

common thread with all of these is to make sure that you apply for scholarships that you are eligible to be awarded, that you follow directions, and that you meet all deadlines. Many students will overlook the specific criteria for a scholarship and spend a lot of time working on a scholarship they are not eligible to receive. Others who are eligible may miss deadlines or miss a specific piece of the application.

Scholarships may require an essay, recommendations, volunteer service, an Activity Sheet/Resume (*), financial information or any combination of these. Many scholarships have a minimum GPA or SAT score, but not all will have an academic component. There are thousands of scholarships out there and their criteria can be just as diverse. This is why it is so important to do your research. We recommend that you spend a majority of your scholarship application time working on local scholarships. These would be scholarships where someone at Mohonasen, in Rotterdam, or in Schenectady County will be the likely winner. Some national scholarships may have only one or two winners in the entire country.

Online Searches

Online searches will generally require you to answer several questions about your grades, standardized test scores, activities, future plans, etc. Using this information, they will give you a large list of scholarships for which you may apply. However, many of these may be of the type mentioned above where there may only be one national winner. The best websites to use for these searches are www.fastweb.com, www.collegeboard.com, or www.bridges.com mentioned earlier.

Scholarship Board and www.mohonasen.org

Many local groups and organizations will send scholarship applications directly to Mohonasen for us to post for students. These are the scholarships that we recommend you make a priority. We put these up on the *Scholarship Board* in the Counseling and Career Center and list them on the High School Guidance page of www.mohonasen.org. Many of these are scholarships that at least one student at Mohonasen will win; and believe it or not sometimes no one applies!! We recommend you check the listing WEEKLY so as to not miss anything.

Scholarships from Your College

Although a majority of the financial aid you receive from your schools will come from filling out the FAFSA and CSS/Financial Aid Profile accurately and on time, there may also be other scholarships available directly through your school as well. Many of these you will be automatically considered for just by applying for admission. However, there may also be scholarships that are available only to those who specifically apply for