

# EducationQuest Foundation

# College Planning Bulletin

*A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students*

February 2020

---

## Seniors...make sure you complete the FAFSA process

Getting financial aid for college involves more than completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete each step of the process so that you don't miss out on money for college.

1. **If you haven't already, complete your 2020-21 FAFSA** at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) using 2018 income tax data. Before you start, you and a parent must each get an FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov) as you'll need them to access and sign your FAFSA.
2. **Expect a Student Aid Report (SAR) via an email link.** The SAR acknowledges that your FAFSA was received and lets you know if you need to take further action before the form can be processed.
3. **You might receive a verification notice** from the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA requesting documents to verify your FAFSA information. The college will not process your financial aid until you provide required documents.
4. **Watch for financial aid award notifications.** Once you're accepted for admission to the colleges you listed on your FAFSA, they will notify you of the types and amounts of financial aid they're offering.

Watch your email and student portal carefully for important details about admission and financial aid.

---

## What you need to know about scholarships

Most scholarships are based on academics, but others are based on community service, school involvement, or talent. Some are based on financial need as determined by the results of your FAFSA.

Here's where to look for scholarships:

1. **[ScholarshipQuest](https://www.educationquest.org) at EducationQuest.org** houses over 2,000 Nebraska-based scholarships. After you create a profile, you'll be matched with scholarships that fit your criteria.
2. **Your school counselor's office.** Visit regularly to check on local and national awards.
3. **The college you plan to attend.** Contact the school for a list of scholarships they provide and the application procedures.
4. **National search sites** such as [College Board](https://collegeboard.org), [Peterson's](https://petersons.com), and [Chegg](https://chegg.com).
5. **Other resources** could include your coach, clubs and organizations, and your parents' employers and civic organizations.

[Click here](#) for more details about scholarships and tips to help you complete a successful application.

---

## Two easy-to-apply-for scholarships from EducationQuest

Nebraska students in grades 9-12 are invited to pursue these \$500 scholarships from EducationQuest:

**Get Social Scholarship** – By following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), you can enter into a drawing for a \$500 scholarship each time we hit another 250 followers. [Click here](#) for details.

**Scavenger Hunt Scholarship** – Create a [ScholarshipQuest](#) profile at EducationQuest.org and then scavenge around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions on a survey. The deadline to apply is **March 31**. We'll draw two winners from those who answer all questions correctly. [Click here](#) for details.

---

## February “To Do” List

### Seniors:

- \_\_\_ If you haven't already, complete the [FAFSA](#).
- \_\_\_ Expect financial aid award notifications from the colleges you listed on your FAFSA.
- \_\_\_ Apply for scholarships.

### Juniors:

- \_\_\_ Start preparing for the ACT. Here are [test-prep resources](#) to consider.
  - \_\_\_ [Register](#) by February 14 for the March 14 SAT.
  - \_\_\_ [Register](#) by February 28 for the April 4 ACT.
- 

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Omaha	Lincoln	Kearney	Scottsbluff
402-391-4033	402-475-5222	308-234-6310	800-303-3745 ext. 6654
888-357-6300	800-303-3745	800-666-3721	

[EducationQuest.org](#)

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!

*Your Journey to College Begins with Us*