

HINTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

1. Make an extra copy of the application. Scholarship applications are one instance when it helps to get an adult to help with every question. *Do not think it is cheating!* Fill out the copy application. Look it over and make corrections. Have an adult look it over and make more corrections. When you write the essay questions use the same procedure. *I don't know any writer who gets it perfect the first time.* Be sure to check spelling and punctuation.
2. If you haven't, start a record of your activities, awards, honors and leadership. Include something interesting about you such as number of times you have been listed on the school honor roll, hobbies, any work experience you have, and any volunteer experience that you have with your school, church or community. Keep this record and continue to add organizations you join, leadership, honor roll, honors and volunteer opportunities. This will make future scholarship applications much easier to complete.
3. Make an extra copy of the recommendations page. Give the pages to two adults not related to you who know you. Include the above record so that they will know more about you and write a better recommendation. **THIS IS IMPORTANT!!** When you receive the recommendation from your recommender, **READ IT!** If it is not quite what you want, ask another adult. Some adults are better at writing recommendations than others. *They will never know which recommendation you use.*
4. Proof your work a final time and then complete the application on the form that you will turn in to the high school office.
5. Remember this is only the first of many opportunities to apply for a scholarship. *Do not be discouraged if you are not selected this time.* Every scholarship looks for something different and the next one might be a better fit for you. We hope that by completing this scholarship application you will be ready for the next opportunity. Remember that as a sophomore, you have two more years to raise your GPA, join clubs, run for offices and volunteer in our community. This will greatly increase your chances of being chosen when you apply for scholarships in the future. Good Luck!