

**RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT – SENIOR NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER, 2009

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It's been a very busy few months, and you have all made progress toward your goals for next year. Below you will find additional information about scholarships and what you should be currently be doing in your college application/career search process.

**Can I start the FAFSA?** You can begin the process now by getting pin numbers for the FAFSA forms which may NOT be completed before January 1, 2010. Go to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) to register. It takes several weeks to receive your pin number in the mail but when you get it you can then access all of the information that you need online. Keep your pin number in a safe place as you will be using it for the next four years of college. It is best to request two pin numbers, one for the student and one for the parents. If you have both, you can use the pin for signatures when filing for your FAFSA on-line. If not, after you file on-line, a copy will have to be mailed for you to sign. I have a limited supply of FAFSA applications in the guidance office. Please see me if you would like a paper copy or you can go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) (DO NOT go to [www.fafsa.ed.com](http://www.fafsa.ed.com) because there is a charge for using this site to file).

**Do I need to file my FAFSA in January?** Yes. The earlier you apply and are accepted at a college, the better your chances of getting financial aid. This is especially important for private colleges. Even if your parents' tax forms do not qualify you for aid, many colleges require the FAFSA to initiate the scholarship process. If you are accepted to more than one college, you can work out aid packages with each school and decide based on the financial offers. You can attempt to present the different financial aid packages to the colleges that accept you to see if they can offer you what you need. FAFSA is not available to colleges yet, but they have forms you complete which give them an estimated number, EFC (Estimated Family Contribution), which may make you eligible for grants, loans, and scholarships.

**WE ARE HOSTING A FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 6:00 AT THE HIGH SCHOOL. Please r.s.v.p. to the guidance office at 267-3255.**

**Where are all of the scholarships?** Most scholarships will come from the colleges to which you've applied. You should NOT wait for an acceptance letter. Contact the colleges and ask for scholarship applications. Some colleges will automatically put you in the running and send you forms when they see your transcript and application. Others may wait for you to request scholarship information. Many scholarships can be found for free using scholarship search sites such as: [www.TuitionFundingSources.com](http://www.TuitionFundingSources.com), [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com), [www.brokescholar.com](http://www.brokescholar.com), [www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com), [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com). There are many other websites listed on the guidance website under the heading "College Anyone?"

You will find all current scholarship opportunities listed below. If you are interested in a specific scholarship please come to the guidance office and get more information from the scholarship binder. If you are willing to put time into research and writing essays, you will have the possibility of winning several scholarships.

**Things you need to be doing now:**

- Know each college or university's application deadline
- Find out whether the school has a required secondary school report form to be completed by a guidance counselor
- If so, attach it to a transcript request and get it to Mrs. Webster **two weeks** before the deadline
- Give transcript requests to Mrs. Webster **two weeks** before the deadline
- Ask teachers for reference letters and give them at least **two weeks** notice. Remember to write a thank you note to each teacher who writes you a recommendation letter.
- Complete college applications
- Write essays (if required)
- Work on scholarship applications for which you are interested
- Talk with Mrs. Schumann if you think you might be attending a community college next year or if your plans are uncertain

## Scholarship Opportunities

Below is a list of all scholarships listed by deadline. First you will see scholarships presented previously that are still available. You will then see all new scholarship opportunities. If you would like more information or a scholarship application (if available) please see Mrs. Webster in the guidance office or call 267-3257.

- **Suntrust Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes:** \$1,000 scholarship to the college of your choice; not based on GPA or financial need; fifteen chances to win – one winner chosen every two weeks from October to May; no specific qualifications – go online to [offtocollege.info](http://offtocollege.info) to register
  - Can begin to register on Sept. 14 and first drawing takes place Oct. 30
- **Principal's Leadership Award:** Must be in top 20% of class; must demonstrate leadership ability; go to [www.applyists.net](http://www.applyists.net) and complete the nomination form; Access key is PLA
  - All applications due to guidance by Monday, 11/30 to be postmarked by 12/4
- **AXA Achievement Scholarship:** Must demonstrate ambition and self-drive as evidenced by outstanding achievement in an activity in school, the community, or workplace; \$10,000 or \$25,000 award
  - All applications due 12/15/2009
- **Create a Christmas Card:** Students must be 14 years or older; go to <http://www.gallerycollection.com/christmas-cards-scholarship3.thm>
  - The Contest begins at 12:01:00 a.m. Eastern Time ("ET") March 17, 2009 and ends at 11:59:59 p.m. ET, January 15, 2010
- **Better Business Bureau Student of Integrity:** \$1,000 scholarship to college of your choice; students who exemplify high ethics through leadership, community service, and overall personal integrity; need to have a 3.0 GPA to apply
  - All materials must be submitted no later than Jan. 30, 2010
- **American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship:** All high school students; speech competition; must demonstrate knowledge of the United States Constitution and its applications; district competitions to be completed in January, following the local post contest
- **Lee-Jackson Scholarship Program:** 27 scholarships are available to Virginia high school juniors and seniors submitting outstanding analytical essays on any aspect--positive or negative--of the career, character, or legacy of General Robert E. Lee and/or General "Stonewall" Jackson; must be pursuing a bachelor's degree from a 4 year institution; for more information go to <http://www.lee-jackson.org>
  - Complete application and essay due to guidance on December 18<sup>th</sup>
- **SAE Engineering Scholarships:** High school seniors; many different scholarships for students enrolling in an engineering program; first complete the qualification process, then you will see the scholarships for which you qualify, then download and complete applications; Go to [www.students.sae.org/awdscholar/scholarships/](http://www.students.sae.org/awdscholar/scholarships/)
  - Most SAE Scholarships are due by January 15<sup>th</sup> (check individual deadlines)
- **National ACT High School Poster Concept Contest:** High school juniors and seniors; design a poster (including visuals and tag line) that encourages students to attend college and to take the ACT test as their entrance exam; visit [www.actstudent.org/postercontest](http://www.actstudent.org/postercontest) to download and print the Official Entry Form
  - All materials must be submitted by 1/30/2010
- **Burger King Scholars: This is a change – you may no longer apply online (see Mrs. Webster for applications):** 1,000 awards that can be used for educational expenses, tuition, fees and books during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of college or post-secondary vocational/technical school; must have a 2.5 GPA or higher; must work part-time for a minimum of 10 hours/week or 40 weeks per year; be actively involved in community service activities; demonstrate financial need; plan to enroll in a **two or four year** school next fall; Receive written recommendations and signature from a school official and an employer recommendation; application available in guidance
  - All materials must be submitted to guidance by **Monday, Dec. 7**

## New Scholarship Opportunities

- **Gates Millennium Scholars:** Seniors; GPA of 3.3 or earned GED; African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American that will enroll full-time in a college or university; demonstrated leadership abilities; must meet Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria and have a teacher/counselor nomination. Go to [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org) for more info.
  - All materials due January 11, 2010.

- **American Fire Sprinkler Association:** Seniors; \$500-\$1500 awards; must write a 700-1000 essay; applications can be found at [www.afsavirginia.com](http://www.afsavirginia.com). For more info on the national contest go to [www.firesprinkler.org](http://www.firesprinkler.org).
  - All materials due February 1, 2010
- The following “9 Scholarships are awarded through The Community Foundation of the New River Valley. Visit [www.cfnrv.org](http://www.cfnrv.org) for more info and see Mrs. Webster for applications.
  - Applications due by Feb. 8th, 2010 for all scholarships
  1. **The Auxiliary of Radford Community Hospital:** Applicants pursuing a career in nursing or a related health profession (excluding those who intend on becoming a physician). Based on financial need, average or above average academic ability. Renewable scholarship, typical award \$1,000.
  2. **The T. Scott Eaton Scholarship:** Applicants pursuing a post-secondary degree in theater or fine arts. Based on financial need, minimum GPA of 2.0. Scholarship award \$500.
  3. **The Warren Lloyd Holtzman Freedom Scholarship:** Applicants pursuing education at a college, university, or post-secondary vocational school. Based on financial need, minimum GPA of 2.5. Applicants must submit an additional essay about the benefits to society of personal freedom, initiative, calculated risk-taking and free enterprise system. Minimum of 500 words, maximum of 2,000 words. Typical award \$900 for a two-year institution, \$1,800 for a four-year institution.
  4. **The Allen Mandelstamm Scholarship:** Applicants pursuing a post-secondary degree at a college/university or post high school college prep institution. Based on financial need, minimum 2.5 GPA. Typical award \$1,000.
  5. **The Marie Madelstamm Scholarship:** Applicants pursuing a post-secondary degree in the sciences to include math, engineering, biology and computers. Based on financial need, minimum GPA 3.0. Renewable scholarship, typical award \$1,000 to \$2,000.
  6. **The A. Phillip Meadows Leadership Scholarship:** Applicants pursuing a post-secondary degree at Virginia Tech. Based on financial need, strong academic achievement, demonstrated leadership qualities and strong potential for continued growth and development, active involvement and participation in school, church and/or community service. Typical award \$500.
  7. **The Adrienne Marie Rhudy Memorial Scholarship:** Applicants pursuing a post-secondary degree at a two or four year college or university. Based on demonstrated ability to overcome adversity, minimum GPA of 2.5. Applicants must submit an additional essay demonstrating his/her ability to overcome adversity and to be strengthened thereby. Title and mention name of scholarship in your essay. Typical award \$1,700.
  8. **The Eric E. Sutphin Memorial Scholarship:** Applicants must have parent or legal guardian who a law enforcement officer is serving the New River Valley. Applicants pursuing post-secondary education at any college (2 or 4 year) or any university or any accredited vocational or technical program. Based on documented financial need, minimum GPA of 2.5 or equivalent academic achievement. Typical award \$500.
  9. **The Wings Fund:** Applicants pursuing education at a college, university, or post-secondary vocational school. Older and nontraditional students are encouraged to apply. Based on financial need. Typical award \$1,000.
- **KFC’s Colonel’s Scholars:** Seniors; have a GPA of 2.75 or higher; must enroll in a public, in-state college next year and pursue a bachelor’s degree whether in a 2 or 4 year college; up to \$5,000/year for tuition, fees, books, room and board. Go to [www.kfscholars.org](http://www.kfscholars.org) to complete an online application
  - Application is available December 1, 2009 – February 10, 2010.
- **Virginia Golf Foundation Scholarship:** High school seniors; must play/have an interest in golf; must be planning to attend college in Virginia
  - All materials due Feb. 26, 2010
- **Intermarkets, Inc. Scholarship:** Seniors planning to major in journalism; must provide two published articles or graded essays that reflect your writing style; must submit two separate essays; award \$5,000; go to [www.intermarkets.net/scholarship](http://www.intermarkets.net/scholarship) for more info.
  - All materials due April 2, 2010.
- **Abbott & Fenner Scholarship:** Up to \$1000 each year; high school juniors and seniors; must write essay; go to [www.abbottandfenner.com](http://www.abbottandfenner.com) for more info.
  - All materials due June 19, 2010.
- **Big Sun Scholarship:** Senior athletes; must submit essay; go to [www.bigsunathletics.com](http://www.bigsunathletics.com) for more info; award \$500.
  - All materials due June 24, 2010