

AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

**Aviation Explorers Post 747
Whiteman Airport**

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WHY DID YOU JOIN THE EXPLORERS??

- ▶ Do you want to be a Pilot? Mechanic? Engineer?
 - ▶ Do you want a career in aviation?
- ▶ Do you want to enroll in an aviation college program?
 - ▶ Join the military?

Here are some guidelines to help you get scholarships for your journey

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OPPORTUNITIES – *There is money out there!*

- ▶ Currently there is a desperate need for pilots, mechanics and other aviation professionals – despite the pandemic!
- ▶ By 2040 North America Needs
 - 612K new pilots
 - 626 K new maintenance technicians
 - 886 K new cabin crew
- ▶ More organizations, companies & individuals are donating money for scholarships

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OBJECTIVES – Get Answers to these questions:

- ▶ How can you prepare for scholarships?
(Your Action Plan)
- ▶ Where can you find scholarships?
(Opportunities and Resources)
- ▶ What are some tips for applying – writing essays, getting recommendation letters, completing a winning application? (Ceci's Tips)
- ▶ What do reviewers look for in applications?

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- ▶ First let's hear from some people who've benefited from scholarships
 - Explorer, Rachel Meitler – Private Pilot, Instrument, Academic, and more
 - Explorer Advisor, Lisa Fusano – Commercial Pilot

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YOUR ACTION PLAN

- ▶ How to prepare for scholarships
 - Set your goals and timeline (*Short-term & long-term plans*)
 - Written goals are more likely to be achieved!
 - Define your “why”
 - Script your “elevator pitch”
 - Network everywhere, every day!
- ▶ *SEARCH, SEARCH, SEARCH*
 - Use resources mentioned in this presentation
 - What scholarships will help me reach my goals?
 - Build a scholarship plan (*See Tip*)

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YOUR ACTION PLAN

▶ *APPLY, APPLY, APPLY*

- Follow Tips for applying and completing scholarships
 - *You'll have a better chance of winning*
- Know requirements & purpose of each scholarship
 - *Ask "Am I eligible?"*
- Establish financial need (*Explained later in this Power Point*)
- Follow Essay Tips
- See Tips for reference letters
- Don't recycle essays & letters!
- Use personal resources such as a mentor
- Update your plan as you move along

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OPPORTUNITIES – Finding Scholarships

What scholarships might help me reach my goals?

- ▶ Break down your search by Categories
 - Flight Training
 - Technical fields/maintenance/avionics/other
 - Academic
 - Women or Youth
 - Specialty (e.g., helicopters, soaring)
 - Geographical areas

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OPPORTUNITIES – Finding Scholarships

- ▶ Larger or well-known organizations
 - AOPA
 - 99s
 - EAA
 - Women in Aviation International
 - Women in Corporate Aviation
 - NBAA (plus local chapters)
 - GAMA

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OPPORTUNITIES – Finding Scholarships

- ▶ Smaller or lesser-known organizations
 - OBAP
 - Ladies Love Taildraggers
 - Figure 1 Foundation
 - EAA Chapters (local)
 - 99s Chapters (local)
 - Able Flight (for disabled)
 - National Gay Pilots Assn (don't have to be gay)

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OPPORTUNITIES – Finding Scholarships

- ▶ **More Sources from Professional & Technical Organizations**
 - Soaring
 - Experimental Aircraft
 - Maintenance
 - Air Traffic Controllers
 - Women's groups/Youth groups
 - Helicopters
 - Manufacturers
 - FAA
 - Etc.

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OPPORTUNITIES – Finding Scholarships

- ▶ **Non–Flying Sources – Mostly Academic**
 - Local service clubs (Lions, Rotary, Zonta, etc.)
 - Kohl’s Department Store/Target/Others
 - Reagan Library Foundation
 - Grants/scholarships for future leaders and those pursuing a dream/those who’ve overcome obstacles
 - Manufacturers
 - Internships
 - Some are for astronaut training/camperships
 - Many are for STEM education

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OPPORTUNITIES – Finding Scholarships

- ▶ Sources for academic scholarships
 - Cappex
 - Unigo
 - University Aviation Association
 - AvScholars
 - And many more!

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RESOURCES

▶ Lists

- San Fernando Valley 99s website
www.sfv99s.org/education.php
 - Alphabetical scholarship list updated bimonthly
- Ceci's Tips
 - [Steps For Obtaining a Student Pilot Certificate](#)
 - [Ten Steps to Get a PPC \(Private Pilot Certificate\)](#)
 - [Tips on Finding the Right Flight School/Instructor For You](#)
 - [Tips for Applying for Scholarships](#)
 - [Ten Tips For Writing a Scholarship Essay](#)
 - [Tips on Making a Scholarship Plan](#)
 - [Tips on How to Obtain an Excellent Recommendation Letter](#)

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RESOURCES

▶ Additional Lists

- Flight Scholarships <http://www.flightscholarship.info/>
 - Updated annually
 - Article “Creating a Winning Application”
- Blonds in Aviation <https://www.blondsinaviation.com/aviation-scholarship-calendar/>
- FAA https://www.faa.gov/education/grants_and_scholarships/aviation/
- Facebook – Aviation Scholarships

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RESOURCES

▶ Career Prep Program

- www.pathwaystoaviation.org – (FREE!)
 - Must register and build a profile
 - Attend meetings, go to open office days (Learn how to set your goals, define your “why”, build an “elevator pitch”, write a resume, network, look for jobs, interview, and more)
 - Get a certificate showing you’re prepared
 - Employers look at certificated members
 - Have many resources, industry updates, counseling, mentoring, workshops, career fairs, scholarships, and more

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RESOURCES

▶ Videos/Webinars

- Ninety–Nines – [Resources | Webinars \(The Ninety–Nines, Inc.\) \(ninety–nines.org\)](https://www.ninety-nines.org/resources/webinars)
 - November 4, 2020 (about 99s scholarships)
- Pathways to Aviation – [Pathways to Aviation » Attend a Workshop](https://pathwaystoaviation.org/job-seekers/career-planning-workbook/)
 - Copies of two virtual Workshops on Scholarships in the Career Planning Workbook at “<https://pathwaystoaviation.org/job-seekers/career-planning-workbook/>

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Here are some scholarships available in the next few months

- AeroClub of Southern California – September 21, 2022
- Arthur Godfrey Aviation Foundation – November 30, 2022
- AvFuel – Several – June 1, and September 5, 2022
- EAA – Secondary – June 2, 2022 and Post Secondary – January 31, 2023
- Figure 1 for Private Pilot (at Santa Paula Airport) – December 31, 2022
- Flight Path Learning Center (5) – May 31, 2022
- National Air Transportation Assn. Foundation – Several
- University Aviation Association – Various

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- ▶ What do reviewers look for?
 - Neatness, grammar, eligibility. Complete? On time? Financial need explained?
 - Involvement in aviation; volunteer work (*Extremely important*)
 - Realistic goal & plan?
 - Attached documents are clear & readable?
(logs, medical, certificates, resume, etc.)
 - Is scholarship a good investment for the organization?
 - What is applicant's plan if they don't win?

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▶ *HOW TO ESTABLISH FINANCIAL NEED*

- Give a statement of income
- How much will it cost (without scholarship) to get the rating/certificate desired? (Identify the expenses – airplane, CFI, books, equipment, transportation, etc. & total)
- How do you budget income & expenses?
- Detail amounts you've saved, budgeted from income, have on loan, expect from gifts/overtime, etc.
- How will you fund your training other than with scholarships? (e.g., savings, additional job, roommate, overtime, gifts, lemonade & bake sales)
- Do other circumstances affect your need? (e.g., high cost of living area, high flight training cost, student loans, medical debt)
- What will you do if you don't get the scholarship? **DON'T GIVE UP!**

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▶ SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- There is a lot of help out there! Go for it!
- *“Don’t leave money on the table!”*
- Set your goals & make a plan *(Short-term & long-term)*
- Look at Opportunities & use Resources available
- Help meet the need for more aviation professionals
- Share and help others; spread the word!
- Contact Ceci with questions and for her review of your applications: cecipilot@sbcglobal.net

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- ▶ Questions?