External Scholarships are scholarships awarded by employers, individuals, companies, high schools, religious groups, and professional associations independently of Auburn University. Criteria for External Scholarships vary greatly from scholarship to scholarship, but generally include academic performance, financial need, religious affiliation, minority status, heritage, community affiliations, or other unique criteria important to the sponsoring individual or organization. Students are encouraged to pursue as many External Scholarships as possible. Although Auburn University does not limit the number or amount of External Scholarships a student can receive, External Scholarships received may affect the amount of federal financial aid for which a student is eligible.

Independent Search Engines
There are hundreds of independent scholarship search engines on the Internet, some of them more reliable and legitimate than others. Students should not have to pay for a scholarship search or to apply for a scholarship, though they may have to “register” with an email address. Here are a few reputable resources:

- BlackExcel.org
  This website is a great resource for underrepresented students (students of color, women, and first-generation college students) and a list of more than 200 scholarships with a variety of opportunities.

- CollegeBoard.org/scholarships
  College Board, the same company that administers the PSAT, SAT, and AP tests, has a great database that allows students to input details for a tailored search based on gender, location, interests, and affiliations.

- CollegeScholarships.org
  This website allows students to browse scholarships based on minority status, degree level, academic interest, geography, student type, or athletic ability. CollegeScholarships.org also sponsors several scholarships.

- Edsive.com
  Visit this website for insight regarding FAFSA completion, student employment, and student loans, as well as information on applying for scholarships, fellowships, and grants.

- Fastweb.com
  One of the largest and widely known scholarship search engines in the United States, FastWeb offers advice on how to apply for scholarships, complete the FAFSA, and search for scholarships for all types of students.

- Scholarships.com
  Several scholarships are listed in an easy-to-use format with opportunities ranked based on a personal profile.

- ScholarshipExperts.com
  This extensive database is updated regularly and has information for undergraduate and graduate students.

- ScholarshipsAndGrants.us
  A great resource for students looking for additional scholarship money, this website has an easy-to-use layout that divides scholarships into majors and interests.

Scholarship Announcements
The Office of University Scholarships routinely receives information regarding the availability of certain External Scholarships. Information about these scholarships is posted on Facebook and Twitter. To receive scholarship announcements via social media, like Auburn University Scholarships on Facebook and follow @AUScholarships on Twitter.

Scholarship Resource Books
A number of scholarship resource books to guide you in your search are available at your local library or bookstore. For a list of recommended books, visit auburn.edu/scholarship.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
Some External Scholarship donors may require students demonstrate financial need. Students are encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* at fafsa.ed.gov beginning in October of each year to receive consideration for all need-based scholarships, grants, and loans. Check with the External Scholarship donor to determine if completion of the FAFSA is required when applying.

Enrollment and Academic Verification
Occasionally, External Scholarship donors require proof of enrollment prior to sending funds. Students should contact the Office of the Registrar for information on requesting enrollment verification. External Scholarship donors may also require current Auburn students to provide proof of academic standing to continue to receive funding. Students should contact the Office of the Registrar for information on requesting an official transcript. The Office of the Registrar is located in Langdon Hall, and students should call 334-844-4770 or visit auburn.edu/registrar.

For more information and additional External Scholarship resources, visit auburn.edu/scholarship.

*The FAFSA is the only form a student is required to complete to be considered for student assistance from any of the Title IV HEA programs, except for information needed to ensure the student’s eligibility (e.g., information needed to complete verification or to demonstrate compliance with the student eligibility provisions of the HEA and the regulations). Additional information, if requested, will be listed on the student’s AU Access My Finances page after results of the FAFSA are received. For additional information, visit auburn.edu/finaid.