## **WGU NEW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**





## AGENDA

- What is a Scholarship?
- Examples of Offerings
- How to Apply
- After Applying
- Basic Eligibility Requirements
- After Being Awarded
- FAQs
- External Scholarships
- Other FA Options





# WHAT IS A SCHOLARSHIP?

- Monetary award that DOES NOT have to be paid back
- Our investment in the future of our students





# **SCHOLARSHIPS VS. GRANTS**

### <u>Grants</u>

- Money you DO NOT pay back
- Awarded by Federal or State Government
- Must fill out the FAFSA
- Needs Based
- Handled by Financial Aid Office

## **Scholarships**

- Money you DO NOT pay back
- Awarded by WGU or private institutions
- Application independent from FAFSA
- Holistic approach to awarding



# **NEW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Four types of scholarships
  - General WGU
  - Program Specific
  - Partner
  - State Specific
- Routinely Changing



 Can apply from 60 days before to 60 days after start date





# **EXAMPLES OF OFFERINGS**

### National Scholarships

- Education that Works for You
  - \$500/4, \$2,000
- Excellence in Health Informatics
   \$500/4, \$2,000
- Healthcare Partners Fund
   \$625/4, \$2,500

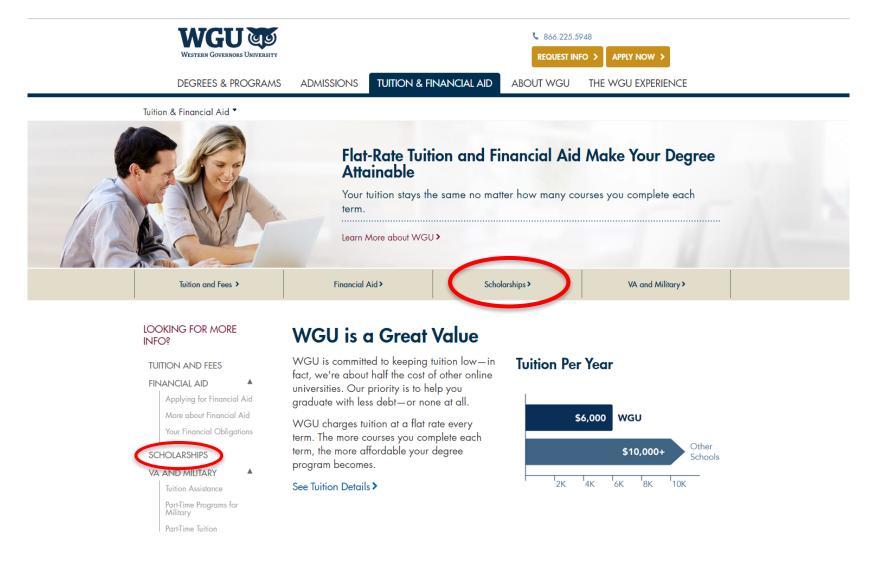


• Many more listed on website





# **WGU SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITE**





# WGU SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITE

#### HOW TO APPLY

REVIEW WGU SCHOLARSHIPS

2 APPLY FOR ADMISSION

3 COMPLETE SCHOLARSHIP FORM

4 APPLY FOR SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

#### RECOGNIZING OUR DONORS

We'd like to thank our donors who make these scholarships possible. Learn more about our scholarship donors. Great news! Through the generosity of numerous corporations and foundations, plus special federal government appropriations, WGU maintains a robust program of scholarships made available to qualified students.

Scholarships are one of the many ways in which WGU removes obstacles from your path to achieving your education goals and improving your career opportunities. It's part of our investment in the future of our students.

### Available Scholarships for new students

The following scholarships are available for new WGU students, depending upon specific eligibility requirements for the particular scholarship. Students are eligible to apply for these scholarships during the enrollment process and up to 60 days after starting a degree program.

In addition to the scholarships on this page there are a limited number of scholarships, not described on this page, available *only* to current students.

(To learn more about or to apply for a specific scholarship, click on the specific scholarship name below.)

#### WGU GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIP NAME	VALUED UP TO
Breakthrough in HR Scholarship For HR professionals who wish to advance their careers and earn a bachelor's or master's in an HR-centered degree program.	\$2,000
<b>Excellence in Business Scholarship</b> For business professionals with substantial college experience who want to further their education with a bachelor's degree in business.	\$3,000
WGU Alumni Master's Scholarship For WGU alums who are interested in pursuing a master's degree.	\$2,000

WCII Rack-to-School Scholarchin



## WGU SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITE

SUMMARY

#### WGU BACK-TO-SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP



#### FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

#### RECOGNIZING OUR DONORS

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We'd like to thank our donors who make these scholarships possible. Learn more about our scholarship donors. Going back to school is no longer about pencil boxes or backpacks. For busy working adults who have started but not finished college, it's about building a plan for success with a strategy that fits your life. If you think WGU might be the strategy that works for you, take advantage of this opportunity to apply for the WGU Back-to-School Scholarship, designed for students with at least 20 college credits under their belt who want to finish what they started. Apply by **December 31**, **2016**: We will award 100 scholarships, each worth up to \$2,000 (\$500 per term, up to four terms), to new and newly enrolling WGU students.

#### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for this scholarship, students must:

- Complete an essay on "My Motivation for Going Back to School."
- · Have completed at least 20 college credits.
- Complete an application for admission. Note: WGU Alumni use this form for VIP application status.
- Complete a scholarship application.
- Submit official transcripts of all prior college work.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Be officially admitted to WGU.
- Interview with a WGU Scholarship Counselor.

NOTE: This scholarship is designed for new WGU students only, as well as Alumni seeking a second degree. Students are eligible to apply for this scholarship up to 60 days prior to



#### SCHOLARSHIP VALUE \$2,000 MAXIMUM

This scholarship will be credited to your account at the rate of \$500 per sixmonth term, renewable for up to four terms.

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE DECEMBER 31, 2016 (CT)

Before you can apply for this scholarship, you must first apply for admission.



APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS>

### **COMPLETING THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

### What will I need?

- Student portal username/password
- An hour of uninterrupted time
- Solid idea of which scholarships you want to apply for
- AGI & # in household for most recent tax year
- Updated resume (optional, but preferred)
- Potential reference name and email address for LOR (optional)
- Employment, membership and/or military verification (if applicable)

\*HINT: Look at the main scholarship website first to determine which scholarships are applicable to you and their requirements

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### **COMPLETING THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Applications 1 • Opportunities	Donors	your name
General Applications These are your basic applications. The information included will be attached to any other application that you submit.	General Application	
	Incomplete Complete	

Step 1: Sign in using student portal username/password
Step 2: Complete & submit the General Application
Step 3: Visit the "Opportunities" tab to apply for specific scholarships



# **AFTER APPLYING**

- 1. Process application within 1-2 business days
- 2. Send email reminder to apply for specific scholarships. Must be done within 5 business days.
- 3. Provisionally reviewed to determine if you are chosen as a finalist.
- 4. Contacted via email with review committee's decision in approximately 2 weeks.



# **BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Quality of application
- Transcripts in & evaluated
  - Past GPA
  - # of transferable CUs
- Related Experience
- AGI & # in household
- Any extra documentation (proof of employment, letter of recommendation, etc.)



Interview



# AFTER BEING AWARDED

- Agree to the Scholarship Terms & Conditions in the Student Portal within 60 days of being awarded
- Start your program within 60 days of being awarded
- Scholarship money will post to your account on the 15<sup>th</sup> of your first month
- Must MEET OTP EVERY TERM in order for scholarship funding to renew







### How many students will be awarded? On average, 1 in 10 applicants is awarded.

### How many WGU scholarships am I allowed to have? One

How long does it take to hear back if I am awarded? 6-8 weeks

Does the scholarship come directly to me, the student?



# **EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Not managed by WGU
- Work with Student Accounts to apply it (third party payment)
- All questions go to scholarship provider directly

Apply to College Pick a major ] Find Money for School tend Student Orie



## **APPLYING FOR EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Focus your scholarship search
- Scholarships open and close at various times throughout the year.
- Be cautious
- Apply through reputable organizations
  - Do NOT give your social security number out
  - NEVER PAY to apply for a scholarship
  - Read privacy policies and terms and conditions



# **OTHER FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS**

- Federal Grants (FAFSA)
  - Pell Grant
  - FSEOG
  - TEACH Grant
- Federal Student Loans (FAFSA)
  - Subsidized
  - Unsubsidized
- Financial aid

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- <u>finaid@wgu.edu</u>, extension 3104
- <u>http://www.wgu.edu/finaid</u>
- VA and Military Benefits
  - va@wgu.edu, extension 3127

