

## Scholarships for Students with Disabilities

*This is a listing of scholarships for students with various disabilities that have been offered in the past. To determine if the scholarship is still available, when it will be available, and the deadline, please visit the websites listed.*

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### **Allegra Ford Thomas Scholarship- \$2500**

**Currently Open- deadline 1/17/2020**

#### **To be eligible for the Allegra Ford Thomas Scholarship, an applicant must:**

- Be a graduating high school senior who will be attending a two-year community college, a vocational/technical training program, or specialized program for students with LD and/or ADHD in the fall.
- Submit current financial information
- Provide most current documentation of an identified learning disability and/or ADHD (e.g., psycho-educational report, neuropsychological evaluation, IEP or 504 plan) and has utilized services, supports and/or accommodations
  - Please note: LD and ADHD can co-occur with other issues such as speech/language, hearing and vision, and autism spectrum disorders; to be eligible candidates must provide documentation of a specific LD and/or ADHD.
- Be a United States citizen

<https://www.nclid.org/scholarships-and-awards/>

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### **Ann Ford Scholarship -\$2500/year for over four years**

**Currently Open- deadline 1/17/2020**

#### **To be eligible for the Anne Ford Scholarship, an applicant must:**

- Be a graduating high school senior who will be attending a four-year bachelor's degree program in the fall
- Have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a 4-point scale (or equivalent)
- Submit current financial information
- Provide most current documentation of an identified learning disability and/or ADHD (e.g., psycho-educational report, neuropsychological evaluation, IEP or 504 plan) and has utilized services, supports, and/or accommodations.
  - Please note: LD and ADHD can co-occur with other issues such as speech/language, hearing and vision, and autism spectrum disorders, to be eligible candidates must provide documentation of a specific LD and/or ADHD.
- Be a United States citizen

<https://www.nclid.org/scholarships-and-awards/>

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### **Avonte Oquendo Memorial Scholarship for Autism- \$1000**

**Opens January 2020**

#### **The Avonte Oquendo Memorial Scholarship is open to high-achieving students who meet two key criteria:**

1. Either you or a close family member has been diagnosed with a form of autism, including Asperger syndrome, and
2. The applicant is currently enrolled or has been accepted into an accredited university or college, either at the undergraduate or post-graduate level.

Additionally, applicants should submit an essay on one of the topics listed below with a minimum of 500 words and maximum of 1,000 words.

<https://www.perecman.com/avonte-oquendo/autism-scholarship/>

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**BMO Capital Markets Lime Connect Equity  
Through Education Scholarship- \$10000**

**2019 Application is closed- check back for 2020 Application**

**Scholarship Applicants must match the following criteria:**

- A current undergraduate or graduate student at a four-year university in the United States or Canada (graduate program itself, e.g., business school, may be shorter in length)
- Continuing studies as a full-time student in Fall 2019 with a minimum 40% course load
- Pursuing a degree in business/commerce, computer science, engineering, math, physics, statistics or a related discipline
- Interested in a career in Financial Services with a focus on Capital Markets preferred
- A person with a (visible or non-visible) disability (defined as someone who has, or considers themselves to have, a long-term or recurring, issue that impacts one or more major activities that others may consider to be a daily function), this definition also includes the perception among others that a disability exists We know that 90% of disabilities on campus are invisible, and candidates with all disabilities are encouraged to apply
- Previous BMO Capital Markets Lime Connect Equity Through Education scholars and applicants are encouraged to apply again if they remain eligible

<https://www.limeconnect.com/programs/page/bmo-capital-markets-lime-connect-equity-through-education-scholarship>

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**The Disabled Student Scholarship- \$500**

**2019 Application is closed- check back for 2020 Application**

**Students must meet the following requirements to be considered for scholarship selection:**

- Must have a debilitating condition(s) while continuing their education at a college institution. The condition can be any medically diagnosed impairment (physical or mental) that interferes with everyday activities and quality of life.
- The applicant will need to provide a physician's statement of diagnosis for their impairment in addition to the other required documentation.
- Applicants who are pursuing a master's degree or higher are only required to be taking 9 credit hours or more for the upcoming fall semester.
- The applicant needs to complete an essay on the following topic: Describe an obstacle or hardship that arose due to your condition and how you were able to overcome it. Explain the impact it has had on your life and how it will influence you in the future.

<https://www.disabilitycarecenter.org/giving-back/scholarships/#blue-grey2>

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**Ethan Saylor Memorial Scholarship- \$500**

**2019 Application is closed- check back for 2020 Application**

Each applicant must:

- Have Down syndrome
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Intend to pursue a passion despite previous limitations

To apply, in 500 words or less, tell us about your passions, dreams and how you would use the Ethan Saylor Memorial Scholarship to make your dreams a reality. In the application, please be sure to include your name, address, age, phone number and e-mail address. Self-advocates may apply for themselves or have someone else complete the application for them.

<https://www.ndss.org/advocate/> (under the Engage tab, click on NDSS scholarships)

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**Katie MacDonald Memorial Scholarships- \$2500****Opens January 2020**

Two scholarships will be awarded to individuals with Down syndrome who are pursuing educational or job training opportunities beyond high school.

Two scholarships will be awarded to individuals who are pursuing a junior college, undergraduate, or graduate degree.

<http://www.upsfordowns.org/scholarships>

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**The Kelsey B. Diamantis TS Scholarship Family  
Foundation, Inc for a Dollars 4 Tic Scholars- \$1000****Application will open on November 1, 2019**

Awarded to a deserving student with Tourette Syndrome who will be attending college.

<https://www.dollars4ticscholars.org/about-the-foundation/ts-scholarships/>

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**KFM Making A Difference for Autism Scholarship- \$500****Currently Open- deadline 4/27/2020****Requirements:**

All high school students with autism attending a post-secondary program in the next year may apply. In addition, all current college students with autism may apply as well who will be attending a post-secondary program in the next academic year. This scholarship has no geographic restrictions meaning it's open to all upcoming and current college students with autism in the U S and internationally!

<https://kfmmakingadifference.org/scholarship-programs-for-adults-with-autism/>

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**Microsoft disability Scholarship- \$5000 per year (renewable)****2019 Application is closed- check back for 2020  
Application****To be considered for the Microsoft disAbility Scholarship, you must:**

- Be a current high school senior with living with a disAbility (as defined by WHO), whether that be visual, hearing, mobility, cognitive, speech or other disAbility.
- Plan to attend an undergraduate program in a 2 or 4-year University/College or Technical College in the fall of the academic year following high-school graduation. Schools must be in the USA or have a USA-Affiliate for financial transactions (contact Seattle Foundation to verify non-USA school's eligibility).
- Declare a major in **engineering, computer science, computer information systems, law, business, or a related field** (e.g. paralegal, pre-law, finance, business administration, or marketing).
- Demonstrate a passion for technology.
- Demonstrate leadership at school and/or in the community
- Have a high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Require financial assistance to attend college.
- Enrollment status must be full-time or half time

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/diversity/programs/microsoftdisabilityscholarship.aspx>

The following requirements apply to all applicants:

- Must be legally blind in both eyes.
- Must be residing in the United States, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico.
- Must be pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time, post-secondary course of study in a degree program at a U.S. institution in the fall of the year of application (one scholarship may be given to a person employed full-time while attending school part-time).
- Must participate in the entire NFB National Convention and in all of its scheduled scholarship program activities (finalists will receive assistance to attend the national convention).

<https://www.nfb.org/programs-services/scholarships-and-awards/scholarship-program>

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**NDSS #DSWORKS® Blake Pyron  
Entrepreneurship Scholarship****2019 Application is closed- check back for 2020 Application**

**Applicants for the scholarship must:**

- Have Down syndrome
- Be 18 years of age or older

To apply, students must answer the following questions:

- Tell us about why you want to start your own business
- Describe your entrepreneurship and the type of business you want to establish
- Detail why are you so passionate about this adventure
- Include your name, address, age, phone number and e-mail address in your application. Self-advocates may apply for themselves or have someone complete the application for them.

<https://www.ndss.org/advocate/> (under the Engage tab, click on NDSS scholarships)

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**O'Neill Tabani Enrichment Fund- up to \$5000****2019 Application is closed- Check  
back for 2020 Application**

**Applicant must:**

- Have Down syndrome
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Show intent to enroll in a class or program that will enrich his or her life by helping to develop skills that will lead to employment or independent living, build life skills, or in some other way empower the individual to succeed

<https://www.ndss.org/advocate/> (under the Engage tab, click on NDSS scholarships)

**QUALIFICATIONS**

Must have a minimum 40dB bilateral hearing loss, as evidenced on audiogram by an SRT & PTA of 40dB or greater in both ears

Must be a citizen of the United States of America

Must be pursuing a bachelor's degree on a full-time basis at a college or university in the United States – graduate degrees, associates degrees, community colleges, and vocational programs do not qualify.

Must have a minimum cumulative 3.2 GPA on a 4.0 un-weighted scale

High School senior – Cumulative GPA is for grades 9-11 and first semester for grade 12

College freshman – Cumulative GPA is all of high school and first semester of college

College sophomore or higher – Cumulative GPA for all college-level semesters completed

<https://sertoma.org/what-we-do/scholarships/>

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**Theodore R and Vivian M Johnson Scholarship****2019 Application closed- Check back for 2020 Application**

The Johnson Scholarship, funded by the Johnson Scholarship Foundation, is a competitively awarded program which is available to undergraduate students with disabilities enrolled in a State University System of Florida (SUS) institution.

**Students must meet the following requirements to be considered for scholarship selection:**

- Be a Florida resident for tuition purposes, based on Section 1009.21, Florida Statutes. (Students who receive the out-of-state fee waiver are not eligible as they are not residents for tuition purposes);
- Be seeking a first baccalaureate degree;
- Complete a Theodore R, and Vivian M. Johnson Scholarship Application;
- Meet academic requirements;
- Provide documentation of the nature and/or extent of a disability; and
- Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Renewal FAFSA form by the required deadline and be determined to have unmet fiscal need. Students may submit a FAFSA at: <https://fafsa.edu.edu>. Be sure that the Federal School Code for your university is designated so that the university has access to your results.

[http //www.jsf bz/apply.html#apply](http://www.jsf.bz/apply.html#apply)

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**VSA Emerging Young Artists Program****2019 Application closed- Check back for 2020 Application**

The VSA Emerging Young Artists Program, a Jean Kennedy Smith Arts and Disability Program, recognizes and showcases the work of emerging young artists with disabilities, ages 16-25, living in the United States.

Fifteen artists will be selected by jury. Grand Prize is \$20,000, First Prize is \$10,000, Second Prize is \$6,000, and the remaining Awards of Excellence are \$2,000 each. Selected winning artwork will travel in a yearlong national exhibition. Winning artists will receive an all-expenses-paid professional development workshop at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

<https://education.kennedy-center.org/education/vsa/programs/emergingartist.cfm>

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## **Additional Resources- Scholarship Search Engines**

Scholarship search engines are a resource for students to create accounts and be notified of potential scholarships that match their criteria.

- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).
- [www.mycollegedollars.com](http://www.mycollegedollars.com)
- [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
- [https //bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college)

*If you would like an electronic copy of this document with live links, please email [pairb@pcsb.org](mailto:pairb@pcsb.org) and request a copy of the Scholarships for Students with Disabilities handout.*

*No independent investigation has been done by the Pinellas County School System to warrant this information. You should investigate before any payment of fees for scholarship searches. Scholarship information should be free. This information is intended for financial aid advice and not for profit.*