



Scholarship Workshop

for International Students
planning to attend the University of Oregon

How can I get money while I'm going to school at the UO?

1. Tuition Remission Scholarships – These awards will pay some of your tuition for you. They will not give you cash or pay for any of your UO fees.
2. Cash Based Scholarships – These awards will pay for any charges on your UO account. If you do not have any charges, you can use the money for any educational expense
3. Work Study – These awards help you apply for student jobs at the UO

How do I find the scholarships I'm eligible for?

- Go to our website <http://iss.uoregon.edu/scholarships>

Who gets a scholarship?

- Scholarships are awarded based on academic merit and financial need.
- Committees review all applications and make award decisions
- Committees often include an ISSS staff member, a staff member from the Office of Financial Aid, two tenure track faculty members and a graduating international student.

How to show Academic Merit

- Your Academic Transcripts
 - Study hard and get good grades
 - Resolve any incompletes or unfinished grades
 - If you didn't get good grades, let us know why
- Your Accomplishments Outside of Class
 - Any academic awards, scholarships or other achievements
 - Any academic work or involvement outside the classroom
- Your Academic Goals
 - What do you want to do
 - How are you working towards these goals
- Include all of this information in your personal statements, essays or direct answers to questions in the application

What is Financial Need?

Expenses > Resources

- To have financial need the money you need to pay for school must be greater than the money you have
- We use estimated expenses based off a 9 month academic year
- Current estimated expenses for this year at the UO are:
 - Undergraduate Students \$50,469
 - Graduate Students \$43,038
 - Law Students \$56,822
 - Add \$8,704 for a spouse and \$3000 per child
- If you have more money than listed above for 9 months you do not have financial need
- If your expenses are different for some reason be sure to explain this in your application

What are your Financial Resources

Since we already know all students estimated expenses, we will ask you to show us the details of your Financial Resources to determine your financial need. Gathering the information for your resources can be one of the most difficult parts of your application.

- Base your resources off a 9 month academic year
- Your resources should be the same for every ISSS scholarship application you submit.
- Be honest when filling out the financial need section of your applications.
- If someone is helping you pay for school. They will need to help you fill out this section of your application.

Tips for accuracy and success when determining your resources.

- Take time and be accurate and truthful.
 - We can take scholarships away if you falsify your application.
- DO NOT GUESS
- Explain any recent changes or complicated situations in your personal essay or in the application questions
 - Remember when your I-20 was created you showed us proof that you had enough money to attend the UO. What changed?
 - Remember when you traveled we signed your I-20. Why did you have enough money to travel but now do not have enough money to pay for school?

Tips for accuracy and success when determining your resources

- Do not assume more need is better
 - Committees have different scholarship amounts to award. In some cases if your resources are too low they may decide the award is too small to help you.
- If you have any special circumstances, make sure to tell us about them.
- Use your personal statement to explain why you need the money.
- When reporting financial resources only include money that you actually have.
 - Do not include money that you hope to get from scholarships or other sources.
- Check your math!
 - Your total financial resources should be determined by adding all of your financial resources together.

Tips for Success

- Apply anytime before the deadline
- Talk to your professors about a recommendation early
- Apply for as many scholarships as possible
- Be persistent
- Be very clear about your financial need and explain it in your essay.
- Use your campus resources. (Example: The Writing Lab)

Tips for Success

- Getting a scholarship is HARD & very competitive. A successful candidate will spend A LOT of time on their application.
- Spend a lot of energy and time on your essays and attached documents. It is your job to sell yourself to the committee members who have a limited amount of time to review hundreds of applications.

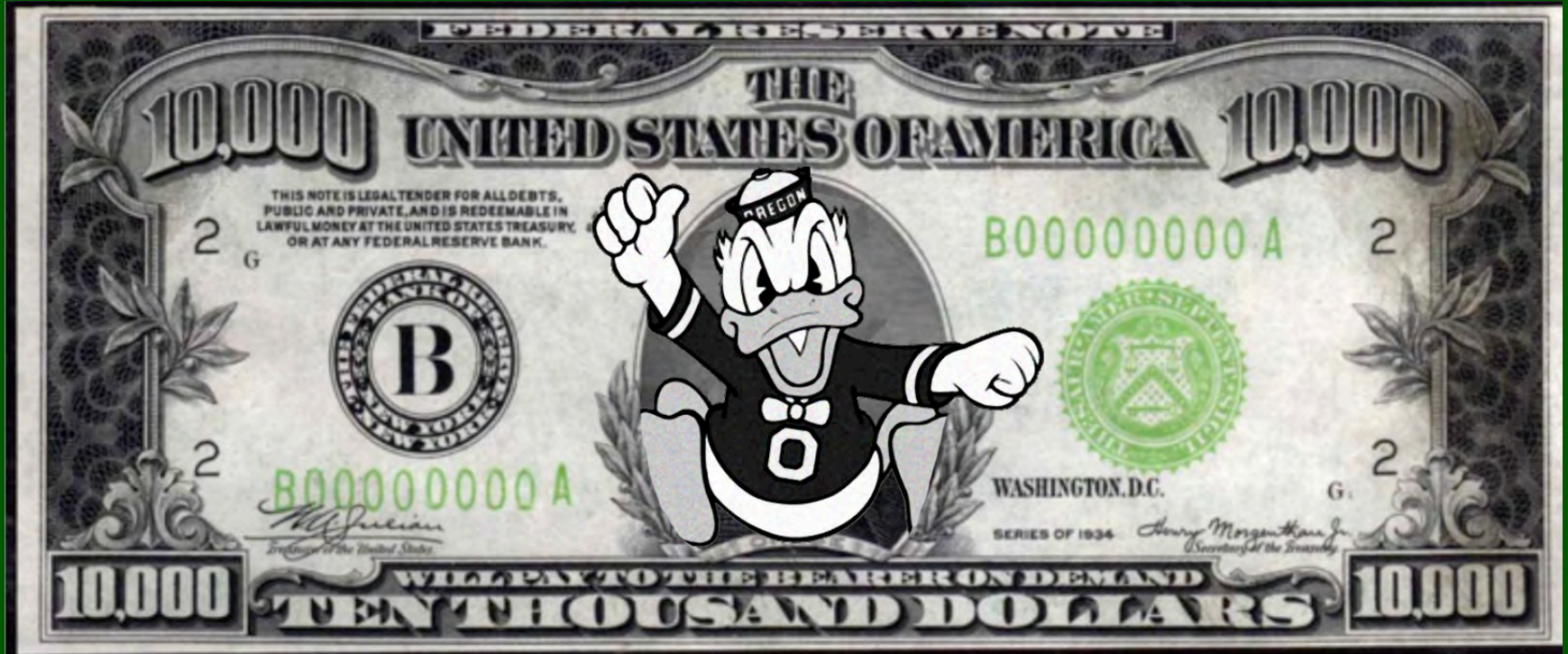
Tips for Success

- **DO NOT:**
 - X Wait until 11 pm on the deadline to complete your application
 - X Tell your professors you need a recommendation right before the deadline
 - X Buy expensive cars or take many vacations
 - X Spend time applying for scholarships you do not qualify for

What else should I know?

- International Affairs is not the only place to look for scholarships.
 - Check with your department
 - The Office of Financial Aid offers General University Scholarships
 - The CSWS offers the Laurel Research Award
 - Check with any organizations or campus groups you are involved with.
 - Examples: UO Women's Center, Clark's Honors College
- There is no guarantee you will get any scholarship you apply for. However, how much time and energy you spend on your scholarship search and application can greatly affect your outcome of success. IT IS ALL UP TO YOU!

Good Luck!



Questions? Email us:
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