

# SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS: UNLOCKING POTENTIAL AND BOOSTING DIVERSITY IN US HIGHER EDUCATION

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN UNLOCKING POTENTIAL AND BOOSTING DIVERSITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES. THEY PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WHO MAY NOT HAVE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION DUE TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS, AND HELP CREATE A MORE DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE STUDENT BODY. IN THIS INFOGRAPHIC, WE WILL EXPLORE THE DIFFERENT STAGES OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

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## IDENTIFYING FINANCIAL NEEDS

The first stage of the scholarship and grant process is identifying financial needs. Students must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or other financial aid applications to determine their eligibility for aid.

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## RESEARCHING SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

After identifying financial needs, students must research the different scholarships and grants available to them. This includes scholarships offered by universities, private organizations, and government agencies.

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## MEETING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Once students have identified scholarships and grants that interest them, they must ensure they meet the eligibility requirements. This may include academic achievements, financial need, and specific demographic criteria.

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## SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

Once students have identified scholarships and grants they are eligible for, they must submit applications. Applications may require essays, letters of recommendation, and transcripts.

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## REVIEWING APPLICATIONS

After submitting applications, the scholarship and grant providers will review them to determine the recipients. This may involve a committee review process or a computerized algorithm.

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## RECEIVING AWARDS

After the review process, students will be notified if they have been selected to receive a scholarship or grant. They will then receive the award amount, which may vary depending on the scholarship or grant.

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## ACCEPTING AWARDS

Students who are selected to receive scholarships or grants must accept the awards. This may involve signing an acceptance letter or completing other requirements, such as attending an award ceremony.

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## USING AWARDS

Students who receive scholarships and grants can use the funds to pay for tuition, fees, books, and other education-related expenses. This reduces the financial burden on students and helps them stay focused on their studies.

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## MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Scholarship and grant recipients must monitor the requirements of their awards, such as maintaining a certain GPA or completing a certain number of community service hours.

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## PAYING IT FORWARD

Scholarship and grant recipients who have been supported by the generosity of others often feel inspired to pay it forward. This may involve mentoring other students, donating to scholarship funds, or advocating for increased access to higher education.

Scholarships and grants are critical to unlocking potential and boosting diversity in higher education in the United States. By understanding the different stages of the scholarship and grant process, students can better navigate the complex world of financial aid and achieve their academic goals. Additionally, the impact of scholarships and grants goes beyond individual students and can help create a more diverse and inclusive higher education system for all.