



College Board Opportunity Scholarships: Student Edition

To help prepare you for college and even turn your efforts into scholarships, the Michigan Department of Education is proud to partner with College Board to present the [College Board Opportunity Scholarships program](#). It provides a six-step guide to help you plan, prepare, and pay for college. For each step you take now until February 2021, you have the chance to earn scholarships of \$500 or more. This program currently is open to all class of 2021 students, regardless of citizenship status, in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories. The scholarships don't require an essay, application, specific test score, or minimum GPA. At least half the scholarships will be designated for students whose families earn less than \$60,000 per year. The scholarships can be used at any two- and four-year college or university.

- Nearly 11K students had signed up for the scholarship program in early August
- About 1,900 are from low-income families
- For the class of 2021 so far, over 40 Michigan students have earned \$36.5K in scholarships

To get started, click the yellow Earn Scholarships button at cb.org/opportunity. Then sign up with your College Board account and read and accept the program rules.

3 Ways to Plan for College and Earn Scholarships from Home This Fall

1. STRENGTHEN YOUR COLLEGE LIST. EARN A CHANCE AT \$500

Estimated Time: at your own pace – approximately 30 minutes

At home on a mobile or any other device, use [BigFuture](#)™ to explore schools and strengthen your college list with a mix of reach, safety, and match schools. October 31 is the deadline for seniors to complete this step to be eligible for \$500 scholarships.

2. PRACTICE FOR THE SAT FOR FREE. EARN A CHANCE AT \$1,000

Estimated Time: at your own pace

Use free Official SAT® Practice on Khan Academy® to keep your skills sharp. By practicing for six hours or more by October 31, you earn a chance for a \$1,000 scholarship. Watch a [30-second video](#) to learn more about this scholarship

3. COMPLETE THE FAFSA® TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID. EARN A CHANCE AT \$1,000

Estimated Time: Up to an hour to complete, including time to gather parents' 2019 tax return/other financial statements

Filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the most important step to get federal financial aid. After you submit the FAFSA and confirm completion on My Action Plan at cb.org/opportunity, you can earn a chance for a \$1,000 scholarship any time after the FAFSA application opens on October 1. Students who aren't eligible for federal aid can still qualify for this scholarship. You can text questions about the FAFSA to Wyatt, our FAFSA assistance chatbot. Find out more about Wyatt at getfafsa.help.org.

TRACK YOUR PROGRESS and eligibility for other scholarships through My Action Plan at cb.org/opportunity.

See Reverse for Teacher Edition



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Help Seniors Plan for College and Earn Scholarships from Home

These are unprecedented times, but like you, College Board and Michigan Department of Education are committed to ensuring seniors don't lose college planning momentum. The **College Board Opportunity Scholarships program** guides students through important steps in the college planning process at their own pace at home. When seniors take important college planning steps—such as exploring colleges, practicing for the SAT® and completing the FAFSA— they'll qualify for \$500 and \$1,000 scholarships just by getting ready for college. Use this resource to tell your students about the program and help them complete steps throughout the fall.

LEARN MORE

- **Watch this video** for a program overview and to learn how students can sign up at cb.org/opportunity
- Review the **educator guide** and **educator flyer** to see what each step requires of students and how they experience the program.

INTRODUCE THE PROGRAM

- If you hold video calls with students, share your screen and use **these slides** to talk about the program. Track student progress with **this tool**.

HELP STUDENTS STRENGTHEN THEIR COLLEGE LIST

Students become eligible for a \$500 scholarship when they strengthen their college list with a mix of reach, match, and safety schools on **BigFuture™** by October 31. Share this **30-second video** that shows students where to start.

SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH SAT PRACTICE

Students become eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship when they practice for at least six hours with Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy® by October 31. Get familiar with **Official SAT Practice coaching tools**, which you can use to create a class and track student progress.

CONNECT STUDENTS WITH SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUPPORT TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA®

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is an urgent, important step for all students as they consider college options for next fall. Students should submit the FAFSA as early as possible after the application opens on October 1. By confirming they completed the FAFSA on My Action Plan at cb.org/opportunity, seniors become eligible for \$1,000 scholarships. Seniors can text questions to Wyatt, a FAFSA assistance chatbot. Even before October, send your seniors to getfafsahelp.org to connect with Wyatt.

For more information about College Board Opportunity Scholarships for teachers, view [these resources](#).

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