

## Scholarships and Educational Financial Aid Resources

Many brain tumor survivors are able to continue with their education, but are sometimes left with large medical bills or have used their savings for their treatments. And as the costs of obtaining a college education increase, students and their families are searching for various ways to afford a college education. Applying early and accurately are the most important steps in the financial aid process.

### Four types of aid are generally available:

- Scholarships*- Money awarded by colleges and other organizations based on financial need, academic merit or extra-curricular activities.
- Grants*- Money awarded by the government, foundations and corporations based on need. Grants are not repaid.
- Loans*- Money borrowed for the purpose of school, which must be repaid, after graduation.
- Work-Study*- Students work part-time through college or federal government sponsored programs.

### Below are various sources of information regarding financial aid and scholarships:

#### American Cancer Society

800-ACS-2345

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

Various divisions of the American Cancer Society offer students with a history of cancer a scholarship program to help them achieve their academic goals.

#### AmeriCorps

800-942-2677

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

AmeriCorps has three programs of community service. They require a ten month to one year full-time commitment and will then award an educational grant for schooling or repaying student loans.

#### Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation

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

Children through the age of 21 can enter an essay contest sponsored by this foundation that awards \$5,000 for young cancer survivors.



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# Sharing Resources

## **Camp Good Days and Special Times Foundation Scholarship Fund**

800-785-2135

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

Scholarship will provide the means to help meet the cost of post-secondary education. Qualified applicants must have survived cancer, have a high school diploma, have been accepted at an accredited institution, and demonstrate financial need, and must also have been affiliated with Camp Good Days. The number of scholarships awarded and their amounts will vary, depending on available resources.

## **Cancer for College**

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

Cancer for College awards college scholarships to current and former cancer patients on an annual basis. Scholarship applicants must already be accepted to a university and or attending a junior college.

## **Cancer Survivors' Scholarship Fund**

281-437-7142

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

Provide scholarships for the benefit of young adults diagnosed with cancer, receiving treatment for cancer or in remission, to give them a new purpose and meaning in life and to enable them to start and/or continue their college education. Scholarships are awarded by a committee, based on hardship and academic qualifications of the recipients. Recipient must reside in Texas.

## **Carolyn's Compassionate Children**

[www.change.org/cc](http://www.change.org/cc)

Provides college scholarships for children with life changing illnesses.

## **Children's Oncology Services, Inc.**

312-924-4220

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

Scholarships are available to cancer patients or survivors treated or living in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan or Wisconsin and must have been diagnosed by the age of 18. They also offer a textbook reimbursement program to be used for books or other school supplies needed for college or trade school. Students can apply to both programs.

## **College Scholarships for Cancer Survivors**

866-540-1392

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

CCC seeks to ease the financial barriers that prevent many young adult cancer survivors from attending college. CCC awards three types of scholarships annually.



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## **Department of Education**

800-872-5327

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

Department of Education's web site contains the Student Guide to Financial Aid. The application for federal student aid, the required form for anyone applying for college financial assistance, is also accessible through this site.

## **Fastweb**

800-FASTWEB

[www.fastweb.monster.com](http://www.fastweb.monster.com)

Students searching this free site will have access to more than 1.3 million scholarships. Updates on scholarship matches are sent via e-mail.

## **Federal Student Aid Information Center**

800-433-3243

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/FYE/index.html>

Will provide a booklet upon request describing the types of aid available from the federal government. This includes: Pell Grants, Work Study and Perkins and Stafford Loans. Has trained counselors available to answer students' questions.

## **Financial Aid Information Page**

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

Provides an overview of financial aid options, scholarship listings and calculators allowing students to perform cost calculations. Also, has a page that allows students to post questions to be answered by financial aid administrative volunteers.

## **Foundation Center**

800-424-9836

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

The Foundation Center has several publications called Foundation Grants for Individuals arranged by broad categories. By calling the toll-free number you will be directed to a library that carries these listings.

## **Friends4Michael Foundation**

845-774-4809

[www.friends4michael.org](http://www.friends4michael.org)

Provides scholarships to deserving high school students who demonstrate the qualities and abilities which Michael possessed.



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## **Friends of Scott Foundation**

619-223-7268

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

FSF offers The Scott Delgadillo scholarship program for individuals who have been diagnosed with childhood cancer. This scholarship program is designed to provide funding to survivors who want to continue their education through technical school, vocational school, junior college, or a four-year college or university.

## **George Bartol Memorial Scholarship Fund**

407-718-7601

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

Scholarships for a child ages 18-23, who has a parent with a brain tumor or who has lost a parent to a brain tumor and are currently attending a 2 or 4 year college, full time.

## **Hydrocephalus Association**

888-598-3789

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

Scholarship applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 30, with hydrocephalus. The scholarship funds must be used for an educational purpose including, but not limited to, a four-year or junior college, high school post graduate year, technical or trade school, and accredited employment training program or post-graduate program.

## **Jay's World Childhood Cancer Foundation College Scholarship Program**

516-297-5328

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

College scholarship for students diagnosed with cancer who are either in remission or able to attend college while undergoing treatment and reside in New York.

## **Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education Life Lessons Essay Contest**

888-LIFE-77 7

<http://www.lifehappens.org/life-lessons/>

Offers scholarships for legal residents of the United States and the District of Columbia, who are between 17 and 24 years of age, have experienced the death of a parent or legal guardian, and are currently enrolled in, or have been accepted to, a college, university or trade school within the fifty United States or District of Columbia.

## **National Children's Cancer Society**

800-532-6459

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

Offers scholarships for college and vocational school to childhood cancer survivors. They will award stipends up to \$5000 per academic year to survivors who have illustrated the ability to overcome the difficult challenges of childhood cancer with determination and motivation.



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## **National Collegiate Cancer Foundation**

717-215-0943

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

The National Collegiate Cancer Foundation is pleased to announce the creation of a scholarship program. It was established to provide financial support to college students whose lives have been impacted by cancer and are seeking to continue their higher education while still undergoing treatment.

## **No Wooden Nickels**

888-842-2654

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

Provides scholarship assistance to students of cancer families to help offset the expense of continuing an education, acquiring a trade or needed skill or other academic-related expenses.

## **Patient Advocate Foundation “Scholarships for Survivors” Program**

800-532-5274

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

Provides support to patients under the age of 25 seeking to initiate or complete a course of study that has been interrupted or delayed by a diagnosis of cancer or other critical disease.

## **Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the United States**

800-253-6530

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

This educational scholarship program addresses the needs of pediatric brain tumor survivors by providing funding for technical or vocational schools, junior or four year colleges. The program funds up to \$5,000 over a two-year period, with the opportunity to reapply in two years. Patients must have been diagnosed before the age of 19.

## **Ronald McDonald House Charities**

630-623-7048

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

Offer scholarships to students who face limited access to educational and career opportunities.

## **Ruritan National Foundation**

877-787-8727

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

Offers a scholarship program to assist young men and women secure education beyond high school.



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## **The Ryan Mullaly Second Chance Fund**

[www.ryans2dchancefund.org](http://www.ryans2dchancefund.org)

Offer scholarship assistance to young people who are fighting cancer. Applicants must be US citizens; were diagnosed with cancer or a recurrence of cancer between the ages of 13 and 20; are currently age 22 or younger, and are enrolled in a degree program at an accredited 2 year or 4 year college or an accredited post-secondary vocational or trade program which will culminate in certification.

## **The Simon Cancer Foundation**

954-288-8455

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

Offers scholarships to cancer patients or survivors who are attending college, and are able to demonstrate leadership and a community service commitment.

## **Special Love for Children with Cancer**

888-930-2707

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

Offers college scholarships to childhood cancer survivors who have participated in their programs.

## **Stephen T. Marchello Scholarship Foundation**

303-886-5018

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

Offers scholarships for high school graduates who have had childhood cancer and are residents of Colorado, Arizona, California, or Montana.

## **Super Sibs!**

866-444-7427

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

Offers numerous college scholarships for a sibling of a child with cancer, living in the United States who will be attending college.

## **Surviving and Moving Forward:**

### **The SAMFund for Young Adult Survivors of Cancer**

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

Provide various grants and scholarships to young adult survivors, ages 18-35, to help supplement the money that they and their families had lost during treatment, and pay for specific transitional issues, such as education, living, job search and lingering medical expenses.

## **Thomas Clark Foundation**

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

Scholarships are given to children who have lost a parent at some point in their life, are planning to attend college full time and must be a resident of the United States.



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## **Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults: National College Scholarship Program**

888-393-FUND (3863)

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

The Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults has established three scholarships for young adult cancer survivors diagnosed after the age of 15 and are currently under the age of 35. As well as three scholarships for young adults who have a parent diagnosed with cancer or who have lost a parent to cancer.

## **Working Against Cancer Survivor Scholarship Program**

626-914-2914

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

Assists young adult cancer survivors, under the age of 30, by providing awards toward academic and vocational education.

## **In Addition:**

### **National Students of AMF Support Network**

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

This organization is dedicated to supporting college students coping with the illness or death of a loved one and empowering all college students to fight back against terminal illness. They help students start chapters of Students of AMF on college campuses, providing information and support and raising awareness about the needs of grieving college students at their national conference.

High school counselors are a good first step in obtaining financial aid and scholarship information. Software available to counselors can help a student sort through colleges by types of support services offered, as well as tuition ranges.

Assistance for students with disabilities is often provided by state Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies. Students who believe they may benefit from these services should apply with their local Department of Vocational Rehabilitation to determine eligibility.

If there is an area of study the student excels in, taking advanced-placement courses in high school and converting them to course credit in college can reduce college costs, especially at schools that charge tuition by the credit. This may also allow students to graduate in less than four years.

If you are a junior or senior in high school, read your mail! Colleges purchase mailing lists of prospective students who interest them. The letters may contain scholarship offers, details of grants or talent awards specific to that school.

Four regional consortia comprised of public universities in thirty-seven states across the country extend lower in-state tuition privileges to students from neighboring states. Inquire about this through the admissions office or financial aid office of the colleges you are considering.



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Meeting with the financial aid counselor at the institution you may be attending is also suggested. They are trained to understand and explain the financial aid process. Counselors are familiar with state, local and private funding sources as well as institutional resources.

Consider attending a community college, often at a lower tuition rate than universities, then transferring.

Research scholarships at your local library. A variety of publications about scholarships are available, consult your reference librarian for assistance.

This information is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice and does not provide advice on treatments or conditions for individual patients. All health and treatment decisions must be made in consultation with your physician (s), utilizing your specific medical information. The American Brain Tumor Association does not endorse any of the organizations listed or guarantee that individuals will qualify for the services they provide. Please contact each organization for their specific guidelines.

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