

SENT OCTOBER 2021

Dear ACPS Students, Families, and Alumni,

Hope the school year is off to a good start! The Scholarship Fund Office is open from 8 AM – 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. The SFA Team is here to assist you in the process of applying for college, completing the FAFSA, creating and finalizing your college list, and realizing your post-secondary dreams. See below for instructions on how to meet with an SFA adviser.

- **ACHS Students:** Students are welcome to drop in to my office in A-115 or Ms. Kenney's in A-117. Students also have the option of making an appointment in advance using [this link](#).
- **ACHS Alumni:** College students are permitted to visit in person, but must schedule an appointment beforehand using [this link](#).
- **ACHS Parents/Guardians:** Parents and guardians of ACHS students can schedule phone or Zoom appointments using [this link](#). Please note that due to ACPS COVID-19 restrictions, in-person appointments are not currently available.

SENIOR EVENTS:

- **Register for SFA's Virtual FAFSA Workshop on October 6th from 4 – 7:30 PM:** Please join the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria for our virtual 2022-23 FAFSA Workshop. Translation services will be available in Spanish, Arabic, and Amharic. From 4:00 – 4:30 PM, SFA staff will walk students and families through the process of creating FSA IDs. From 4:30 – 7 PM, staff will walk students and families through the process of completing the FAFSA. Please sign up using [this link](#) as availability is limited.
- **Save the date for the ACHS College Fair on Thursday, October 14th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM (Location: 1st Floor, B-Side):** ACHS students will have the opportunity to meet with admissions officers from a wide variety of colleges and universities. This is a student-only event; parents and families **are not** permitted to be in attendance due to COVID restrictions.
- **Save the date for the in-school SAT on Wednesday, October 28th:** All seniors will take the SAT during the school day on [Wednesday, October 28th](#)! This will be an official SAT score that students may send to colleges. There is no advance registration required, and the test is free for all seniors.

SENIOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Save the date for the release of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria application on November 1st:** The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria provides scholarships exclusively to seniors at Alexandria City High School with a minimum GPA of 2.0 by the end of their junior year.

- **Senior College Planning Meeting:** For families and students who were unable to attend the Senior College Planning Meeting, [here](#) is a recording of the event.

SENIOR AND ACHS ALUMNI:

- **The 2022-23 FAFSA will open on October 1st:** Every senior, current college student, or former students seeking to enroll in college should complete the FAFSA if eligible. Completing the FAFSA can potentially qualify students for up to \$6,495 via the Pell Grant, as well as additional funding in state or institutional aid. Even if the student is not eligible for the Pell Grant, he or she may still be eligible to receive thousands in state or institutional aid. Every family should complete the FAFSA to see what they might qualify for!
 - The FAFSA is an application that students have to renew every year that they are enrolled in college.
 - Completing the FAFSA can qualify students for grants, scholarships, and loans.
- **The 2022-2023 CSS Profile will open on October 1st:** The CSS Profile is an additional financial application required by certain colleges and universities for consideration for financial aid.
 - To view a list of schools that require the CSS Profile, click [here](#).
 - Please note that the CSS Profile is now free for families making up to \$100,000 a year. Otherwise, the initial application to complete the application is \$25. This covers the cost of the application itself and the cost of sending the results to one college. For every additional college that is added, the additional expense is \$16 per college.

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

October

1. [Golden Door Scholars](#) – October 4, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST – \$40,000 maximum scholarship available specifically for DACA recipients, TPS holders, and students who are undocumented (*Visa holders may also be eligible to apply. Please email info@goldendoorscholars.org for clarification*). Application typically opens in September and closes towards the end of October. Applicants must either be in high school in the United States, have graduated from a U.S. high school, or obtained a GED certificate in the U.S. To receive scholarship, students must attend one of Golden Door’s partner colleges ([linked here](#)).
2. [American Muscle Student Scholarship](#) – October 15, 2021 at 12 PM EST – \$2,500 scholarship open to high school seniors and current college students pursuing an automotive themed major.

3. [Scholarship America Dream Award](#) – October 15, 2021 at 4 PM EST– \$5,000-15,000 renewable scholarships open to current college students with a 3.0+ GPA who will be at the sophomore year level or higher during the 2022-23 academic year. **Open to DACA students, as well as U.S. citizens, and U.S. permanent residents.**
4. [La Unidad Latina Foundation](#) – October 15, 2021 – \$2,000 scholarships available to current undergraduate and graduate Latino students. Application will be available beginning on September 1st. Past criteria for this scholarships have required that students reside in the U.S and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. Applicants must have completed at least one full-time year of study for undergraduate applicants, and at least one full-time semester of study for graduate applicants.
5. [National Young Arts Foundation](#) – October 15, 2021 – Open to students in grades 10-12 who excel in cinematic arts, dance, theater, music, writing, or visual arts. Cash awards up to \$10,000 and master classes with world-renowned artists.
6. [Olin Teague Aerospace Scholarship](#) – October 15, 2021 – \$4,000 scholarship open to high school seniors who are U.S. citizens pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in an aerospace field.
7. [College JumpStart Scholarship](#) – October 17, 2021 – \$1,000 essay-based scholarship open to 10th-12th graders, college students, and non-traditional students. Financial need is not considered.
8. [Heisman High School Scholarship](#) – October 19, 2021 at 6 PM – \$1,000 - \$10,000 scholarships open to current high school senior athletes with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Qualified students will have participated in volunteer service, community involvement, or leadership within his/her school or community.
9. [Coca-Cola Scholarship](#) – October 31, 2021 – \$20,000 selective scholarship open to current high school seniors with a demonstrated capacity to lead and serve. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, nationals, permanent residents, refugees, asylees, Cuban-Haitian entrants, or humanitarian parolees.
10. [AACN Polly Bednash Nursing Scholarship](#) – October 31, 2021 – \$5,000 scholarship open to students with a 3.2+ GPA who are currently enrolled in a BA nursing program at an [AACN member institution](#).
11. [Patriot's Pen Scholarship](#) – October 31, 2021 – \$5,000 essay contest on "How can I be a Good American?" open to students in grades 6-8.
12. [Voice of Democracy Scholarship](#) – October 31, 2021 – \$30,000 maximum scholarship based on the essay prompt "America: Where do we go from here?" open to students in grades 9-12.

November

1. [AGC Education and Research Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship](#) – November 1, 2021 – \$2,500 maximum scholarships available to rising college sophomores and juniors in a four-year program or rising seniors in a five-year program at the time that scholarship is awarded in the fall of 2022. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are full-time students pursuing a B.S. degree in construction or construction-related engineering. Recipients must be enrolled or into enroll in an [ABET](#) or [ACCE](#)-accredited program.
2. [Prudential Emerging Visionaries Scholarship](#) – November 4, 2021 – \$15,000 maximum scholarships open to any visionaries between the ages of 14-18 who are taking on today's toughest financial and societal challenges. Participants must be legal residents of the United States or Puerto Rico.
3. [VMFA Scholarship](#) – November 5, 2021 at 5 PM – \$2,000 - \$6,000 arts scholarships for Virginia college students. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States, as well as residents of Virginia, for at least 24 consecutive months to the deadline.
4. [Herb Block Foundation](#) – November 10, 2021 – \$8,000 maximum scholarships for students attending community college in the DMV area. Last-dollar scholarships to be applied for the spring semester. Scholarship is open to students who are U.S. citizens, permanent residents, DACA recipients, or students who qualify for in-state tuition under the Maryland or VA Dream Act (also known as VA Tuition Equity Provision). Applicants must be primary residents of Washington DC, Maryland (Montgomery or Prince George's County), or Virginia (the cities of Alexandria or Falls Church, or counties of Arlington or Fairfax). Applicants must be attending Northern Virginia Community College, Montgomery College, Prince George's Community College, or the Community College of the District of Columbia.
5. [Regeneron Science Talent Search](#) – November 10, 2021 at 8 PM – Science research competition for high school seniors; awards up to \$250,000.
6. [Robertson Scholars Leadership Program](#) – November 15, 2021 – Full scholarship available to students who are applying (and eventually matriculate) to Duke University and/or University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Only for students who are currently high school seniors or students taking a gap year who have not previously matriculated to a college or university other than UNC Chapel Hill or Duke University.
7. [Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards](#) – November 15, 2021 – \$1,000 - \$10,000 scholarships open to women who provide primary financial support to themselves and their dependents and face economic and personal hardships.
8. [James Allen Cox Foundation for Photojournalists](#) – November 15, 2021 – Digital cameras awarded to current high school students and \$2,500 scholarships awarded to current college students submitting still photographs or videos.

9. [Concerto Competition for High School Musicians](#) – November 15, 2021 – \$500 - \$2,500 scholarships open to musicians in grades 9-12.
10. [ELKS Most Valuable Student](#) – November 15, 2021 – \$1,000 - \$12,500 renewable scholarships for high school seniors who are U.S. citizens by the date of submission who exhibit leadership and financial need.
11. [Jack Kent Cooke College Scholarship](#) – November 18, 2021 – \$40,000 per year renewable scholarship open to high school seniors with a minimum, cumulative unweighted 3.5+ GPA and a family income no greater than \$95,000. Applicants must intend to enroll in an accredited four-year college or university beginning in fall 2022.
12. [Smithsonian Photo Contest](#) – November 30, 2021 – \$500 - \$2,500 photo contest open to students 18 or older.
13. [Auger & Auger Disabled Scholarship](#) – November 30, 2021 – \$1,000 essay scholarship available for students who are high school seniors or current undergraduate students with a minimum GPA of 2.8.

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