JDoe@yahoo.com**

• **Objective:** An entry-level position in a well established organization which will allow me to grow and expand my knowledge

• **Education:**

• 08/2004 – present No Name High School Deland, Florida

• GPA:

• Honors List, Perfect Attendance

• Advance Placement courses included: English

• Technical training courses included: Networking I/II

• **Summary of Achievements:**

• National Honor Society 2004 to present

• John Doe Award for Outstanding Student December 2008

• **Volunteer Activities:**

• Boys/Girls Club of Deland 2004, 2005, 2008

• Counselor for Summer Camp

• Homeless Coalition July – September 2008

• Shelter Volunteer

• **Extracurricular activities and/or Associations:**

• No Name High School Drama Club 2007, 2008

• 1st Baptist Church Youth Group 2005 - present



Areas to consider when
creating an
Academic Resume

Professional, Vocational or Research Objective

Summary of Qualifications

Professional Licenses or Certifications

Education

Listing of Relevant Course work to Match Career or Academic Objective

Educational or Professional Honors or Awards

Academic Research, Laboratory Experience and Related Skills

Description of Papers Written, Publications

Academic or Professional Presentations

Related Extracurricular Activities, Professional and Association Memberships

Community Involvement

Work Experience - Paid or Volunteer

Technical and Specialized Skills such as Computer Programming or Laboratory Instrumentation

Interests - Future Academic or Professional Goals

Travel / Exposure to Cultural Experiences

Foreign Language Skills

Additional Information that May Support Objective or Qualifications

Scholarship Search Engines



SCHOOL SOUP/COLLEGE SOUP
WWW.SCHOOLSOU.COM

FINAID
WWW.FINAID.ORG

FASTWEB
WWW.FASTWEB.COM

SCHOLARSHIP AMERICA
WWW.SCHOLARSHIPAMERICA.ORG

BROKE SCHOLAR
WWW.BROKESCHOLAR.COM

SUMMARY



Be organized
Prepare yourself
Do not get discouraged
Be aware of deadlines
Use your resources
Talk to people

Keep on applying even when you are in college