



Youth Scholarship Opportunities

Why should I get a scholarship?

Higher education is expensive. Whether you are planning to attend a two-year college, a four-year university, or pursue a vocational trade, it will cost thousands of dollars. If you are planning to pay for your own school with loans, you may face serious amounts of debt when you graduate. Whether you or your parents are paying for school, or even if you are taking out loans, higher education is a serious financial commitment. Scholarships provide opportunities to alleviate the financial toll of college by simply filling out applications and sharing a little bit of your personal and academic history with others.

How can I get a scholarship?

Scholarships are available for a wide array of qualifications. Financial aid is based on need and you never know when and what you might be eligible for. If not, you still can receive help paying for your school. Below are categories of scholarships for which you may be eligible.

- *Grades and Academics*- You can receive funds from various institutions, or the school you are planning to attend, by having an above average GPA or excellent SAT and ACT scores.
- *Leadership*- This could range from captain of a sports team to a position in your school government. Leadership shows potential, and scholarship programs want to feel that the recipient will contribute to their new school and community.
- *Equine extracurricular*- Youth who show horses are often involved with 4-H or FFA. Participation in these organizations may make you eligible for numerous scholarships. Additionally, horse or livestock judging can get you scholarships from junior colleges and some four-year universities. If you are interested in a particular school, consider judging for their team to receive financial aid.
- *Riding*- National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA), and some university riding programs offer scholarships. If you have excelled in the show ring or ridden competitively, you could continue to ride in college. Many schools treat riders as athletes, so be aware it is an enormous commitment when it is viewed as an athletic scholarship.
- *American Paint Horse Association*- Offers scholarships to youth members based on academics, community involvement, leadership, and AjPHA/APHA activities. Forms can be found at www.ajpha.com/forms/index.aspx.
- *State/City/County (or In-State/Same state)*- Many opportunities are available within your local area. Your state, city and county want to support its youth. Many times these scholarships are only available if you are planning to stay within that region, but they are still a great way to help pay for school.
- *Major/Degree based*- If you are pursuing a particular field, scholarships are often available for that specific program. Agricultural programs and colleges have an especially high number of scholarships. Be sure to research schools and different programs to look for opportunities.
- *Minorities*- Any unique heritage you may have can make you eligible. It could include any partial lineage, including Native American, European or African American. Many groups have foundations or associations that nationally support higher education.

•*Family*- Aid is often available for first generation college students. Additionally, your family's finances may qualify you for government aid. Apply for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and you could receive multiple grants for each year of your education. FAFSA offers grants, work study programs and subsidized loans. Ask your parents about these options.

I don't really qualify for any of those scholarships, what can I do?

Get involved! Volunteer, work and join a club or an organization. Don't think of it as building your resume, but instead building your future. All experiences contribute to you being a well-rounded person. Scholarship donors are looking for students who have many skills and attributes that make them a deserving recipient. Simple things like volunteering at a Humane Society or working a part-time job may open doors to more experiences and more scholarships.

Where do I find scholarships?

The first place to look is your high school or college. Talk with your advisor, career center or favorite teacher about opportunities they know of. They may know of scholarships that past students from your school have received. Below are a few more places to look for scholarships.

- Career center/ Advisor
- State/ County website
- College websites and preparatory books
- State horse council
- State agriculture extension
- 4-H county extension
- Stock shows, rodeos and fairs
- APHA
- Other breed associations

I can't wait to apply for scholarships!

That's great! At APHA we highly encourage and respect higher education. Be sure to be aware of deadlines and carefully read all application material. Make sure you complete all of the requirements and always turn in applications early. You may receive more careful consideration if you are one of the first few applications received. Most scholarships require essays, and you want to write a strong piece so practice writing and ask for peer review from fellow students and teachers. Your written essays reflect your commitment as a student and your ability to become a successful young leader. Scholarships are created to support youth like you. They are here for your success and education, so take advantage of each and every opportunity.



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Please refer to each scholarship's website or contact the organization before applying. Confirm that the information listed below is still correct and check that the deadlines and eligibility have not changed. Please be aware that some scholarships may not be available every year.

These scholarships may or may not be related to APHA, the Paint Horse and other equine activities. However, many of these scholarships have agricultural ties, and AjPHA members may find they are eligible for these scholarships. If your state is not listed below, look at your state's horse council, stock shows, fairs and rodeos for scholarship opportunities.

** Deadlines for 2010*

Reichert Equine Foundation

<http://reichertequinefoundation.com/scholarshipprogram.htm>

****Scholarship available for residents of ANY state**

The Reichert Equine Foundation provides five \$500 scholarships for youth at the Reichert Celebration in Tulsa. Applicants do not need to ride in the Celebration, but the scholarships are breed specific, and there is an APHA scholarship available. Applications are due August 10th, 2010*. The address to submit the application packet changes in July, so consult the website for the correct mailing information.

ALABAMA

Alabama Horse Council

http://www.alabamahorsecouncil.org/AHC_Scholarships.html

Two \$1,000 scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. Additional agricultural scholarships are available on the same site.

ARIZONA

Arizona National Livestock Show

<http://anls.org/rules/ANLSScholarshipAppl.pdf>

<http://anls.org/scholarship.html>

Scholarship opportunities are awarded to college students who meet the academic qualifications, have current or previous involvement in the Arizona National Livestock Show, and participate in equine or agricultural activities. The individual must have graduated high school, taken twelve college credits, or must currently be taking twelve or more college credits. Preference is given to Arizona residents, but out-of-state youth may apply. Scholarships are given out twice a year, and the amount varies based on funds available and the number of applicants. The fall scholarship deadline is March 15th, 2010*, and the spring scholarship deadline is October 15th, 2010*. An additional scholarship is available for the Arizona National Ambassador. The ambassador receives a \$2,000 scholarship and is expected to fulfill specific responsibilities associated with the show. The ambassador is also eligible for additional livestock show scholarships.

CALIFORNIA

California State Fair

http://www.bigfun.org/pdfs/competitions/Scholarship_APP.pdf

The scholarships below are available for California residents. The requirements differ for each scholarship, but all applications are due March 12th, 2010*. Many scholarships other than those listed below are available; refer to the link above for additional opportunities.

Overall scholarship– \$5,000 available. Applicants must write an essay, complete all application materials, and must go through an interview process. The candidate must meet a minimum academic requirement and attend, or plan to attend, an accredited California institution.

Agricultural scholarships– One \$2,250 scholarship is available for junior and senior high school students planning to study at an agricultural college. Another \$2,250 is available for California Agricultural students who have completed twelve credits.

Eddie G. Cole Memorial– \$1,250 is awarded to the recipient. Applicants must be enrolled in a college or university for physical education, agricultural, or equine studies.

California State Fair Livestock Show

<http://www.bigfun.org/competition-livestock.php>

Champion Challenge scholarship- Scholarships available for performance in a hippology-like knowledge bowl. Participants will be tested on their practical and industry knowledge of livestock, including, but not limited to, horses. Refer to the Champion Challenge Guide for more information. In previous years, \$19,000 has been awarded to the participants in the form of saving bonds, and additional special awards are given.

IDAHO

Eastern Idaho Fair

http://www.funatthefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/2010_Exhibitors_Handbook.pdf

Six \$1,000 4-H and FFA scholarships are given to graduating high school youth.

Idaho Horse Council

http://www.idahohorsecouncil.com/index.php?pr=College_Scholarships

Three \$1,000 scholarships are available for Idaho graduating high school seniors and Idaho college students. The students must be pursuing equine related studies.

ILLINOIS

Horsemen's Council of Illinois

<http://www.horsemenscouncil.org/HCI/Scholarship.php>

The Ruby Holmquist Memorial Scholarship is available for Illinois students who are involved in their equine community. Contact the scholarship committee for more information

INDIANA

Indiana Horse Council

http://www.indianahorsecouncil.org/Activities/Education/Scholarship_09.pdf

Scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. \$500 scholarships are given, and the number of scholarships awarded is based on available funds.

IOWA

Iowa Horse Council

www.iowahorsecouncil.org/

Scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. The amount and number of scholarships given varies and is based on available funds.

KANSAS

Kansas Horse Council Academic Scholarship

<http://www.kansashorsecouncil.com/about/scholarship.html>

Multiple scholarships are given to students who are members of the Kansas Horse Council, are active in the equine industry, and have scholastic achievements or have provided community services. Applicants must provide two or more letters of recommendation, have a 3.0 GPA, and provide an official transcript. Application materials are due April 1st*. Twelve recipients were selected in 2010, seven received \$500 scholarships, and five were awarded \$1,000 scholarships.

KENTUCKY

Kentucky Horse Council

<http://www.kentuckyhorse.org/scholarships/>

One \$1,500 scholarship is available for Kentucky residents who have academic, equine, and community achievements. Application is due May 1st, 2010*. An additional \$1,000 scholarship is available for the Kentucky 4-H Horse Program. The application is due June 1st, 2010*.

The Race for Education

<http://www.racingscholarships.com/scholarships/>

The Kentucky Equine Education Project awards up to \$5,000 for a Kentucky resident attending an in-state college or university, and studying an equine program. The applicant must have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA. The application and application materials must be uploaded online.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Horse Council

<http://www.mnhorsecouncil.org/scholarships.php>

Scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. The amount and number of scholarships given varies, depending on funds available.

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Horse Council

http://www.nmhsecouncil.org/NMHCFoundationScholarship_2010.doc

Scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. The amount and number of scholarships given varies, and is based on available funds.

NEW YORK

<http://www.nyshc.org/pages/scholarship.pdf>

Scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. The amount and number of scholarships given varies, and is based on available funds. Recipient must be attending one of the selected schools.

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Youth Exposition

<http://www.okyouthexpo.com/equineencounter.htm>

Two \$1,500 scholarships will be provided to two high school senior participants at the 2010 Oklahoma Youth Expo as part of the ADM Scholarship program. Applicants must be in FFA or 4-H, and must be a member of the Equine Leadership Encounter. Applicants apply by filling out the application listed on the website. The applicant must be involved with the OYE and list the equine scholarship at the top of their application in order to be considered. A senior Equine Leadership Encounter membership is required; either a current membership, due November 9th, 2010*, or a past membership is also sufficient. The scholarship application is due December 1st, 2010*.

Horsemen's Association of Texoma

http://www.hat-texoma.org/Horsemans_Association_of_Texoma/Scholarship.html

Two \$500 scholarships are available for graduating high school seniors from the Lake Texoma area who are involved in equine activities.

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina State Fair

<http://www.scstatefair.org>

Two scholarships are available for first and second place of an assessment process and test in October. Applicants must be South Carolina residents and a high school junior or senior. First place receives \$1,500, and second place receives \$1,200. The process includes a resume with specified information listed on the webpage, knowledge assessment on equine husbandry and equine industry, skills assessment based on participation in showmanship and horsemanship at the show, and an interview with three industry professionals. Each portion is worth 100 points and the winner is based on the total point value. No scholarship will be awarded if there are fewer than five participants. Entry form is due September 17th, 2010*, and the test is October 15th and 16th, 2010*.

TEXAS

Fort Worth Stock Show

<http://www.fwssr.com/index.php?s=scholarship>

Contact- Lauren Lovelace, Lauren@fwssr.com

Eight scholarships are awarded to the High-Point and Reserve High-Point Youth in each of the four divisions of the show. The divisions are Paint, POA, Quarter, and Palomino. Each youth and horse must be registered in the appropriate division. \$4000 is awarded to the High-Point winner, and \$2000 to the Reserve High-Point winner. The money will be divided equally per semester and will go directly to the winner's school.

The youth must show in at least one halter and three performance classes. Points from reining and pole-bending are not included. Must be 14-18 years of age. Show entries are accepted October 1st* through November 15th*, and can be turned in until December 30th* with a late fee. Additional information is available in the premium book.

An essay scholarship is also available. To obtain guidelines, the exhibitor must request the information in their show packet, or they may contact the show office. The essay is open ended and entitled 'My Horse Story.' The amount of the scholarship is determined by the student's background and history, and is determined by the Equine Scholarship Committee. The scholarship range is \$500-\$4000.

San Antonio Stock Show

http://www.sarodeo.com/client/media/4552/4553/paint_show_press_release.pdf

http://www.sarodeo.com/client/media/1959/1960/2008_paint_horse_show.pdf

Two scholarships are awarded to the High-Point and Reserve High-Point winner in the Paint Show. The exhibitor must be an APHA member. High-Point receives \$10,000 and Reserve-High Point receives \$6,000.

Show entries must be postmarked by January 10th*. The last date to enter online without a late fee is January 20th*. The last date to enter online is February 8th*.

To qualify, the rider and horse must show in a minimum of one halter and three performance classes. The exhibitor must show the same horse in each class. The individual must be a Texas resident and attend a Texas high school or home school. The individual must be attending an accredited Texas university or college.

Houston Livestock & Rodeo

<http://www.rodeohouston.com/about/scholarship/index.aspx>

<http://www.rodeohouston.com/about/faq.aspx#s>

Seventy 4-year, \$15,000 scholarships are available for 4-H and FFA members (140 scholarships total). Applicants may receive a 4-H or FFA scholarship only, not both.

The Metropolitan Scholarship provides 221 4-year, \$15,000 scholarships for Houston county residents. Eligibility is based on need, college plans, academic history and leadership abilities.

Many other scholarships are available, including FFCLA and Go Texan scholarships. Visit the website for more information. Most of these scholarships require the recipient to be a Texas resident and US citizen. Most often the applicant must attend a Texas college or university. Other criteria include FFA or 4-H involvement, leadership and need.

Austin Rodeo

<http://www.rodeoaustin.com/scholarships.aspx>

Scholarships are available for high school seniors and collegiate students attending a Texas university or institution. The scholarship value ranges from \$2,500 to \$15,000. Criteria includes economic background and need, but an agricultural background is not required.

UTAH

Utah 4-H Horse Council

<http://utah4h.org/htm/scholarships/horse-council-scholarship/>

Scholarships are available for Utah 4-H horse members who show exemplary leadership and meet an academic minimum. The individual must have been active in the last three years of their 4-H eligibility. The amount and number of scholarships given varies, and is based on available funds. Between \$1,000 and \$3,000 is typically awarded to each recipient.

VERMONT

Vermont Horse Council

<http://www.vthorsecouncil.org/committees.html#Scholarship>

Scholarships are available for council members who are active in the equine industry and meet an academic minimum. The amount and number of scholarships given varies, and is based on available funds. 4-H and FFA scholarships are also available through the Vermont Horse Council.

WASHINGTON STATE

Puyallup State Fair

<http://www.thefair.com/foundation/projects-and-programs/scholarships.php>

Multiple scholarships are available for Washington state residents. There is one four-year academic scholarship for residents of specific counties. The recipient would receive \$1,250 each year for four years. An additional \$2,500 one-year scholarship is available for full time students at Pacific Lutheran University who are pursuing agricultural or education studies.

The Race for Education

<http://www.racingscholarships.com/scholarships/>

The Washington Thoroughbred Foundation scholarship provides one scholarship per year to a Washington resident or student attending a Washington college or university. The applicant must pursue an equine career. The applicant must be 24 years old or younger, have a 2.85 GPA, and must be financial independent, or come from a family whose income is less than \$50,000 a year. All application materials must be turned in online.

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia State Fair

<http://www.statefairfowv.com/>

Contact– Todd, todd@statefairfowv.com

One equine scholarship is available for a youth who has shown in the open horse show or junior horse show within the last five year. The applicant must be pursuing a degree at any college or university, or pursuing a vocational trade. Application must be postmarked by March 13th, 2010*.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin State Horse Council

http://wisconsinstatehorsecouncil.org/index.php?page=detail&post_id=141

Three \$1,000 scholarships and three \$500 scholarships are awarded to council members who are high school seniors or college students. The recipient must be a resident or have lived in Wisconsin for the past five years. The recipient must be studying an equine field and may only receive the scholarship twice.