3 Ways to Plan for College and Earn Scholarships from Home This Spring

The coronavirus has created new and unexpected challenges. School is canceled, but your future isn’t. You can still get ready for college—and even turn your efforts into scholarships—at home from any device.

The College Board Opportunity Scholarships program provides a six-step guide to help you plan, prepare, and pay for college. For each step you take, you have the chance to earn scholarships from $500 to $40,000. This program is currently open to all class of 2021 students, regardless of citizenship status, in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories; students at DoDEA schools abroad can also participate. The scholarships don’t require an essay, application, specific test score, or minimum GPA. At least half the scholarships will be designated for students whose families earn less than $60,000 per year. The scholarships can be used at any two- and four-year college or university.

Here are three things you can do from home to stay on track for college and earn scholarships:

1. **SIGN UP FOR THE PROGRAM WITH YOUR COLLEGE BOARD ACCOUNT**
   Estimated Time: 5 minutes
   Don’t miss your chance to earn money for college. To get started, click the yellow Earn Scholarships button at cb.org/opportunity. Then sign up with your College Board account and read and accept the program rules.
   - Want to learn more? Watch this video about the scholarship program, and hear from students like you who won scholarships.
   - Having trouble logging into your College Board account? Visit this page or call 844-298-3554.

2. **BUILD YOUR COLLEGE LIST. EARN A CHANCE AT $500.**
   Estimated Time: At your own pace (at least 30 minutes)
   It’s never too early to start thinking about which school is a good fit for you. At home on a mobile or any other device, use BigFuture™ to explore schools and build a college list. Use our College Search Step-by-Step Guide to decide what matters most to you. Before your junior year ends, you’ll already have a starter list of schools you might apply to.
   - Watch this 30-second video on how to build your college list. By adding at least 6 schools to your list on BigFuture, you earn a chance at $500.
3. PRACTICE FOR THE SAT FOR FREE. EARN A CHANCE AT $1,000.

Estimated Time: At your own pace

Finding simple resources to prepare for the SAT® doesn't have to be a hassle. Use free Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy® to keep your skills sharp. By practicing for 6 hours or more, you earn a chance for a $1,000 scholarship. Watch a 30-second video to learn more about this scholarship.

- Link your College Board and Khan Academy accounts: Remember to link your Khan Academy and College Board accounts so your practice counts toward the scholarship. Learn how to link your accounts here.

- Take recommendations: When you link your Khan Academy and College Board accounts, you’ll get practice recommendations based on your PSAT™ 10, PSAT/NMSQT®, or SAT results. Your recommendations are also based on how frequently skills appear on the SAT.

- Take a full-length practice test: Khan Academy has 8 full-length timed practice tests to build your stamina for test day. These tests give you personalized study recommendations based on your performance. Use the College Board Daily Practice app to scan and score your bubble sheets, get a score report, and update your practice recommendations.

- Learn test-taking strategies while reviewing the questions you get wrong: Visit the Khan Academy article and video library for tips on tackling each problem and strategies you can use on test day. Use this study schedule to plan your practice.

Don’t forget, you can take action to be eligible for four more scholarships—Improve Your Score, Strengthen Your College List, Complete the FAFSA®, and Apply to Colleges. When you complete all steps in the College Board Opportunity Scholarships, you’ll qualify for the $40,000 Complete Your Journey scholarship.

ONE MORE THING TO REMEMBER:
Track your progress and eligibility for other scholarships through My Action Plan at cb.org/opportunity.