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 e-mail address. Here are a few reputable search engines.

- **BlackExcel.org**  
  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**  
  CollegeScholarships.org allows students to browse scholarships based on minority status, degree level, academic interest, geography, student type, or athletic ability. CollegeScholarships.org also has several scholarships they sponsor.

- **Edvisors.com**  
  Edvisors.com provides insight regarding FAFSA completion, student employment, and student loans as well as 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.

- **Nerdwallet.com/nerdScholar**  
  NerdScholar allows students to review available scholarships based on degree level, geography, ethnicity, and gender, in addition to an optional keyword search. This resource has listings for undergraduate and graduate students, and scholarships may be sorted by award amount or application deadline.

- **Scholarships.com**  
  Scholarships.com provides several scholarships in an easy-to-use format where opportunities are ranked based on a personal profile.

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

- **ScholarshipsAndGrants.us**  
  ScholarshipsAndGrants.us is a great resource for students looking for additional scholarship money. This resource 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 are available at your local library or bookstore to guide you in your scholarship search. For a list of recommended scholarship resource books, please 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)* online at fafsa.ed.gov beginning in January 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.

### External Scholarship Donors
External Scholarship donors should send payments for Auburn University students to the Office of University Scholarships. Scholarship checks made payable to Auburn University and the student or to the student only require student endorsement before they can be applied to the student’s university billing account. If a scholarship check requires student endorsement, the Office of University Scholarships will contact the student via the student’s university e-mail address. All External Scholarship checks should include the student’s full name and student identification number.

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

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*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 for such assistance (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 FAFSA Financial Aid Requirements page after the student’s FAFSA results are reviewed. For additional information, visit auburn.edu/finaid.