
College Preparation Tips

1. Take challenging courses (including Dual Enrollment, AP, IB and honors if offered).
2. Volunteer and become involved in extracurricular activities. Colleges often want to see that a student is well rounded.
3. Develop relationships with teachers, mentors, coaches, and other adults as they will provide recommendation letters when applicable.
4. Thoroughly research colleges and majors to find the right fit for you and your future career goals. Do your homework!
5. Attend college fairs or presentations by university admissions representatives when they visit your school.
6. Seek college application fee waivers where available.

www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo/feewaiver/pages/default.aspx.

collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/about/benefits/college-application-fee-waivers.

Our Mission

The mission of the Drum Major Empowerment Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is to empower, enlighten, and positively impact the academic, social, and personal trajectories of students attending post secondary institutions.

About Us

Inspired by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1968 "Drum Major Instinct" message, the Drum Major Empowerment Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (DME) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. DME provides scholarship awards, college readiness preparation, student leadership development, and hazing prevention education.

During the fall of 2011, a Florida A&M University marching band Drum Major, passed away after participating in a hazing initiation ritual. Following the tragedy, a research initiative was launched to study the nature and extent of hazing attitudes and behaviors. This work led to a focus on interventions that can be used to strengthen safe participation in student activities. As time progressed, this effort evolved into what is now known as the Drum Major Empowerment Scholarship Foundation, Inc.



Drum Major Empowerment Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

College Readiness Preparation
Student Leadership Development
Hazing Prevention Education
Marching Band & Student Activities



Persistence + Consistency = Success

Federal Student Aid

3 Types of Federal Student Aid

- 1 GRANTS**
Free money.
Grants are usually based on financial need and don't have to be repaid.
- 2 LOANS**
Borrowed money.
Loans are an investment in your future. But remember, they must be repaid with interest.
- 3 WORK-STUDY**
Earned money.
A work-study job lets you earn money while you're in school.

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROUD SPONSOR OF THE AMERICAN MIND™

Learn more at StudentAid.gov/types. Apply at www.fafsa.gov.

Scholarship Types

SCHOLARSHIP TYPES
Federal Student Aid

- A+** **MERIT-BASED**
Available to students based on their academics, including grades or test scores. Examples include the National Merit Scholarships.
- ATHLETIC**
Available to students participating on a school's team and typically awarded by the school.
- NONPROFIT**
Available to students participating in community service. Examples include the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award.
- STUDENT-SPECIFIC**
Available to students who meet the required personal attributes. Examples include scholarships for single moms, military families, and minority groups.
- HOBBIES AND INTERESTS**
Available to students who meet the required interests. Examples include scholarships for dance, speaking foreign languages, and essays about zombie apocalypses.

Visit the U.S. Department of Labor's FREE scholarship search tool

<https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx>

Why College or Career School?



Helpful Links

College Navigator: <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

DMEScholarship.org

College Readiness Checklist

1. Ensure you have taken all necessary courses to graduate on time.
2. Take ACT/SAT; seek waiver if eligible via your high school and/or through ACT or SAT websites.
3. Set up appointment(s) with your guidance counselor to discuss college choices and potential majors.
4. Research colleges and majors. Set up tours and visits if able to do so.
5. Complete the FAFSA (<https://fafsa.ed.gov>) as soon as possible. It is posted annually starting Oct. 1.
6. Search for scholarships and financial aid.
7. Request high school transcripts to be sent to colleges.
8. Request letters of recommendation for scholarships and college applications that require them. Try to do this at least one month in advance.
9. Draft college essays. Have at least one person review the draft.
10. Complete and send off applications at least 2 months before the deadline.