

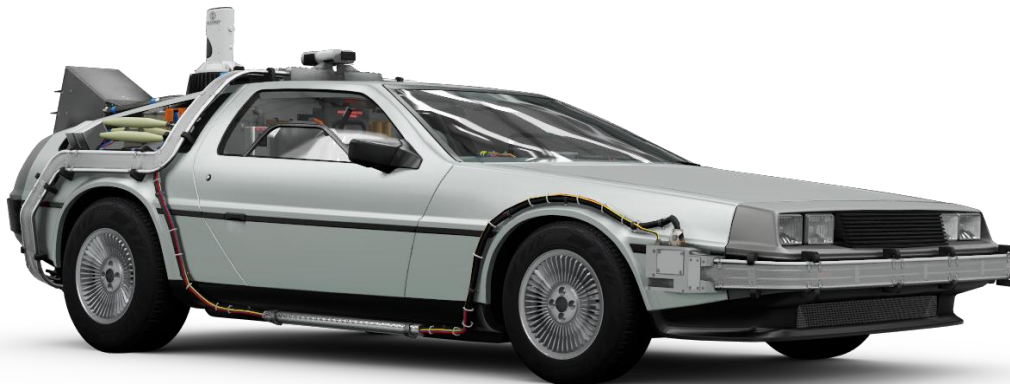
BACK TO OCTOBER

Scholarships

Ginger McBride & Linda Oldham Burns
KASFAA Outreach Training Committee

Topics

- Common Types of Scholarships
- Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR)
- Behind the Scenes: Scholarship Application Review
- Timeline
 - Juniors
 - Seniors



Common Types of Scholarships

- Specific schools aka institutional scholarships
- Kansas Board of Regents
- Local organizations
- Employers
- High school counselor
- Web search
- Freshman merit scholarships
- Major/minor specific scholarships
 - Also known as academic or departmental
 - Are these available to new students?
 - Do they require an application or are they automatically awarded?
- Skills/interests: academic, artistic, athletic, etc.
- Specialized
 - Geographic location
 - Legacy/Alumni connection
 - Etc.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- Federal Grants
 - Federal Pell Grant
 - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (Fed SEOG)
- Federal Work-Study
- Federal Student Loans
 - Subsidized and Unsubsidized
 - Parent PLUS
- Some state grants/scholarships, school specific scholarships, and/or third-party scholarships



Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- Complete electronically through the Federal Student Aid website:
<https://studentaid.gov/FAFSA>
- Deadline/Priority Dates
 - Vary by school
 - Example: Washburn's is March 1st, 2026





State of Kansas Financial Aid Programs

Kansas Board of Regents
Building a Future for Kansas Families, Businesses and the Economy



State of Kansas Financial Aid Programs

Scholarships & Grants

- Kansas Comprehensive Grant
- Kansas Education Opportunity Scholarship
- Kansas State Scholarship
- Military Service Scholarship
- Kansas Career Work Study

Waivers

- Hero's Scholarship
- Wrongfully Convicted and Imprisoned Waiver
- Foster Child Educational Assistance Program

Types of State Aid

Service Scholarships

- Kansas Promise Act Scholarship
- Adult Learner Grant
- Teacher Service Scholarship
- Nursing Service Scholarship
- National Guard Educational Assistance Program
- ROTC Service Scholarship

Graduate Programs

- Distinguished Scholarship
- EMERGE Natl Guard
- James B. Pearson Fellowship
- Nurse Educator Service Scholarship
- Dental Educational Opportunities Program
- Optometry Service Scholarship
- Osteopathic Medical Service Scholarship



Scholarships & Grants

- **Kansas Comprehensive Grant**

- Full-time, undergraduate Kansas residents with financial need
- Available at 4-year public and independent schools
- FAFSA required; institutions may determine their own priority date
- Awards determined by school
 - Public: \$100 - \$4,500
 - Public institutions may only award students with up to \$10,000 SAI
 - Independent: \$200 - \$10,000
- 1:1 match required on all funding
 - Institutional match funding may be spent on any student deemed eligible by the institution
 - Unmatched funding is redistributed to all institutions next fiscal year



Scholarships & Grants

- **Kansas State Scholarship**

- Need-based scholarship for students who were designated State Scholars in high school
- Available at public, independent, community, and technical colleges
- Award: \$1,000/year. Renewable for 4 years (undergrad only)
- Priority application date: August 1
 - Applicants must file FAFSA and state application
- Must maintain 3.0 GPA and enroll full time each semester

Apply online for most scholarships at kansasregents.gov, Students, Student Financial Aid

Application will open in early January 2026 for 26-27 scholarships



Scholarships & Grants

- **Kansas Education Opportunity Scholarship**

- Need-based scholarship assists 1st Generation Students or dependent of KS Teachers.
- Available at public, independent, community, and technical colleges
- Award: \$1,850/year; renewable for 4 consecutive years (undergrad only)
- Application Deadline: May 1
 - Must file FAFSA and state application
- Must maintain 2.0 GPA and enroll full-time



Scholarships & Grants

- **Kansas Military Service Scholarship**

- Recipients must have served in military in international waters or on foreign soil in support of military operations for which the person received hostile fire pay for at least 90 days after September 11, 2001
 - Must provide documentation such as DD-214 or active-duty orders
- Available at 4-year public, community college and technical colleges
- Maximum Award – tuition & required fees, subject to appropriations.
- Priority Application Deadline: May 1
 - Must file FAFSA and state application
- Full or part-time enrollment; covers first bachelor's degree only



Scholarships & Grants

- **Kansas Career Work Study**

- Students earn money while working in career-related occupations off-campus
 - Employer pays half of salary and KCWS pays other half
- Available at 4-year public universities and Washburn
 - apply through the financial aid office at the institution
- Full-time or part-time enrollment
- FAFSA required; recipients must be in need of earnings from employment
- Earnings shall not exceed COA or student's need, whichever is lower.



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas Promise Act Scholarship**

- Assists with two-year degrees or certificate programs in certain high wage, critical need fields.
- Available at community colleges, technical colleges, and certain 4-year institutions that offer eligible two-year programs.
- Recipients must be Kansas residents and U.S. citizens

ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS ARE LISTED AT:

[Kansasregents.gov](https://kansasregents.gov) > Students > Student Financial Aid > Promise Act Scholarship



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas Promise Act Scholarship (cont.)**
 - Last dollar scholarship – calculated after other grant and scholarship aid is applied
 - covers tuition, required fees, and required books/supplies only (no housing, transportation costs)
 - Can only receive up to \$20,000 or 68 hours covered, whichever occurs first
 - To renew: must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress, enroll at least part-time, and complete the FAFSA each year
 - Scholarship will auto-renew as long as a student received funds in the current aid year
 - Must complete program within 36 months of first receiving the scholarship*
 - Must enter into an agreement to live and work in Kansas for 2 consecutive years after completion of program*

*** Will turn into a loan if program completion and service requirements are not met**



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas Adult Learner Grant**

- Assists adults aged 25 years and older enrolled in a bachelor's degree program in certain high wage, critical demand fields
- Available at 4-year public, independent, Washburn, and other select schools
- Must be KS resident and at least 25 years old at the start of first grant-funded course
- Maximum award per semester (NO summer funds) - \$3,000 for full time, prorated for part time
 - Must be in at least 6 hours per semester
 - Assists with tuition, fees, required costs (not for COA expenses, housing, etc)

ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS WILL BE LISTED AT:

www.kansasregents.gov/students/student_financial_aid/adult-learner-grant



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas Adult Learner Grant (cont.)**
 - Must complete bachelor's degree within 48 months of first receiving the scholarship*
 - Must enter into an agreement to live and work in Kansas for 2 consecutive years after completion of program*
 - To renew: file application annually, must maintain Federal Satisfactory Academic Progress, 2.0 cumulative GPA, and enroll at least part-time

*** Will turn into a loan if completion and service requirements are not met**

Application will open early January 2026



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship**

- Available at public and independent 4-year institutions
- Priority Application Deadline: June 1
- Open to undergraduates and graduate students (undergrad upperclassmen have priority)
- Merit-based; cumulative GPA and strength of application materials determines awardees
- Awards up to \$6,860/year for full-time students. Prorated for part-time students.
- Service Obligation – Recipients agree to complete program and teach 1 year for each year of scholarship funding they received*. Must teach in a hard to fill discipline or underserved area.
 - **Hard to Fill Disciplines:** Elementary Ed, English Language Arts, Math, Science, or Special Education
 - **Underserved Areas:** USD 500 KCKS, USD 501 Topeka, USD 259 Wichita, or KSDE Board Districts 5, 7, or 9

*** Will turn into a loan if program completion and service requirements are not met**



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas Nursing Service Scholarship**

- Assists with an RN or LPN degree
- Available to public and independent 4-year schools, community colleges, and technical colleges
- Priority date - FAFSA & state application by May 1: Renewable
- Financial need considered if more applicants than funding
- Award amount per year: \$5,000 RN/\$4,000 LPN
- Full-time enrollment required
- Service Obligation – 1 year of service for 1 year of scholarship*

*** Will turn into a loan if program completion and service requirements are not met**



Service Scholarships

- **Kansas National Guard Educational Assistance**

- Available at public and independent 4-year institutions, community colleges, & technical colleges
- Must be current member of the KS National Guard – Air or Army
- Up to 100% of tuition and fees covered
- Application deadlines per semester – listed on the KBOR webpage
- Full or part-time enrollment
- Service obligation – 24 additional months of service after last semester of assistance*

* Will turn into a loan if program completion and service requirements are not met



Service Scholarships

- **ROTC Service Scholarship**

- Participating public universities
- Recipients selected at institution; separate application required
- Full-time enrollment
- Award amount – up to 70% of cost of attendance
- Service obligation – after completion of degree student must become commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and serve for not less than 4 years as a commissioned officer with the Kansas Army National Guard*

*** Will turn into a loan if program completion and service requirements are not met**



Waivers

- **Hero's Scholarship**

- Eligible dependents or spouses of deceased/disabled military personnel/public safety officers, or prisoners of war
- Waives tuition and required fees at any public college in Kansas
- Up to 10 semesters of undergraduate coursework
- Online KBOR application with required documentation - deadlines listed on webpage



Waivers

- **Wrongly Convicted and Imprisoned**

- Waives tuition and fees for up to 130 credit hours
- Can also cover the cost of books and supplies
- Contact scholars@ksbor.org with documentation

- **Foster Child Educational Assistance Program**

- Waives tuition and fees for students who are or have been in foster care
- Administered by the Kansas Dept for Children and Families
- All information regarding the Foster Child Education Assistance Program is available on our website



Questions?

Email: scholars@ksbor.org

Call: 785-430-4300

Visit kansasregents.gov for more information.

Behind the
Scenes:

Scholarship
Application
Review



Personal Statement

Prompt

Awardees of this scholarship should demonstrate a personal drive to overcome obstacles as well as a community-oriented focus and a commitment to others. Within this context, please provide a personal statement describing your academic and career goals. Your statement should answer the following questions: What are your reasons for applying for this scholarship? How do you intend to use your degree upon graduation? To what extent does your field of study benefit you and/or the larger community? (200-word minimum and 500-word maximum)

Rubric

A personal statement that includes most of the following deserves a 10:

- Student's achievements
- Community or campus involvement
- Obstacles or hardships (e.g., family, economic or physical, etc.) that the student has overcome
- Specific skills (e.g., leadership, communicative, etc.) and/or talent (e.g., athlete, musician, writer)
- People or places that shaped the student or influenced their goals

Financial Need Statement

Prompt

Please provide a brief statement of financial need detailing how receiving this scholarship will assist you and enable you to achieve your academic and career goals, e.g., content such as parent's education and occupations, disability or illness in the family, extenuating circumstances, single parent household, other siblings in college, cost of college tuition compared to how you will finance your education that describes your financial status. If you are currently working to support your education or are a participant in EOP or related campus programs, please include this in your response. (100-word minimum and 200-word maximum)

Rubric

A financial need statement that describes the student's financial situation and tells how they'll benefit from monetary support as thoroughly as possible deserves a 10:

- Parent's education and occupations
- Disability or illness in the family
- Extenuating circumstances
- Single parent household
- Other siblings in college
- Cost of college tuition
- How they will finance your education that describes your financial status
- Participation in the Education Opportunity Program or related campus programs

References

Prompt

Please provide the name and e-mail of an individual who can provide a reference on your behalf. Your reference provider should be familiar with you and able to speak to your personal, professional and/or academic achievements. Faculty, colleagues, or mentors are highly recommended. Please be sure to communicate to the individual that you are listing them as a reference provider and give them context on the scholarship for which you are applying so they can tailor their reference.

Rubric

- 10 for a letter by University employee on its official letterhead
- 9 for a letter from a student's high school on its official letterhead
- 8 for a letter from a non-profit or community services organization on its official letterhead
- 7 for a letter from a University employee, a student's high school or a non-profit or community services organization missing an official letterhead
- 6 or 5 for any other type of letter on official letterhead
- 4 or 3 for a letter by an acquaintance or friend
- 2 or 1 for any other type of letter, e.g., from a parent or family member
- 0 no letter

Additional Criteria

Academic Achievements

- Clubs
- A high GPA
- Dean's list
- Academic awards
- Other extracurricular activities related to students attaining their short or long-term educational goals

Rubric

Up to 10 additional points

Timing

- Junior year
 - Get/stay involved in school and community-based activities.
 - Take on a leadership role.
 - Begin drafting general scholarship essays.
 - Ask teachers, counselors, and employers for letters of recommendation to include in scholarship applications.



Timing

- Senior year
 - Continue researching school specific, local/community, and state scholarships.
 - Create a list with deadlines and requirements based on your research.
 - Submit scholarship applications by the deadlines.
 - Send thank you notes to donors and organizations for any scholarships received.



Save the Date



Financial Aid Offers and the Cost of College

Date: February 3, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Professional Judgment / Special Circumstances Deep Dive

Date: March 3, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM



Virtual FAFSA Help

Thursday, October 23, 2025 from 5-7:30pm

Thursday, November 20, 2025 from 5-7:30pm

Thursday, January 22, 2026 from 5-7:30pm

Thursday, February 19, 2026 from 5-7:30pm

More information and the link to join are available on the KASFAA website under Student/Parent/Counselor Resources

<https://www.kasfaa.org/>

Questions

