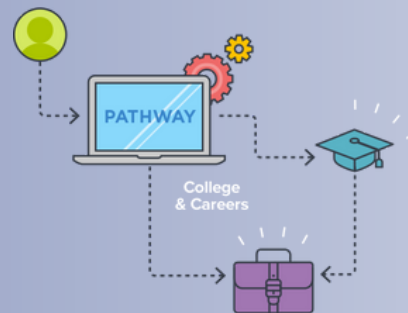


Scholarship Search



Grade Level:



11

Domain:



Financial Literacy



College & Career Exploration

TIME:



45 Minutes

This lesson is designed to help students connect to their culture, family background, interests, and activities to discover that there are many scholarships available that match their unique lives and experiences.

Objectives

Students will:

1. Learn the information that is needed to search for scholarships.
2. Connect their own culture, family background, interests, and activities to available scholarships.
3. Evaluate the scholarship opportunities that exist to help them achieve a postsecondary education.

MEFA Pathway Activities

- Scholarship Search
- My Scholarships

Materials Needed

- Internet connection
- MEFA's webinar, [Applying for Private College Scholarships](#)
- Self & Family Interview for Scholarship Exploration handout (attached)
- Scholarship Search Notes handout (attached)

Lesson Prerequisite

Students should view MEFA's webinar, Applying for Private College Scholarships, before the lesson starts. As they watch, they should take notes on any new information about how to find scholarships and highlight any terms they need to understand better. When they come to class, students should be prepared to discuss the webinar.

Vocabulary

- Scholarship
- Scholarship Database

Future Ready Skills

- Financial planning
- Research
- Time Management

PART 1

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

In-Class Activity



Have students get into small groups and ask each student to share 2–3 things within the group that they learned from the webinar. Have each group present to the class highlights from their discussion.

PART 2

APPLYING INFORMATION

Students should use the attached *Self & Family Interview for Scholarship Exploration* handout to fill in information about themselves and to get information from family members. They will then use this information in MEFA Pathway's Scholarship Search.

PART 3

EVALUATING INFORMATION

Students should navigate to MEFA Pathway's Scholarship Search under the *Financial Planning* tab. Students should use the information collected in Part 2 of this lesson to help them select criteria on the left-hand side or to enter into the search bar.

Once results have populated, students should investigate at least three of the scholarships listed. Students should make notes about the scholarships on the *Scholarship Search Notes* handout attached and consider what each scholarship application requires and whether they would apply for each scholarship (and explain why if not). Students can click **SAVE** in the green box on any scholarship page to add the scholarship to their **My Scholarship List**. Students can select *My Scholarships* under the *Financial Planning* tab in MEFA Pathway to view their **My Scholarship List**, where they can record each scholarship's deadline, status, and award amount.

PART 4

CRITICAL THINKING/CREATIVE APPLICATION

Combining the information collected in their self and family exploration, along with the results of their scholarship search, students should create a PowerPoint presentation that includes the following aspects:

- A title slide
- At least 3-4 images or pictures
- A slide that gives examples of what they discovered about their own family background, culture, or interests
- At least 3 slides that each list:
 - A scholarship that was in their search results
 - Details of that scholarship and the application requirements
 - The reasoning of why or why not the student would apply for it
 - A concluding slide detailing the most significant thing learned about scholarships

Self & Family Interview for Scholarship Exploration

Answer the following questions based on your own knowledge and by interviewing family members who might be able to help with the information.

1. What areas of study after high school interest you? List as many as you can think of that you might want to explore.
2. Where have you worked or volunteered? List details and time periods of your different work or volunteer jobs.
3. Where have your parents or grandparents worked or volunteered? Interview any family members for information to find out occupations or volunteer organizations that might impact your scholarship search.
4. What are the various ethnic or cultural backgrounds in your family and heritage?
5. Name all the talents and skills you have (it can be anything you can think of: music, art, sports, technology, hobbies).
6. Do you or anyone in your family live with a disability or health challenge? This could be a source of scholarship help as well.
7. Have any of your parents or grandparents served in the military? If so, which branches and when?
8. What kinds of civic or community organizations do you, your parents, or your grandparents belong to? Examples: unions, social clubs, non-profit organizations.
9. Where do you or your parents work? Many businesses and corporations have their own scholarship offerings. List any you discover.
10. Think of any unique or special things about yourself. Ask your family and friends to answer this about you, too, to give you some ideas! You never know what might apply to a scholarship opportunity.

Scholarship Search Notes

Use this to evaluate at least three scholarships you find once you enter your personal information and do a scholarship search on the MEFA Pathway website.

Title	Why might I qualify?	What does the application require?	Would I apply for this scholarship?

GRADING RUBRIC FOR PRESENTATIONS

CATEGORY	EXCELLENT	GOOD	SATISFACTORY	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
	4	3	2	1
Content Accuracy	All content in the presentation is accurate. There are no factual errors.	Most of the content is accurate but there is one piece of information that seems inaccurate.	The content is generally accurate, but one piece of information is clearly inaccurate	The content is confusing or contains more than one factual error.
Sequencing of Information	The information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Most information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Some information is logically sequenced.	There is no clear plan for the organization of information.
Effectiveness	The presentation includes all the material needed to give a good understanding of the topic.	The presentation lacks one or two key elements.	The presentation is missing more than two key elements.	The presentation lacks several key elements and has inaccuracies.
Use of Graphics	All graphics are attractive (size and colors) and support the topic of the presentation	A few graphics are not attractive, but all support the topic of the presentation.	All graphics are attractive, but a few do not support the topic of the presentation	Several graphics are unattractive AND detract from the content of the presentation.
Font Choice & Formatting	Font formats (size, bold, italic) have been carefully planned to enhance readability and content.	Font formats have been carefully planned to enhance readability.	Font formats have been carefully planned to complement the content. It may be a little hard to read.	Font formatting makes it very difficult to read the material.
Conventions. The student uses proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	The presentation has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	The presentation has 1- 2 misspellings, but no grammatical errors.	The presentation has 1- 2 grammatical errors but no misspellings.	The presentation has more than 2 grammatical and/ or spelling errors.