

#### **Senior Scholarships 101**

October 24, 2024

**Angie Anthony Director of Scholarships** 



#### Housekeeping



We are recording this presentation and will post to our website
 Closed captioning is available
 Hold questions for Q & A at the end
 Enter questions into the chat at that time

#### **Hillsborough Education Foundation**



- We believe strengthening public education builds a better community.
- We believe that public school success is vital to our county's prosperity.
- We believe that a community engaged in making educational excellence a priority will transform Hillsborough County.

#### **Learning Objectives**



- Criteria & eligibility
- Types of scholarships & examples
- Application process
- Award process



2023 – 2024 Awards



- Over 330 scholarships
  - \$500 to 4-Year University Florida Prepaid
- Total value =

\$906,000

# Donors



#### Who Are They?

#### **Individuals / Families**

- Gift in honor of someone
- Memorial
- Endowments

#### **Companies**

- Suncoast Credit Union
- Outback Steakhouse

#### **Non-Profit Organizations**

- Sorority alumni
- Kiwanis
- Derek Jeter Turn 2 Foundation
- Gasparilla Krewes

**Over 100 Named Scholarships** 









# Eligibility

#### **Eligibility**





■ Charter

Virtual

Homeschool

Private school





#### **Eligibility**



- GPA (Unweighted)
  - Cumulative State GPA
- Traditional universities, community & technical colleges
- Major
- High school
- Community service & extracurricular activities
- Financial need and more....



#### **Demonstrating Financial Need**



- Household qualifies for **ONE** of the following social assistance programs:
  - ⇒ Free or Reduced Lunch (Requires Tax Form 1040)
  - Medicaid
  - ⇒ WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)
  - TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
  - SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
  - Housing Assistance



#### **Demonstrating Financial Need**



- Household qualifies for free or reduced lunch
  - Maximum <u>annual</u> pre-tax earnings
    - (Line 9 on tax form 1040)
  - Supported by most recent 1040 tax form
    - 2023 or 2024 Tax Return
    - You can hide the social security numbers

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUAL
1	\$27,861
2	\$37,814
3	\$47,767
4	\$57,720
5	\$67,673
6	\$77,626
7	\$87,579
8	\$97,532
For each additional family member, add	+\$9,953

#### **Demonstrating Financial Need**



- Documentation required
  - Upload with application OR
  - ⇒ 2 weeks after requested for preliminary award



## Scholarships

#### **Scholarships**



- Traditional College / University
- Community College
- Technical College / Trade School
- 1-year
- Multi-year
  - Require annual update
  - Some are conditional
    - GPA minimums
- \$500 to \$40,000
- Florida Prepaid Plans

#### **Scholarships**



#### Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis Scholarship

- Minimum 3.25 UNWEIGHTED GPA
- 75+ community service hours
- 2 additional essays
- Financial need
- Preference for students majoring Education, or Early Childhood - Preschool Education / Development

#### **Scholarships**



#### Braulio & Adelfa Alonso Scholarship

- Alonso High School senior
- Must attend a college or university

#### **Scholarships**



#### **Outback Steakhouse Scholarship**

- Must have minimum 3.0 UNWEIGHTED GPA
- Must attend a higher education culinary arts program

## The Application

#### **Application Period**

November 1 through January 31, 2025

#### 2023-24

- 2,777 started application
- 1,541 completed application

#### Apply!



#### Online platform - AwardSpring

- One general application
  - Filters answers for all scholarships
- 2 required 250-word essays
  - Additional essays based on qualification

#### Four sections

- Student information
- Postsecondary school & future plans
- Household & financial information
- Acknowledgements & authorizations
  - Parent / Guardian or student over 18

#### **Application**



#### **Getting to the Application**



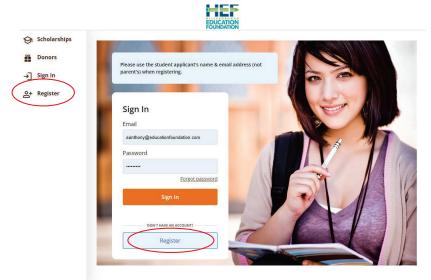
- Go to EducationFoundation.com/SeniorScholarships
- Click on link to Submit your application



#### **AwardSpring - Register**



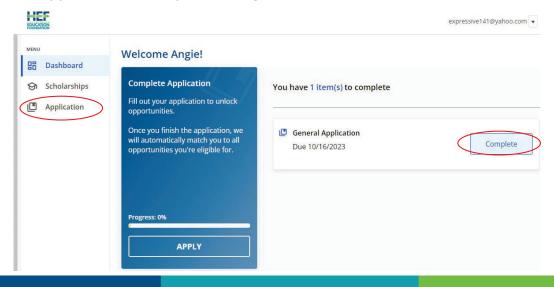
Click on Register and use the student's information



#### **AwardSpring - Dashboard**



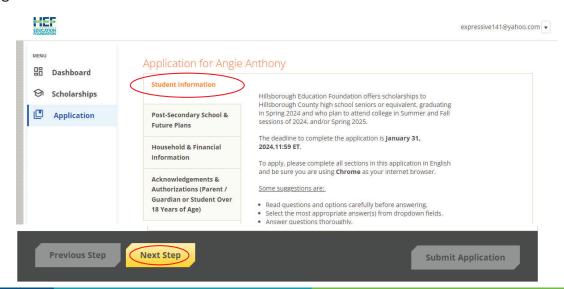
- Lands on the Dashboard when you log in
- Click on Application or Complete to begin



#### **AwardSpring - Application**



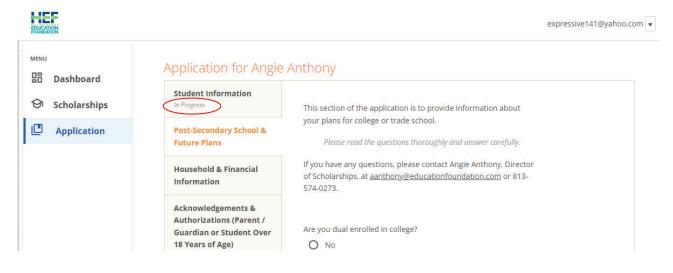
- Application tabs show sections to be completed and your progress
- Click Next Step to go to the next section
- Saves as you go



#### **AwardSpring – Application**



- You do not need to complete everything at the same time
- Tabs show your progress status

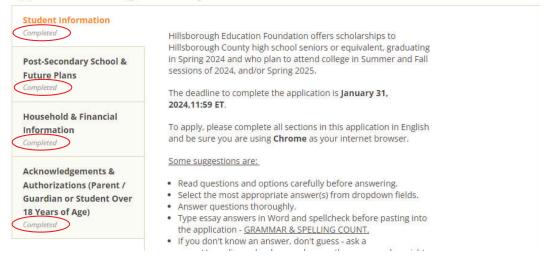


#### **AwardSpring – Application**



All sections will show status as completed when you finish the general application

#### Application for Angle Anthony



#### **AwardSpring - Application**



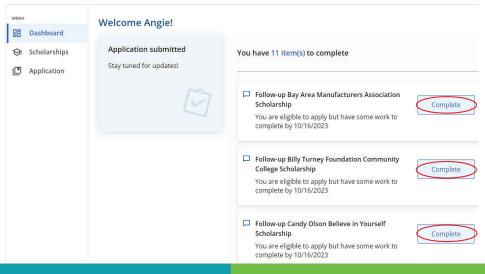
- When all sections are completed, the Submit Application button will be enabled
- Click Submit Application
- You can return to make changes after submitting



#### **AwardSpring – Follow-Ups**



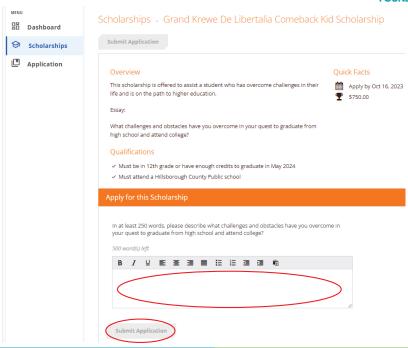
- Lands back on Dashboard and shows follow ups for scholarships you qualify for
- Click on **Complete** to see what you need to do next to complete your application for specific scholarships
  - ⇒ Letter of recommendations
  - Additional essays
  - Upload financial need documentation



#### **AwardSpring – Follow Ups**



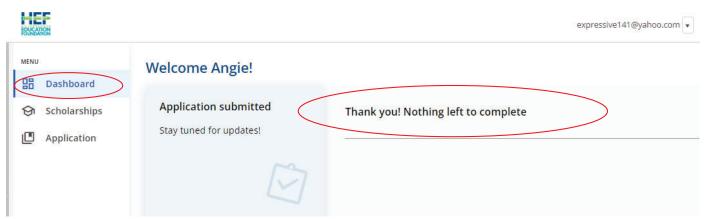
- Complete the additional information and clickSubmit Application
- You will need to do this for each scholarship that requires additional work



#### **AwardSpring – Complete**

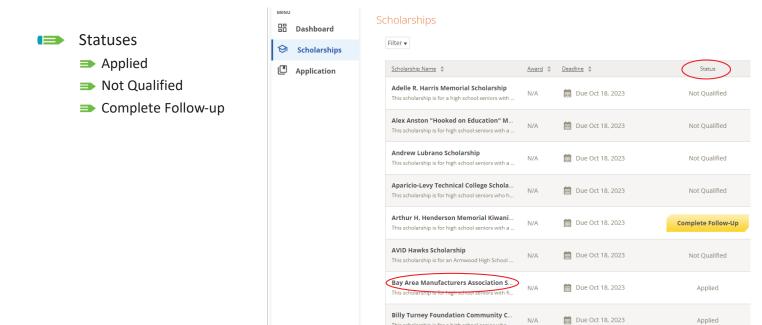


- Dashboard indicates when all additional items are completed
- Click on Scholarships to see a list



#### **AwardSpring - Status**





#### **AwardSpring – Scholarships**





# Reviews

#### **Reviews**



- Donors
- 3 independent volunteer reviewers
- Conflict of interest
- Not included
  - Student name & contact information
  - Financial need
  - Race / ethnicity
  - Gender

### Review Categories



- Unweighted GPA
- Extracurricular activities & leadership
- Community service hours
- Content of essays
  - Grammar & spelling count
- Employment hours

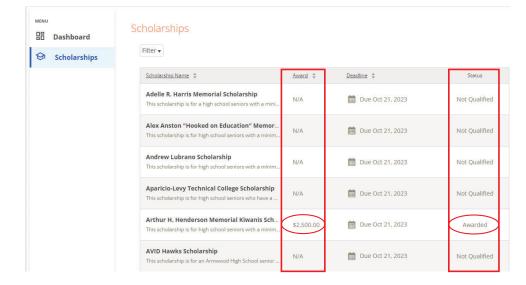


#### **Awards**



- Status
  - Applied
  - Not Applied
  - Not Qualified
  - Awarded
  - Denied
- Award amounts will display
- Preliminary awards

  ⇒ Financial need documents
  will be requested by email,
  if not uploaded



#### **Awards**

- Mid-April
  - ⇒ Email from Angie Anthony / AwardSpring
  - Check your dashboard
- Claiming Funds
  - Enrollment Verification Form—college
  - ⇒ Information Release Form
    - Social media, press releases, etc. no obligation
  - ⇒ Thank you letter for donor
- Check is sent directly to the school
- Tuition, books, fees, housing & meal plans
- Claim funds by February 28, 2026



Dear Angie,

#### Congratulations!

Hillsborough Education Foundation is pleased to inform you that you are the recipient of the Arthur H. Henderson Memorial Kiwanis Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.00.

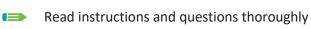
We will be verifying your GPA with the Hillsborough County Public School District and will send an Award Packet to you through regular mail at the beginning of June which will outline the next steps for you to claim your funds.

Please contact me at <u>aanthony@educationfoundation.com</u> or 813-574-0273 if you have any questions in the meantime and again, congratulations!

Angie Anthony Director of Scholarships

# Helpful Hints

#### **Helpful Hints**



- **Unweighted** GPA (Cumulative State GPA)
- Review answer choices carefully
- Select <u>all</u> extracurricular activities that apply
- Answer the essay questions & follow ups
  - Stay on topic
  - Word count
  - ⇒ High scoring points
- Spelling and grammar count
  - Scoring points
  - ⇒ Spell & grammar check in word, then copy/paste



Don't wait till the last minute!

> Don't forget to hit Submit Application!

#### **Important Dates**





November 1, 2024 Application opens



January 31, 2025 Application closes



Mid-April – May 2025 Notifications

#### **Expressing Gratitude**

"Because of you I get to pursue a college education, a dream, and a future."

"You are not only making our dreams a reality, but you are also sowing the seeds of hope in the hearts of our families, who sacrificed their lives to bring us into this country."

"I look forward to being able to give back to the community once I begin to understand how my career plays an important role toward a diverse society."

"Saying thank you a million times wouldn't fully capture how appreciative I am for all your support. But once more, thank you so much for all of your help in making my dreams come true."

### Questions

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