

# **SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER**

## **(3rd Edition 2011-12)**

Attn. Seniors! Throughout the 2011-12 school year, the guidance staff will be providing you with newsletters which contain scholarship opportunities. After reading this bulletin, you can apply for all scholarships in which you are eligible. At the top of each newsletter, you will be instructed exactly how you can obtain an application for each specific scholarship. The different ways in which you may need to pursue an application are as follows:

- 1) stopping-by the Guidance Office to receive a paper application;
- 2) you may be able to download a hard copy of the application by accessing this newsletter thru our district website ([www.esasd.net](http://www.esasd.net)); or
- 3) visiting the scholarship provider's website to either download an application or to submit it electronically. For students without internet access, the Career Lab is open after-school Mondays thru Fridays from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM.

You also will be able to access each scholarship newsletter on-line at [www.esasd.net](http://www.esasd.net). The link for each newsletter will appear on the district's homepage under "Informational Links". In a few instances, the on-line newsletter will provide students with the ability to access a scholarship's application and print it from home by clicking on the scholarship's name.

Please be sure to follow all the instructions on the scholarship applications carefully. The Guidance Staff cannot be responsible for applications which are invalidated due to missing or incomplete information. ***It is also important to adhere to the deadlines listed on the scholarship newsletter not the deadlines listed on the scholarship applications.*** For most scholarships, the deadlines listed on the newsletter are in advance of the deadlines on the scholarship applications in order to allow for enough time for the guidance staff to process and mail all materials. ***Failing to adhere to a deadline on the scholarship newsletter will result in your application not receiving consideration.*** All completed applications must be returned to the Guidance Office unless otherwise specified in the newsletter. For instance, more and more scholarship applications are now available on-line and must be submitted electronically.

Many scholarship opportunities during the fall and winter will be national or state competitions. The majority of local scholarship competitions occur in the late winter and early spring. The guidance staff strongly recommends that students use these newsletters as only one source in their search for financial aid. Students should still be contacting colleges regarding scholarship and grant opportunities, as well as applying for state and federal grants and becoming eligible for student loans through completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after January 1, 2012.

**UPDATE:** Students can also conduct their own independent scholarship search by searching scholarship websites on the internet. See last page of the scholarship newsletter for a listing of websites which contain scholarship search engines. These scholarship search engines are a list of recommended resources as per the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA). Ben Kaplan, who is a nationally recognized scholarship expert, recently presented a scholarship seminar at ESHS-North. Additionally, Mr. Kaplan's website [www.cityofcollegedreams.org](http://www.cityofcollegedreams.org) also has a listing of scholarship search engines. To obtain these additional resources, you need to visit the above website and create an account.

Good luck in your pursuit of dollars for college!

## **Scholarship Newsletter**

*Scholarships # 8, 11, 13, 15, 19, 22 applications must be obtained online only.*

*Scholarship # 9, 12, 14, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 application can be obtained in the Guidance Office*

*Scholarship # 16, 18 application can be obtained on-line or in the Guidance Office*

*Scholarship# 10 application must be obtained directly from scholarship provider*

### **8) AXA Achievement Community Scholarship**

**Eligibility:** Students, who are active in their communities; have led projects that benefit others; or who have overcome a personal challenge may qualify. Applications available at [www.axa-achievement.com](http://www.axa-achievement.com).

#### **Criteria:**

- Ambition and drive
- Determination to set and reach goals
- Respect for self, family and community
- Ability to succeed in college

**Awards:** Up to 375 winners nationwide; scholarships of \$2,000

**Deadline: February 1, 2012 – On-line Submissions Only**

### **9) Music Study Club of the Stroudsburgs Scholarship**

**Eligibility:** Graduating senior who has been accepted as a music major at an accredited university. The applicant must have lived at least one year in Monroe County. *Exception: a student from outside Monroe County, who has been studying with a teacher, who is a member of the Music Study Club of the Stroudsburgs, is also eligible. The student must have studied with the teacher for a minimum of two years.*

#### **Criteria:**

- Letters of Recommendation (follow guidelines on application)
- Conditional letters of acceptance from universities
- Completed application and audio tape or CD (follow guidelines on application)
- Be prepared to submit 2 wallet-size photos and a written biography if you are selected

**Award:** (1) \$700

**Deadline: Students must submit completed applications & all required materials directly to the Music Club of the Stroudsburgs by March 1, 2012**

## **10) United Steelworkers of America Hugh Carcella Scholarship Program**

**Eligibility:** Applicant must be a member or the son, daughter, or legal ward of a United Steelworkers of America, District 10 (Eastern) local union that participates in this scholarship program. Students also can be the son, daughter, or legal ward for a disabled, retired, or deceased United Steelworkers member as long as the member left in good standing. All applicants must be pursuing a four-year program at a college or university; however, acceptance to a two-year community college is acceptable if applicant is planning to matriculate toward a four-year Bachelor's degree.

*Hugh Carcella Scholarship applications are only available, upon request, from participating local Steelworkers of America unions. There are no applications for this scholarship in the Guidance Office.*

### **Criteria:**

- academic achievement including SAT scores (submit official h.s. transcript with completed application)
- interviews may be requested
- signature of president or recording secretary of the respective local union must be on the application

**Award:** (6) \$1,000 per year renewable scholarships (total value per scholarship \$4,000)

**Deadline:** **March 15, 2012 postmark deadline – Mail directly to the scholarship provider**

## **11) Sun Trust Off To College Scholarship Sweepstakes**

**Eligibility:** Graduating seniors planning to attend an accredited University or College in Fall 2012. No purchase necessary to apply. Application for the Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes available at [www.offtocollege.info](http://www.offtocollege.info)

**Criteria:** Student completes the brief sweepstakes registration form and submits on-line.

**Award:** \$1000 (one winner chosen every 2 weeks starting Oct. 28, 2011 and ending May 11, 2012).

**Deadline:** Rolling Applications – **On-line Submissions Only**

## **12) Monroe County Association of Educational Office Professionals**

**Eligibility:** East Stroudsburg Area High School-North & South seniors who plan to attend a two-year or four-year college in Office Administration, Secretarial Science Programs and/or Business Administration.  
**Applications available in the Guidance Office.**

### **Criteria:**

- High school transcript
- Resume (include scholastic qualifications, activities, community service, hobbies, employment, etc.)

**Award:** (1-ESHS-S & 1-ESHS-N) \$200

Deadline: **March 23, 2012 due to the Guidance Office**

### **13) KFC Colonel's Scholars**

Eligibility: Graduating seniors with a 2.75 minimum GPA and who possess financial need and plan to pursue a bachelor's degree at a public institution within their legal state of residence. On-line applications are available starting December 1, 2011 at [www.kfcscholars.org](http://www.kfcscholars.org)

Criteria:

- School Activities
- Academics
- Financial Need
- Leadership
- Recommendation

Award: Up to \$5,000 per year for tuition, fees, textbooks, room and board.

Deadline: **February 8, 2012 – Applications Submitted On-Line**

### **14) Italian Mutual Benefit Association of Stroudsburg Scholarship**

Eligibility: Graduating senior in a Monroe county, Bangor, or Pius X high school. Student must be in the upper 25% of his/her graduating class and be at least 25% Italian ethnic origin. Student must also be accepted as a full-time student in a baccalaureate degree (four-year) program at an accredited college or university. Applications can be obtained in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Essay – “What my Italian Heritage Means to Me” – Committee places major emphasis on essay!
- School and community activities
- Copy of Official High School Transcript

Award: (3) \$1,500 scholarships

Deadline: **February 15, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **15) Pennsylvania State Employees Credit Union (PSECU) Scholarship**

Eligibility: Seniors who are or who become members of the PSECU by Dec. 30, 2011. To be eligible for this scholarship, the student must be a primary account holder with the PSECU. If students are not currently members of the PSECU, they can discover if they are eligible for membership by calling 1-800-237-7328 or by going online at [www.psecu.com/eligibility](http://www.psecu.com/eligibility). Once a student is a PSECU member, they can download a scholarship application at [www.psecu.com/scholarships](http://www.psecu.com/scholarships) or they can call PSECU directly at 1-800-237-7328 to request a scholarship application.

Criteria:

- Academic Profile
- Awards/Honors
- School/Work/Civic/other activities

- Essay

Award: (6) \$6,000 scholarships

Deadline: **February 14, 2011 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **17) Lehigh Valley Chapter of the PA Society of Professional Engineers Scholarship**

Eligibility: Local high school seniors who are pursuing a college degree and later a career in engineering. Students must also possess a 3.6 or higher GPA and the following minimum SAT scores: Critical Reading – 500 & Math– 600. Applications can be obtained in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Activities & Honors
- GPA & Strength of Curriculum (include official copy of high school transcript along with copy of school profile)
- A copy of your SAT scores
- Essay on “My interest in Engineering”

Award: Last Year (5) \$5,000 scholarships were awarded

Deadline: **February 13, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **18) Lehigh Valley Section of the Society of Women Engineers Scholarship**

Eligibility: Local female graduating seniors who plan to major in engineering at an ABET-accredited engineering college or university beginning Fall 2012. Applications can be obtained in Guidance or on-line at [www.swe.org/regione/sections/E002LHV](http://www.swe.org/regione/sections/E002LHV)

Criteria:

- Extracurricular activities (emphasize your teamwork & leadership roles as well as any science/math/engineering activities in which you participated)
- Academic achievement/scholarship (attach a copy of your high school transcript)
- Essay
- Leadership & Teamwork
- Recommendation Form
- Letter of acceptance to an accredited engineering college or university

Award: Several scholarships ranging up to \$5,000

Deadline: **January 31, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **19) GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program**

Eligibility: College bound seniors who are a citizen of the US and who demonstrate exemplary leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship. Applications can be obtained and submitted on line at <http://www.reaganfoundation.org/GE-RFScholarships.aspx>.

Criteria:

- Be nominated by an eligible community leader such as a high school principal, elected official or executive director of a non-profit organization.
- Be recommended by an authority figure such as a student activity advisor, community service coordinator, coach, employer, teacher, counselor, or religious leader.
- Demonstrate strong academic performance ( 3.0 GPA or higher)
- Demonstrate financial need

Award: (20) \$10,000 renewable scholarships

Deadline: **February 17, 2012 (Applications Submitted On-Line Only)**

### **20) Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers Scholarship**

Eligibility: A senior student who is a dependent child of an employee or director for a Pennsylvania Assoc. of Community Bankers (PACB) member institution (e.g. Monroe County -East Stroudsburg Saving Assoc., Keystone Nazareth Bank & Trust, etc.-see application for a complete listing of member banks). The PACB employee or director must work a minimum of 1,000 hours per year and have been employed by a PACB member institution for 2 years. An additional eligibility criterion for children of deceased PACB members is detailed in the scholarship application. The student must be accepted for full-time enrollment at a college, university, or community college only. Applications are available in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Academic Achievement (G.P.A. + SAT/ACT scores) – Main factor used in selection process!
- Extracurricular Activities & Community Service
- Work Experience
- Financial Need
- Essay
- Official high school transcript & copy of SAT/ACT scores

Award: (5) \$1,000 renewable scholarships

Deadline: **February 3, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **21) Sallie Mae/Brandon Teacher Scholarship**

Eligibility: A Pennsylvania graduating senior who will be majoring in education at an accredited college or university starting in the Fall of 2012. Applications can be obtained in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Academic achievement (student must submit official high school transcript with completed application)
- Extra-curricular activities including employment
- Honors & awards
- Financial need

- Two letters of recommendation
- Essay describing the specific person, situation, or event which impacted the applicant's decision to pursue a degree in education

Award: (4) \$1,000 to PA residents

Deadline: **February 8, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

## **22) Best Buy Scholarship**

Eligibility: Scholarships are awarded to graduating high school students in grades 9-12 who will be attending a college, university or vocational school in the U.S. or Puerto Rico in the fall immediately following their high school graduation. Applications must be obtained on-line at <https://bestbuy.scholarshipamerica.org/>

Criteria:

- academic achievement (min. 2.5 GPA)
- volunteerism efforts
- work experience

Award: (1200) \$1,000

Deadline: **February 15, 2012 (Applications Submitted On-Line Only)**

## **23) Pocono Builders Association**

Eligibility: A local graduating senior who is pursuing further education in any of the building trades such as construction management, architect, interior design, drafting/architecture, engineering, surveyor, electrician, plumber, etc. The student must plan to attend a college, trade, technical, or career school in one of the related programs listed above. Applications can be attained in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- high school transcript
- letter of acceptance from post-secondary school
- counselor letter of recommendation
- one page essay on why you are applying for this scholarship

Award: Scholarships up to \$1,000

Deadline: **February 21, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

## **24) Stanley Becker Environmental Resource Scholarship**

Eligibility: Graduating senior who is a resident of Monroe County and must be accepted to a college or university. The student must also be pursuing a major in an environmental resource/conservation related field. Applications available in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Academic Achievement
- Letter of recommendation from a teacher or other individual familiar with your interests/activities related to conservation.
- Letter of Acceptance to college
- A brief narrative stating what you believe is Monroe County's most important natural resource and what may be done to protect it.

Award: (1) \$500

Deadline: **March 1, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **25) The Monroe County Garden Club Scholarship**

Eligibility: A graduating senior from a Monroe county high school who is interested in the field of horticulture, floriculture, landscape architecture, conservation, forestry, biology, botany, agronomy, plant pathology, environmental control, city planning, land management, or environmental education.

Applications are available in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- financial need
- scholastic ability (attach official transcript)
- character
- essay

Award: (1) \$500 scholarship

Deadline: **March 16, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

### **26) A. Mitchell Palmer Scholarship (sponsored by Monroe County Bar Association & East Stroudsburg Elks #319)**

Eligibility: Monroe county residents who will graduate at the conclusion of the 2011-12 school year and who intend to pursue a career in law, public safety, or community service. Applications are available in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Class Rank
- Essay on Community Service
- SAT Scores
- Community Activities
- School Activities
- Awards
- Family Income

Award: (3) \$1,000

Deadline: **March 21, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

## **27) J.M. Hill PTO Scholarships**

Eligibility: An East Stroudsburg High School-South senior who has attended J.M. Hill Elementary/East Stroudsburg (North Courtland) Elementary School for at least two years. This student must have a 3.0 GPA and be planning to attend a two or four-year college or trade school. Applications are available in the Guidance Office.

Criteria:

- Essay: What my J.M. Hill/North Courtland/East Stroudsburg (North Courtland) Elementary Education has meant to me-- Remember to put your name at the top of the essay
- Attach high school transcript to the essay.

Award: (2) \$500

Deadline: **April 2, 2012 (Return to the Guidance Office)**

## **2012 Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide**

Scholarships, grants, and loan opportunities primarily for Masons, their siblings, children, grandchildren, and members of the Masonic-related youth groups. Resource guide and applications can be found on the internet at [www.pmyf.org](http://www.pmyf.org).

## **2012 The American Legion Scholarships & the College Financial Aid Handbook, "Need A Lift?"**

A description of scholarship opportunities and a link to the 150 page resource book called, "Need a Lift". This publication lists scholarships, grants, and loans for which student's may qualify. It contains extensive information on scholarships for veteran's dependents. This information can be accessed on-line at [www.needalift.org](http://www.needalift.org)

# **SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH SITES**

[www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/index.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/index.html) Free scholarship search

[www.blackexcel.org/100minority.htm](http://www.blackexcel.org/100minority.htm) Free minority scholarship search

[www.brokescholar.com](http://www.brokescholar.com) Free scholarship search

[www.collegenet.com/mach25](http://www.collegenet.com/mach25) Database of over 600,000 awards totaling over \$1.6 billion

[www.collegetreasure.com/scholarengine.html](http://www.collegetreasure.com/scholarengine.html) Free scholarship search

[www.educationplanner.org](http://www.educationplanner.org) Premier college and career planning website, national college search, essay writer, resume writer, college admission and decision guidance, financial aid information, calculators for EFC and loan repayment, free scholarship search and much more!

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) Free scholarship search

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) Information about scholarship process, financial aid, scholarship scams, and links to fastweb.com scholarship base

[www.financialaidfinder.com](http://www.financialaidfinder.com) List of scholarships and financial aid information

[www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net) Hispanic Scholarship Fund

[www.iefaf.org](http://www.iefaf.org) International Education Financial Aid. The IEFA Center offers financial aid, college scholarships, grants and awards search for international students studying abroad.

[www.internationalscholarships.com](http://www.internationalscholarships.com) Information on financial aid, college scholarships and international scholarships for students wishing to study abroad.

[www.naacp.org/page/s/scholarship2](http://www.naacp.org/page/s/scholarship2) NAACP scholarship information and application