

SENT APRIL

Dear ACPS Students, Families, and Alumni,

This time of the year is a critical time for seniors finalizing their postsecondary pathways. As such, please know that the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria advisers continue to be available virtually from 8 AM to 4:30 PM **Monday** through **Friday**. In addition to helping with scholarship questions, we'd also love to support you and your family with the verification process, analyzing and comparing financial aid packages, and any other post-secondary questions you may have. Please make an appointment with us using [this link](#).

TC ALUMNI:

- **Renew your FAFSA!** - It is time to submit your FAFSA for next school year! Feel free to reach out to the Scholarship Fund adviser for assistance. We'd love to help you renew your financial aid.
- **Graduating?** - Class of 2017, can you believe your college graduation is almost here? If you need help brushing up your resume, writing cover letters, preparing for job interviews, or completing grad school applications, please know that you can still reach out to us for help!

12th GRADE FAMILIES:

- **Decision Day** - May 1st is the nationwide date by which enrollment/housing deposits are due to colleges. Please see me for assistance in submitting financial aid verification paperwork ASAP so that you can find out how much each college will cost for you prior to Decision Day. Once you have received financial aid awards, please **reach out to an SFA adviser for assistance with evaluating your financial aid awards** and interpreting the different grants and loans offered.
- **Admitted to College, Now What?: Friday, April 9th at 11 AM** - All seniors and their families are invited to attend a virtual lunchtime workshop. Interpretation will be available in Spanish, Arabic, and Amharic. Please contact Stacy Morris with any questions at stacy.morris@acps.k12.va.us.
- **Submit the FAFSA as soon as possible!** - It is critical that every senior submit the FAFSA immediately to qualify for free money from the federal government, the state of Virginia, and colleges. Even if you are not sure you will go to college after graduation, you should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible to keep their options open! If you need assistance or have questions, please email college@acps.k12.va.us for support.
Some priority financial aid deadlines have already passed- submit the FAFSA ASAP to maximize the financial aid you will receive!
- **Need assistance in reviewing and comparing financial aid packages?** - Are you applying to any colleges that require the CSS Profile? The CSS Profile is College Board's (more complicated) version of the FAFSA. See [this link](#) for a list of the colleges that require the CSS Profile, and make an appointment to complete it with me ASAP. **If you fail to complete the CSS Profile in addition to the FAFSA, you will not receive any institutional aid from that college.**

- **Financial aid verification - Have you recently received emails from financial** aid offices requesting financial aid documentation? Many colleges require submission of tax documents to verify that you completed the FAFSA accurately. Be sure to respond to all verification requests in a timely manner, as failing to do so will slow down the financial aid process. Please reach out via email at college@acps.k12.va.us with any verification questions.

9th, 10th, and 11th GRADE FAMILIES:

- **Looking for summer opportunities? Check out the following and contact me with questions ASAP!**
 - **Rising TCW Juniors and Seniors** (current Juniors and Sophomores) who are interested in attending Virginia Tech should consider **Virginia Tech's Virtual Black College Institute**. This is a FREE program that takes place over the summer. The program is designed to attract underrepresented or first-generation students but is open to any student with an interest in Virginia Tech. Applications for 2021 are being taken **RIGHT NOW**, so *please* take the time to check out the details. The deadline to apply is April 1st.
 - **Pathways for Future Engineers** - Current 9th, 10th, and 11th graders, apply for [Pathways for Future Engineers](#), a FREE Virginia Tech multi-year program for first-generation students that includes pre-college activities (while students are still in high school) as well as additional support as students pursue their undergraduate degree. Program expenses are completely covered for students and a "Pathways Partner"- a family representative, mentor, coach, etc. - applications due April 5th.

Below is a list of upcoming scholarships. Local scholarships are indicated by **pink text**.

April

1. [Esperanza Education Fund - April 1, 2021 - \\$5,000 - \\$20,000 scholarships open to students who were born outside the US \(including undocumented or DACA students\) or students who had two parents born outside the US.](#) Applicant must be a graduating senior from a high school in Washington D.C., Maryland, or Northern Virginia with a family income less than \$100,000 in 2020
2. [Project Yellow Light Scholarship Competition \(Radio\) – April 1, 2021 – \\$2,000 1st place prize open to high school juniors and seniors and current undergraduate students.](#) Applicant must create a radio recording that promotes safe driving
3. [Project Yellow Light Scholarship Competition \(Video\) – April 1, 2021 – \\$8,000 1st place prize open to high school juniors and seniors and current undergraduate students.](#) Applicant must submit a video that encourages friends to avoid distracted driving
4. [ANS Community College and Trade Scholarship – April 1, 2021 – \\$2,500 scholarships open to current two-year college students pursuing a degree in nuclear science, nuclear engineering, or a nuclear-related field](#)
5. [Southeastern Theatre Conference, Inc. Scholarship – April 1, 2021 – \\$1,500 - \\$5,000 scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors and current undergraduate and graduate students attending school in the 10-state region of SETC \(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia\).](#) Applicant must be studying or planning to study theater or a closely related field

6. [Student with Self Employment Experience Scholarship – April 1, 2021](#) – \$1,000 scholarship is open to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a degree program at any accredited American institution with self employment experience. Examples of self employment include mowing lawns for neighbors, tutoring students, and babysitting
7. [Bachelor’s Degree Scholarship in Communication and Journalism - April 1, 2021](#) - \$500 Scholarship is open to graduating high school seniors and current undergraduate students pursuing Bachelor-level degrees related to Communications, Journalism, Public Relations, Business Communications, Advertising, and Broadcasting
8. [Curtis E. Huntington Scholarship – April 1, 2021](#) – \$3,000 scholarship awarded annually to undergraduate Seniors who are enrolled as a full-time student at a U.S. accredited educational institution, have successfully completed at least one actuarial examination, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (on 4.0 scale) and must be nominated by a professor at their school
9. [Generation Hope Scholarship – April 1, 2021](#) – \$1,200- \$2,400 scholarship and mentoring open to high school seniors and current college students with 2.5+ GPA who are teen parents attending college in the DC metro area ([including DACA students](#))
10. [Naval Officer's Spouses Club – April 1, 2021](#) – Merit-based scholarship for children of active duty, retired, or deceased US Navy service members living in the DC area
11. [Education Theatre Association Scholarships – April 1, 2021](#) – \$1,000 - \$3,000 scholarships open to high school seniors and current college students who are active members of the International Thespian Society
12. [Herbert Lehman Education Fund Scholarship – April 1, 2021](#) – \$2,000 renewable scholarship is open to high school seniors, college freshman, and students transferring who are enrolled, or plan to enroll, full-time at a four-year college or university. Applicant must demonstrate academic achievement, leadership, financial need, and a commitment to public service
13. [InvestmentZen Financial Future Scholarship – April 1, 2021](#) – \$1,000 scholarship is open to students currently enrolled full-time in an accredited college or university. Applicant must submit an essay on one of three given topics related to personal finance
14. [Frame My Future Contest – April 1, 2021](#) – \$5,000 contest is open to legal U.S. residents who will be a full-time student at a U.S. college or university in the 2020-2021 academic year. Applicant can choose to share through poetry, photography, ink, collage, painting, mixed media, or graphic design – as long as it is an original creation
15. [Virginia Heinlein Memorial Scholarship – April 1, 2021](#) – \$3,000 scholarships for full-time undergraduate students enrolled in an accredited college that awards Bachelor of Science or Arts degree who are residents of Virginia. Applicant must be majoring in Engineering, Math, or Biological or Physical Sciences, or Science Fiction as Literature
16. [The Leslie V. Forte Scholarship Fund – April 2, 2021](#) – \$2,000 scholarship for a full-time, minority student currently enrolled at Northern Virginia Community College. Applicant must have a GPA 2.5 or higher

17. [The Elizabeth Koury Scholarship](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$5,000 renewable scholarship for Northern Virginia high school seniors who plan to enter the field of medicine. Must have demonstrated financial need and enroll in college full-time
18. [The Rose Koury Scholarship](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$5,000 renewable scholarship for Northern Virginia high school seniors who plan to enter the field of early childhood education. Must have demonstrated financial need and enroll in college full-time
19. [The Vance International, Inc. Scholarship](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$500-\$2000 scholarships for a Northern Virginia student with a 2.5 or higher GPA pursuing a career in law enforcement or security, including the administration of justice
20. [Ashworth Grogan Scholarship](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$5,000 scholarship open to current high school seniors from Northern Virginia and current NOVA students with a 2.5+ GPA
21. [Charles Homer Barton Scholarship](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$4,000 scholarships open to legal dependent of children of police officers or sheriff deputies who are employed by Fairfax, Loudoun, Leesburg, Middleburg, Purcellville, VA Police Department, or VA Sheriff's Department. Primary attention will be given to children of police officers who have been killed in the line of duty
22. [ABA Foundation Diversity Scholarships](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$5,000 scholarship open to traditionally underrepresented students who have completed, at a minimum, their first year of college at an accredited university. Applicant must have a declared major or course of study relevant to the transportation, travel, and tourism industry and applicant must have at least a 3.0 GPA
23. [NBC University Student Veterans of America Scholarship](#) – April 2, 2021 – \$12,000 scholarship open to student veterans with an interest in the entertainment industry who are pursuing bachelor's or graduate degree from an accredited two-year or four-year institution during the 2020-2021 academic year
24. [National High School Essay Contest](#) – April 5, 2021 – \$2,500 scholarship and all-expense-paid semester at sea for winner of essay contest on the topic of when diplomacy and peace-building. Open to 9th - 12th graders
25. [DC Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship](#) – April 10, 2021 – \$1,000 merit scholarships open to DC area seniors with 3.5+ (unweighted) GPA
26. [2021 WMCCAI Scholarship](#) – April 15, 2021 – \$1,000 essay award available to high school seniors in the Washington D.C. metro area with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Applicants must provide a 500-700 word essay or 90 second media presentation addressing the prompt: "Describe the importance of community during times of crisis and how, in times of social distancing, you can strengthen your community"
27. [Thanks USA Scholarship](#) - April 15, 2021 - Open to high school seniors and current college students who are the dependents of U.S. military personnel
28. [Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes](#) – April 15, 2021 – \$10,000 scholarship honors young leaders ages 8 to 18 who have made a significant positive difference to people and our environment via service

29. [2020 Porch Skilled Trade & Technology Scholarships – April 16, 2021](#) – \$2,000 scholarship. Applicants must be at least 18, have a 3.4 or higher GPA and be enrolled in a high school, community college, undergrad, grad or technical college or vocational program, pursuing a degree that enables you or others in your community to learn a new trade, develop skills and technology or start a small business related to home services offered by Porch
30. [2021 Charles J. Colgan Scholarship – April 30, 2021 by 5 PM](#) – \$2,000 scholarship available to a Virginia resident pursuing an aviation-related career at an accredited institution. Applicant must have at least a 3.0 GPA in their last full year of study
31. [Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Scholarships – April 30, 2021](#) – Various scholarships open to graduating African American seniors and college students in the Fall of 2021; GPA of 2.5 or higher
32. [Joshua David Gardner HBCU Scholarship – April 30, 2021](#) – \$2,000 non-renewable scholarships open to seniors and current college students with 2.8+ GPA who will be studying at an HBCU. **Students should have ACT score of 21 or SAT score of 1200. Unofficial test score copies are acceptable.** A 500-word essay on the topic of, “What is the importance of participating in political and social change processes?”

May

1. [NCBW100 Scholarship – May 1, 2021](#) - \$1,000 scholarships available to African American seniors with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Applicants must be a resident and graduating within a public high school in one of the following counties: Arlington County, Fairfax County, and the City of Alexandria
2. [Kids’ Chance of Virginia Scholarship - May 1, 2021](#) – Scholarship available to the children of Virginia workers who have been killed or severely or fatally injured in a workplace-related accident. Applicant must be between the ages of 16 and 25. Value of scholarship is unknown
3. [Debra Deneise Smith Foundation Scholarship - May 1, 2021](#) - Two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors attending high school in Alexandria or Fairfax City. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.75, as well as the endorsement of their school counselor on their application attending they are a qualified fit for this scholarship program
4. [OAR Scholarship - May 3, 2021](#) - \$3,000 scholarship open to students across the autism spectrum
5. [Thermo Fisher Scientific Scholarship - May 5, 2021](#) – Scholarships varying in value from \$5,000 - \$10,000 for current college students with 3.0+ GPA who have declared a major of biology, chemistry, biochemistry, or related life science field
6. [Alexandria Sportsman’s Club Scholarship - May 10, 2021](#) – \$2,000 scholarship available to applicants who have played at least one season of a varsity sport. Applicant must be a current senior at one of the four Alexandria City high schools: Bishop Ireton High School, Episcopal High School, St. Stephen & St. Agnes School, or T.C. Williams High School
7. [DMV Young Professionals Scholarship - May 15, 2021 by 5 PM](#) – \$2,000 scholarship available to high school seniors with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 who are residents of Washington D.C., Maryland, or Virginia
8. [The Crew Scholarship - May 15, 2021](#) – \$500 scholarship available to African-American seniors who are residents of Washington D.C., Maryland (Prince George’s Charles, or Montgomery Counties), or Virginia

(Alexandria, Arlington, or Fairfax Counties). Applicants must be U.S. citizens with at least a minimum 3.0 unweighted GPA who are 23 years old or younger

9. [Whitaker Foundation Art Scholarship Program](#) - May 15, 2021 - \$2,000 scholarship for art students (with a special emphasis on Art History or Museum Studies)
10. [Alexandria Old School Alumni Scholarship](#) - May 17, 2021 - Open to current TC Williams seniors with 2.5+ GPA
11. [B. Davis Scholarship](#) - May 22, 2021 - \$1,000 leadership essay contest open to high school juniors and seniors
12. [Cameron Impact Scholarship](#) - May 24, 2021 (Early Application Deadline) - Students with strong leadership skills, extensive community service and extracurricular experiences, and 3.7+ unweighted GPA should consider applying to the Cameron Impact Scholarship, a 4-year full-ride, merit-based scholarship
13. [Triple-Impact Competitor Scholarship](#) - May 31, 2021 - \$1,000 scholarship open to high school juniors graduating in 2022 with 2.5+ GPA who participate in team sports
14. [American Indian College Fund](#) - May 31, 2021 - Open to any Native American U.S. citizen that is a member or descendant of a state or federally recognized tribe with a minimum 2.0 GPA
15. [Mary Blackwell Barnes Scholarship](#) – May 31, 2021 – Open to female students who will be college sophomores or higher (including graduate students) in the fall of 2021. Must be students at VA or DC colleges who display interest in the field of public finance whether in the sector of finance, government, nonprofits, or public law

Additional Scholarship Sources

- **United Negro College Fund:** Various scholarships available for college-bound African-American students
- **FastWeb:** Scholarship search engine
- **Scholarship Sharing:** Virginia-based scholarship search engine

As usual, please feel free to contact me with any questions! Please feel free to make an appointment using [this link](#) to discuss any of the topics below.

- Scholarships and financial aid
- Analyzing financial aid award letters
- Writing college and scholarship essays
- Building a résumé
- Financial aid options for undocumented students

Best,

Ms. Samuel