

Applying for a scholarship in Australia can be a tricky process.

### **There is nothing better than free money**

Scholarship applications are somewhat similar to your standard college application. You have to put time, energy, and research into locating and applying for college scholarships, but the payoff of receiving scholarship funds heavily outweighs the time and energy in applying for them.

### **Application Advice**

Do your homework. It is helpful to research the scholarship and find previous applicants. If you happen to know anyone who received the scholarship funds, it might be useful to see how they wrote their application essay. It really comes down to using your common sense and following the directions. Scholarship chairs are sophisticated individuals, gear your essay(s) to the Chair of record for your scholarship.

### **Plan Ahead and Research Early**

The more potential scholarships you find the better chance you will have in getting a scholarship funded! Below is a step by step process in for the application process:

- Locate scholarship leads through your school and searching online.
- Any questions - contact the scholarship sponsors. **DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK!**

- Sort through and cut the leads list down to ones that you think are applicable to you.
- Request any additional information and or materials.
- Don't leave items blank - If you don't know, again contact the sponsor.
- Complete, proofread, proofread again, and submit your applications as early as possible. It has been shown that early applications are read first.

### **Organize All Scholarship Materials**

Make a list of all scholarship deadlines. Also most scholarships require providing some of below documents:

- Transcript
- Standardized test scores
- Financial aid forms, such as the FAFSA or PROFILE
- Parent's financial information, including tax returns
- One or more essays
- One or more letters of recommendation
- Proof of eligibility (e.g. membership credentials)

Don't forget to proofread your application, spell check, and have another person such as your teacher, friend or mentor look over your essay.

### **Have back ups**

Make sure to make copies of all your documents and save your application and have it readily available. There have been recorded nightmare stories where sponsors claimed they never got the application and the student did not have back up copy to provide the scholarship sponsor. Keeping a backup will also allow you to easily apply to multiple scholarships at once.