

# Senior Scholarship Newsletter

## November 2023

This newsletter is updated the first week of each month and posted on the GHS website under the "For Students" tab.

### What to do this Month!!!!

- Finish your college applications!
- College visits- virtual or in-person
- Keep taking the ACT for more scholarship \$\$\$
- Apply for scholarships!

### Should you take the ACT again?

Yes! The ACT is important for scholarship money and even class placement. Take it again!!!!

[www.myact.org](http://www.myact.org)

Registration deadlines are usually about a month prior to the test date. Fee waivers are available for students who qualify for free/reduced lunch.

**October 28**  
**December 9**

**February 10**  
**April 13**

### **Free ACT Prep offered by the Get2College Center!!**

Virtual workshops on Oct. 21 and Dec. 2 are available as well as pre-recorded sessions for your convenience! Register through

[www.get2college.org](http://www.get2college.org)

## FAFSA opens in December

The FAFSA – the Free Application for Federal Student Aid – is the first step in getting money for college. It is required for federal student aid. However, the FAFSA results may also be used for private scholarships, money directly from the college or university, and state financial aid, all with different deadlines. Basic parent/student information along with 2022 tax returns are used to complete this free application.

Get help completing this important online application!!! GHS will have FAFSA days each month so you can get assistance with the application, but you can also make an appointment on your own time through [get2college.org](http://get2college.org) to complete it.

## HELP GRANT: FREE TUITION IN MISSISSIPPI

Students who have a 20 or higher on the ACT, a minimum C average, and who have taken the classes they need to get into a 4-year college might be eligible for the **HELP scholarship**. This scholarship gives **full tuition** to students who go to an **in-state college**. You have to meet the family income requirements, which are subject to change from year to year. Here are the income levels for last year to give you an idea if you qualify...

If you make this amount or less (for the past 2 years) you could qualify!!!

Students who are the only child.....	\$39,500
Students with one sibling under 21.....	\$44,500
Students with two siblings under 21.....	\$49,500
Students with three siblings under 21.....	\$54,500
Students with four siblings under 21.....	\$59,500
Students with five siblings under 21.....	\$64,500

Visit [www.ihl.state.ms.us](http://www.ihl.state.ms.us) for more info or talk with your student's guidance counselor.

## College recruiters... get to know them!!!

College recruiters or admissions counselors are your main resource for all the information you need about that school... they help with everything from general application questions, campus visits, scholarship questions, and housing. They WANT to get to know you and help... so reach out to them with any question or concern you have!!! To find out who your admission counselor is for your school/area, just look under the admissions tab on the college's website! Here are a few who have contacted us so far this year...

### **Admissions Counselor contact info...**

The University of Southern Mississippi  
Dallas Smith- 601-543-7415  
[Dallas.D.Smith@usm.edu](mailto:Dallas.D.Smith@usm.edu)

Mississippi State University  
Stacia Cleveland- 228-669-0640  
[s.cleveland@msstate.edu](mailto:s.cleveland@msstate.edu)

Ole Miss  
Shelby-Rae Hamel- 228-238-1396  
[srchamel@olemiss.edu](mailto:srchamel@olemiss.edu)

LSU  
Emily Bernard- 225-578-1175  
[ebarnard@lsu.edu](mailto:ebarnard@lsu.edu)

William Carey  
Kelsie Smith- 601-318-6450  
[ksmith@wmcarey.edu](mailto:ksmith@wmcarey.edu)

MGCCC  
Karlea Bociga- 228-236-8346  
[Karlea.bociga@mgccc.edu](mailto:Karlea.bociga@mgccc.edu)

Mississippi College  
TJ Williams- 601-549-1104  
[Tjwilliams1@mc.edu](mailto:Tjwilliams1@mc.edu)

Millsaps College  
Damien Darby- 601-974-1047  
[darbydl@millsaps.edu](mailto:darbydl@millsaps.edu)

University of South Alabama  
Mary Catherine Nall- 251-461-1674  
[mcnall@southalabama.edu](mailto:mcnall@southalabama.edu)

## **Visit Days**

The best way to see if a college is right for you is to visit! Schedule a visit under the prospective student or future student tab of the college's website. Make sure to go on a weekday when class is in session so you can see what a typical day is like. Provide your counselor with proof of your visit and we will excuse your absence! Many colleges host Saturday preview days for high school seniors!

## **Scholarships with November deadlines**

### **Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship: Deadline November 13 at 1 pm.**

Scholarship amounts range from \$1,000 per year to \$12,500 per year. An independent selection committee will evaluate the applications and select the recipients considering: leadership, academic achievements and records, community involvement, and financial need. Apply online at <https://www.elks.org/scholars/scholarships/MVS.cfm>

**Civic League of Gulfport Scholarships: Deadline November 15.** TWO scholarships are available: The Kathy Varnado Smith scholarship has a \$1,000 value and can be awarded to a senior who plans to enter an educational field related to helping those with physical or special needs. The Exceptional Student scholarship is designated for a senior who has personally had to overcome a physical or special need. This includes those who have struggled with hearing, visual, physical, or learning disabilities. Applications for both are available in the guidance office.

**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship/The Cooke College Scholarship Program: Deadline November 16.** This is an undergraduate scholarship program available to high-achieving high school seniors with financial need who seek to attend and graduate from the nation's best four-year colleges and universities. It is a very competitive and selective process. Students must have an "A" GPA, a minimum 26 on the ACT, demonstrate financial need (students who receive free/reduced lunch), and be involved in community service. For program details and to access the application, visit <https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/college-scholarship-program/>

## **Scholarships with December Deadlines**

**National Space Club Scholarship: Deadline December 4.** One \$15,000 award. Must be a high school senior with the intention of pursuing a career in the STEM field. Apply online at <https://www.spaceclub.org/scholarship/index.html>

**Miriam Scarborough Scholarship through P.E.O. of Mississippi (Dec. 5).** Senior girls planning to attend a college in Mississippi or Cottey College are eligible to apply. Must have a B average, a 24 or higher on the ACT, and also have financial need and leadership/service experience. Bring the completed application packet to guidance by December 5<sup>th</sup> to be picked up by the local chapter of P.E.O. Your application needs to include your high school transcript, ACT score report, resume, college acceptance email, print-out of the cost of attendance for the college you plan to attend (in Mississippi), Paragraph/statement from a parent regarding your financial need.

**Equitable Excellence Scholarship:** The application process is now open and will close after the first 10,000 applications are received or by Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00. This very competitive scholarship, in association with *U.S. News & World Report*, provides \$10,000 to one recipient in each state. Equitable Excellence Scholarship recipients are students who demonstrate ambition, the ability to succeed in college, and respect for self, family, and community. These students have remarkable accomplishments such as setting up a food bank in their community, designing a curriculum to get kids interested in science, and founding a nonprofit organization for young people that encourages community service and civic involvement. Only the first 10,000 applications will be accepted, so you must apply early. <https://equitable.com/foundation/equitable-excellence-scholarship>

**National Association of Federal Education Program Administrators Scholarship Program: Deadline December 31<sup>st</sup>.** Two scholarships valued at \$2,500 will be awarded to high school seniors attending their first year of college. Applicants are evaluated based on a personal essay (guidelines are in the application), high school GPA, school/community leadership and service, and letters of recommendation. Please contact [mafepdm@gmail.com](mailto:mafepdm@gmail.com) with any questions.

**Scholarship Link**

[02copy 2024 NAFEP Scholarship Info Application Checklist Word FINAL.pdf - Google Drive](#)

## **Scholarships with January/February deadlines**

**John F. Kennedy Library Foundation Scholarship: Deadline January 12.** In this essay contest, students will compete for a chance at winning \$10,000. Your essay must be 700-1,000 words. Contest details are on the website. This year's essay prompt is as follows: Describe and analyze an act of political courage by a U.S. elected official who served during or after **1917**, the year John F. Kennedy was born. Include an analysis of the obstacles, risks, and consequences associated with the act. The essay may concern an issue at the local, state, national, or international level. [www.jfklibrary.org/essaycontest](http://www.jfklibrary.org/essaycontest)

**Dream US Opportunity Scholarship: Deadline January 31.** Applicants must meet immigration eligibility listed on the website as well as have a minimum C overall GPA. This scholarship awards up to \$20,000 per year up to 4 years to partner colleges. <https://thedream.us/scholarships/opportunity-scholarship/>

**Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) County Employee Scholarship Program: Deadline February 1.** Applicants must have an immediate family member (parent, stepparent, grandparent, step-grandparent, or legal guardian) currently working for or retired from a Mississippi county. A county employee does not include school district, county hospital, or other separate entity. Students can download an application packet at [www.mssupervisors.org/scholarship-program](http://www.mssupervisors.org/scholarship-program)

**There are also national scholarship databases that allow you to search for scholarships. Be careful of any scholarship or organization that asks for an application fee, as they may not be legitimate. Scholarship applications should always be free! These are highly recommended...**

- [Big Future](#)
- [SallieMae](#)
- [College Scholarships](#)
- [Fastweb](#)
- [Scholarships by UNCF](#)
- [Unigo](#)
- [Student Scholarships](#)

Get2College is a FREE resource for college planning. Check out their website full of helpful information, including their college guidebook.

[www.get2college.org](http://www.get2college.org)