

# How to stand out from the crowd in the competitive world of scholarships

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*More than 3,000 scholarship applications reviewed to date!!*



# Where do I look for Scholarships?

- Top online search engines: *Zinch.com, Fastweb.com, Cappex.com, ScholarshipPoints.com, Scholarships.com*
- Organizations, memberships, interest-related opportunities  
*Lions Club, Banks, Farm Bureau, 4-H, Science & Technology, Lefty!*
- Use your school resources
- County Farm Bureaus & of course....IAA Foundation!



# When do I Apply?

- Start early!
- Bookmark locations
- Start a calendar to track deadlines

# Once you begin...

- READ CAREFULLY
  - Eligibility Requirements
  - Application Requirements
  - Deadlines
- THEN READ IT AGAIN



# How to Stand Out: Activities & Leadership

- Show diversity in activities, in and out of school
  - Church, sports, music, volunteer orgs, community service
  - This becomes even more important once you are on campus
- Show independence, drive and responsibility
  - Think: qualities of a leader
  - Were you “first” at something, start your own business, new fundraiser, new church outreach day, etc.
  - What value did you personally add to a project?
- Quantify your experiences
  - “Volunteer at school soup supper”
  - “20 hours of volunteer time serving at school soup supper, helping make \$5,000 for education over four years.”



# How to Stand Out: Essays

- Paint a picture through storytelling
- Pepper in relevant knowledge
- Don't be afraid to talk about failures
- Be proud, but not boastful. Show humility and a desire to learn and do more!
- Why will I remember you?



# How to Stand Out: Reference Letters

- It's not about WHAT they say, but WHO says it
- Impress! Show diversity, creative and bold connections
- Leave ample time for completion

# How to Stand Out: Online Applications

- Proof & Save!
- Write essays on paper first
- Don't give up on sentence structure and paragraphs
- Treat just like you would a paper application



# How to Stand Out

Say. Thank. You.



# Apply with the IAA Foundation

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

Dec 1-Feb 1



Questions?

