

Getting Started with Scholly App

Step 1: Create your account

You can get started with Scholly in one of three ways:

1. You can download the app to your iOS device through the app store.
2. You can download the app to your Android device through the Google Play.
3. Use your computer and sign up for an account at <https://app.myscholly.com/register>. During sign up, you will be asked to provide an email address and password. If you prefer you can create an account that is linked to your Facebook account.

Step 2: Create your profile

Once you've created an account, you'll need to create a profile. The amount of detail you provide in your profile is what determines which scholarships the app matches you with, so be as detailed as possible. The app will ask you many personal questions such as your gender, your major, your college or university, GPA, and your level of education. You can also specify the type of scholarships you want, such as merit-based or need-based. It also asks you for your "Race" and "Miscellaneous" information, such as your religious beliefs, whether you have certain types of heritage, or if anyone in your family has certain diseases.

After you've created your profile the app will ask you to put in your **Scholly join code** to get full access to the Scholly platform of services. Once you've entered your join code, you will be able to access Scholly's resources list, such as sample essays, and scholarship matches. In addition, the app will present you with a list that can contain up to 200 scholarships. It's then up to you to sort through the list and choose which scholarships to apply to.

Step 3: Using Scholly Search

Once you've created your profile, the app will go to work searching the database to find scholarships that match your needs and qualifications. You can tap on each scholarship to learn more about it, including the application process, deadline, and amount.

If you like a scholarship, you can add it to your list. Once you have a few scholarships in your list you can begin to track your progress. Each scholarship on your customized list will be ranked in relevance by a Scholly Score – the higher the number, the stronger the match. Scholly Scores are determined by analyzing your unique parameters, the requirements of a scholarship, and the level of competition for that scholarship. With Scholly Scores, you can prioritize scholarships and optimize your application process. Once you apply for a particular scholarship, you can tap the "Applied!" button in the app. If you end up receiving the award, you can let the app know that as well by tapping the "Won it!" button.

Keep in mind that at the moment, you're not able to apply for the scholarships through the app itself, but the Scholly staff is working towards letting students use the app to apply for particular awards. Along with letting you find and track scholarships, Scholly also provides a variety of resources to help make your application the best it can be. You can read over real winning essays to see what scholarships judges are looking for. There are also articles giving advice on all parts of the application process.

Scholarship Scam Red Flags

The following is excerpted from Elizabeth Hoyt's Article <https://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships/articles/scholarship-scam-red-flags>

Applying for scholarships isn't difficult, but it does take work. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is! Here are some red flags you should be aware of when seeking scholarships:

Guarantees

Nobody representing a legitimate scholarship can or will be able to guarantee that you'll win. Some services even boast they can guarantee the actions of another organization – they can't. There are false promises and will likely result in something other than you obtaining money for school.

Unsolicited Scholarship Offers

If someone contacts you, via phone, mail or email, offering you a scholarship, and you never requested information from that provider, be very careful. Scholarships are awarded to you after an application process – they are not just given out to random students – no matter how special they are.

Fees

Applying for legitimate scholarships does **not** cost money -- EVER! Submitting such applications will cost you time and effort, but should never cost money, no matter how small the amount. If any scholarship offers request your funds to submit an application, become eligible, etc., kick them to the curb.

Limited Time Offers

Scholarships do have deadlines; however, they are usually clearly stated within the application guidelines. Legitimate providers don't pressure students into applying for their scholarships; they have enough interest on their own. They also ensure that students have ample time to work on their scholarship applications and essays. If you ever feel pressured and are observing that it's a "now or never" scenario, the scholarship is likely a scam.

Gathering Very Personal Information

Other than some basic information, a scholarship provider should not ask all applicants for private information, like your social security number. Some require information from winners, however, if you're just at the point of starting out in the application and they ask for such information - don't provide it because it will likely be used for something other than you intended.

Eligibility

Legitimate scholarships always have some sort of eligibility requirement, whether it's age, grades or school year. Any scholarship that claims to be all-encompassing with absolutely no exceptions should raise a red flag. It's helpful to view their previous winners to determine whether or not they are a legitimate resource. If the "testimonials" seem unnatural and contrived, they probably are.

Don't Call Us, We'll Call You

Scholarship providers will give you contact information to reach them, should you have any questions. Many scam artists out there will make a fake website claiming to be a scholarship provider without any sort of way to contact them or getting in touch with them is difficult. Keep an eye out for this, because legitimate scholarship providers don't have anything to hide, whereas the scammers do.

Is It Too Good to Be True?

The best rule of thumb to follow? *If it seems too good to be true, it likely is!*

• [Federal Trade Commission Scam Guidelines](#) • [Federal Student Aid: Avoiding Scams](#) • [FinAid's Scholarship Scam Signs](#)