# SCHOLARSHIP BASICS



Students will identify categories of scholarships & where to search



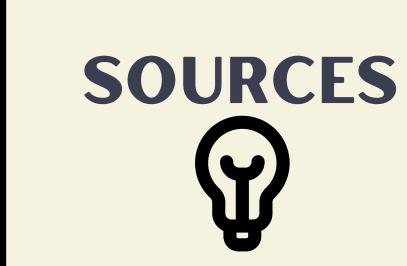
Students will gain confidence in how to apply

#### Strategy

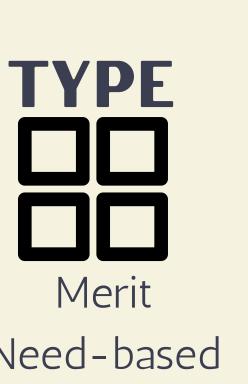
Students will begin to develop a plan for applying

#### Portfolio

Students will know what items are needed for their scholarship portfolio



Institutional Private organization



Need-based
Identity-based
Major/Career based

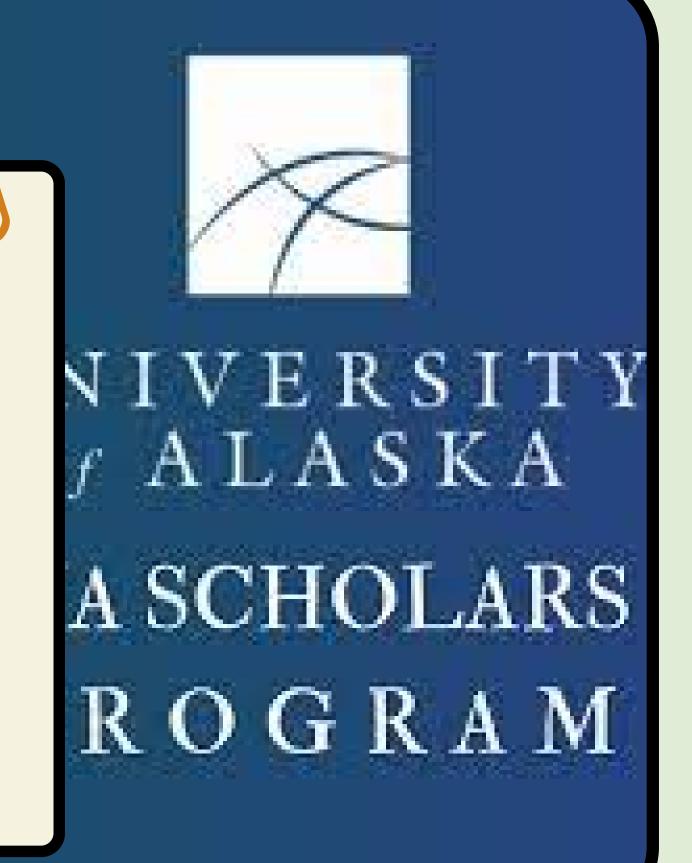




Local
Institutional
State
National

# **UA SCHOLARS**

- Top 10% of high school class using weighted cumulative high school GPA at end of junior year
- Can appeal after senior year if GPA is in top 10%
- \$12000 to be used at a Univ of AK campus
- High schools identify students; UA contacts with more information in the fall of senior year



### APS



- Required number of credits earned in approved courses
- GPA and SAT or ACT test scores determine award amount
- MSBSD identifies eligible students after senior year
- Scholarship must be used at approved Alaska school
- Students must complete FAFSA
- 6 year window to use scholarship following graduation

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### **FAFSA**

- FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Most colleges will require students to complete the FAFSA to be eligible to receive institutional scholarships
- FAFSA completion is required to receive the Alaska Performance Scholarship
- FAFSA becomes available Oct 1 prior to the year students attend college post high school graduation

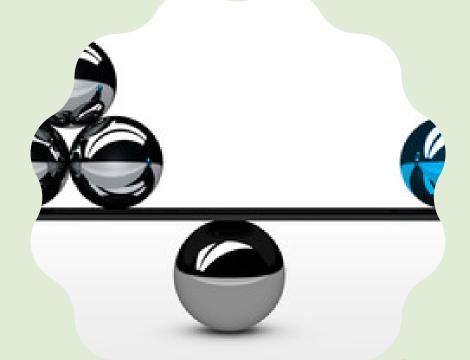
### INSTITUTIONAL AID

- What scholarships are available from the university for freshmen students?
- What are deadlines & processes to apply for scholarship?
  - Award based on admission application or is additional application and materials required?
  - Note: Scholarship deadlines may fall EARLIER than admission application deadlines

## PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS

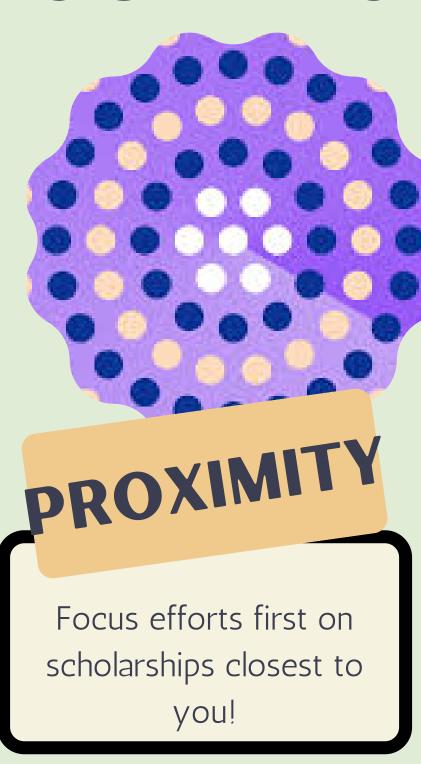
- Where to search? MSMCS Scholarship / MSBSD District Scholarship webpages
- Follow reputable social media for scholarship organizations: MSMCS, Going Merry, Fastweb, etc.
- Use reputable scholarship search engine to find additional scholarships. Pay attention to privacy policies (i.e. what information they request of you and if they share your information with other companies). Never pay to apply for scholarships.
  - Going Merry
  - FastWeb
  - Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS)
  - College Board Big Future

### STRATEGY: GUIDING PRINCIPALS



QUANTITY VS.
QUALITY

Apply for any scholarship for which you meet eligibility requirements





What time will you carve out for scholarships?
Who is your accountability person?

### **TIPS**

#### Use technology to help with organization

- o Google sheet to track requirements, deadlines, items submitted, etc.
- Create individual folders for each scholarship in Google Drive and store app materials here
- Plug in time on Google Calendar for work sessions and deadlines

#### Do your research to stand out

- Research the mission statement or values of the organization offering the scholarship. Tailor your application to address those!
- Can you look up past winners? How did they stand out? Model their example.

#### Follow all application instructions exactly and PROOFREAD

- This includes submission instructions
- Have someone else also proofread your documents for errors, accuracy and completion



# High school transcript

Request on MSMCS website

# Letter(s) of recommendation

Use letter of rec request form on MSMCS website

#### **Essay**

May be personal statement, career goals, or prompt-provided

#### Resume

Activities
Employment
Service
Leadership
Awards

#### 1. Introduction

- Make it compelling (draw the reader in)
- List any special populations you are part of (economically disadvantaged, first in family to attend college, underrepresented ethnic/racial group)

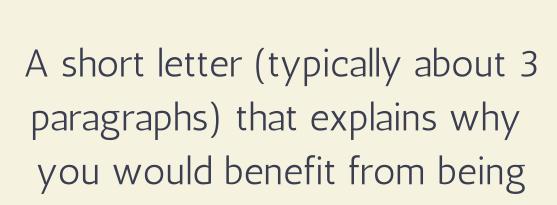
# 2. Explain how you are paying for college and difficulties you have in meeting your financial needs

- Working?
- Savings?
- include Middle College participation to reduce college costs
- Relevant life circumstances

# 3. Describe how you would benefit from the scholarship(s)

- Work fewer hours and focus more on school?
- Take an unpaid internship to enrich learning?
- Allow you to attend college?

# Statement of Financial Need



awarded a scholarship

#### 4. Closing

- Thank committee
- Respectful
- Leave with impression you will be a good steward of their funds