



MTV ROLLS OUT NEW FACEBOOK APP

By Malcolm Harris, SRC Staff

After you finish watching another seven-hour block of "Teen Mom" reruns, MTV wants you to do something new. It wants you to apply for scholarships.



The network recently launched "My College Dollars," a new Facebook app that instantly tells students some of their likeliest scholarship matches. Most scholarship search websites require students to spend 15-20 minutes filling out profile information so that the sites can then use that information to find scholarship matches. "My College Dollars" skips that first step by using information you've already entered into Facebook when creating a profile. Thus, when you click on the app for the first time, scholarship matches already await you.

After that, all you need to do is call (310-206-2875) or email (src@college.ucla.edu) the Scholarship Resource Center, and we can get you an appointment with our expert staff to help you start applying for those scholarship matches.

If you have more time before the "Teen

Mom" craving kicks in again, "My College Dollars" offers some additional goodies.

Most usefully, the app helps you find and complete the FAFSA, the all-important federal document that every student needs to submit in order to be eligible for federal financial aid packages. (The FAFSA is always due by March 2nd for the following academic year.)

The app also includes videos (some featuring celebrity narrators) that categorize and explain the different kinds of financial aid; a scholarship and financial aid question-and-answer forum; and a scholarship calendar that tracks important deadlines and sends alerts to your Facebook page when they approach.

For more information on the background to "My College Dollars" and MTV's motivation for producing it, check out the January 18th article from thechoice.blogs.nytimes.com, "MTV's Latest Facebook App is About Scholarships, Not Snooki." MTV's partners on the app include the College Board, the Get Schooled campaign, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

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Join our fanpage on **Facebook** to get alerts on upcoming scholarships!

Have **FUN** and Give Back: Summer Volunteer Opportunities

By Katherine Webster, SRC Staff

How are you planning on spending your summer vacation? While the SRC certainly recommends that you take a little time to rest and relax (get out that sunscreen! Head to that barbecue! Build that sand castle!), there are also a number of other activities you can pursue over the summer that will help you in the long run. Whether you are taking classes, working, or just relaxing, you should think about making time for volunteer work during the summer months. Summer, with the free time it offers, can be a great season to explore new places and new activities, and can lead to experiences that will make you a strong scholarship applicant. What's more, volunteering is easy! There are hundreds of volunteer opportunities available to you, no matter where you are or how much time you are able to give. Here are a few internet sources to get you started on your search for volunteer positions.

Nationwide and International Listings: Not from around here? Volunteer in your home state, or see the world while giving your time

<http://www.volunteer.gov/gov/> Search for service opportunities by state, as well as by keyword and agency.

<http://www.projects-abroad.org/> Interested in spending a week or two (or more) overseas, tutoring, building schools, or helping in an orphanage? Have you ever wanted to see Africa, Eastern Europe, or South America, to name a few possibilities? This website is a great place to start.

<http://www.hrw.org/about/volunteering> Human Rights Watch offers a number of summer internship positions, both in LA and around the globe. A great opportunity to work with an internationally renowned organization.

Volunteering in Los Angeles: Get to Know Your City

<http://www.laworks.com/>

<http://www.volunteerlosangeles.com/>

These are two great search sites for volunteer opportunities in the Los Angeles Area. Check out the Big Brothers Big Sisters program on Volunteer Los Angeles's page, for example, or link to 826 LA, an organization that helps students between the ages of 6 and 18 develop their writing skills- through LA Works. www.lafoodbank.org The LA foodbank is a longstanding institution with a great track record of helping the hungry in LA. A little help goes a long way with the foodbank!

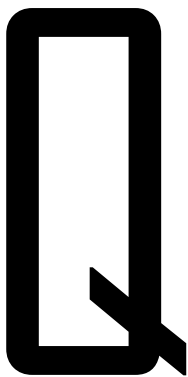


<http://bfla.bestfriends.org> Love animals, but can't keep them in your dorm or apartment? Volunteer with Best Friends LA. A great way to help our four-footed Angelino friends, and every once in a while, you get to hold a puppy!

UCLA Volunteer Programs: Start Locally

<http://volunteer.ucla.edu/> The UCLA Volunteer Center is a great starter resource for the student in search of service opportunities. Check out their Volunteer Leadership Program, especially. This program lets students suggest and plan their own volunteer projects with the support of the center. Ideal for any student aiming to gain leadership experience.

http://www.uclahealth.org/homepage_site.cfm?id=11 The UCLA Health System Volunteer Program is another popular choice for on-campus volunteering. Many positions are available in Westwood or within an easy bus ride to the end of campus.



Is financial aid available for the summer?

Summer aid is available to newly admitted and continuing UCLA students enrolled in UCLA Summer Sessions, College Summer Institute, Summer Sessions at another UC (cross-campus enrollment) or UC Summer Travel Program. You can only receive assistance for ONE summer program. Starting in Summer of 2012, financial aid will not be available for Non-UC Study Abroad programs.

What type of aid is available during the summer?

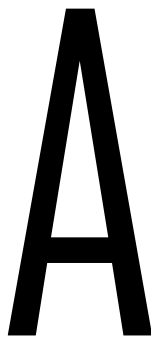
On time applicants, those who submit their FAFSA and/or the summer application by the due date, will be considered for the same types of awards during the summer as during the academic year:

Federal, State and University Grants, Federal Perkins and Direct Loans as well as Work-Study (for some programs). Late applicants, those who submit their FAFSA and/or the summer application late, will be considered for Federal Pell Grant and Direct Loans only. Please refer to the summer guides (available under Publications on the UCLA Financial Aid Office website) for additional information about summer sessions.



How do I apply for summer financial aid?

In addition to completing the FAFSA, you must also complete the online Summer Financial Aid Application. The application and filing timeline will vary depending on the summer program for which you seek assistance. The UCLA Summer Session application is available on the UCLA Financial Aid Office website beginning April 1. The priority deadline for submitting the summer application is April 30 to be considered for all types of aid. If your summer application is filed after April 30, and/or your FAFSA is submitted after March 2, you will be considered as a late applicant and the types of aid available to you will be limited. Please check the UCLA FAO's home page for information about applications and deadlines for other summer programs.



Remember, you must apply

separately for summer financial aid!

For more information visit the UCLA Financial Aid Office website at <http://www.fao.ucla.edu>

Six Frequently Asked Questions about Ordering Transcripts

By Elizabeth Raisanen, SRC staff

Whether you are applying for scholarships, graduate school, or even some jobs, it is almost certain that you will have to order transcripts at least once (but more likely many times) during your undergraduate career. A transcript is a document that details your academic history at an educational institution. Although ordering UCLA transcripts through URSA (ursa.ucla.edu) is a fairly straightforward process, students are often confused about the differences between the various kinds of transcripts they can order, as well as which is most appropriate for their individual needs. Here are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about ordering transcripts for scholarship applications.

1) How are official, unofficial, and verification transcripts different from one another?

An **official transcript** (also known as an “academic transcript”) details your entire academic record at UCLA, including a chronological list of the courses you’ve taken and your grades in those classes, transfer credits applied to your degree, your cumulative GPA, any academic actions on your record, UCLA degrees awarded (if applicable), and a listing of the courses you are currently taking (if applicable). Official transcripts can only be printed by the Registrar’s Office on special security paper, and they will be delivered in a sealed blue envelope. If you break the seal of your official transcript, the transcript becomes unofficial, so if you will be collecting your transcripts to send with your applications, remember not to open the blue envelope. An **unofficial transcript** (also

called a “student copy”) contains all of the same information as the official academic transcript, but it is not printed on special paper. Students are allowed to handle unofficial transcripts, which may be obtained either from your department’s undergraduate counselor or in person from the Registrar’s Office (1113 Murphy Hall). Unofficial transcripts cannot be ordered online.



An **official verification transcript** certifies that you are registered as a UCLA student and that your fees have been paid for the current academic term. It also indicates your enrollment status and lists any degrees you have received from the institution. Verification transcripts can only confirm student status after student fees have been paid for the term. These transcripts do not show courses you have taken or the grades received.

2) How much do transcripts cost?

Unofficial transcripts are free. Official UCLA transcripts cost \$10 each, as do official verification transcripts. (Please note, however, that the fee for a verification transcript is waived if it is being requested for loan or student aid verifications.) The processing time required for both kinds of official transcripts is three business days; one-day expedited processing is available for an additional \$10 (for the entire order, not per transcript). Transcripts can be picked up in person at the Registrar’s Office at 1115 Murphy Hall or delivered via standard mail for no additional cost; faxing or other special handling of transcripts, including delivery via courier service, will incur additional costs.

3) What kinds of transcripts are typically required for scholarship applications?

Unless otherwise indicated, most scholarship applications require academic (whether official or unofficial) rather than verification transcripts. Read each scholarship application carefully to determine whether the scholarship organization requires an official or an unofficial academic transcript. If the organization administering the scholarship doesn't specify a certain kind of transcript, you can probably assume that an unofficial transcript is acceptable, but it doesn't hurt to call the organization to confirm this before you apply.

4) Is it better to have the Registrar's Office send official transcripts to me or directly to the scholarship organization?

Again, this largely depends on the application guidelines. If a scholarship organization insists that an official transcript be submitted directly to them by the university, follow their directions and arrange to have the Registrar's Office send your transcript(s) to them. If the application does not specify how the committee wishes to receive your official transcript, however, it is better for you to collect the transcript(s) and send them to the organization with the rest of your application packet to ensure that all of your materials will arrive together and on time.

5) I'm a transfer student. Do I need to submit transcripts for scholarship applications from my community college as well as from UCLA?

Unless the application guidelines state otherwise, you will need to submit transcripts from all of the secondary institutions from which you have received a degree and/or established a GPA.

6) A scholarship application is asking me to submit an electronic copy of my transcript. How do I do that?

You can produce an electronic copy your transcript yourself by scanning it and then uploading the electronic copy onto your online application. If you don't have access to a scanner, you can ask your department's undergraduate counselor to email an electronic copy of your transcript to you. In these situations, unofficial transcripts are usually acceptable since they cannot be sealed in this format.

One final tip to keep in mind when ordering a transcript is that, unless you are a graduating senior whose final quarter grades and degree have all been posted, you should not order more official transcripts than you will need during any given quarter. If your scholarship search continues into the next quarter, you will have to order new, up-to-date transcripts for those applications.

**Join our fan page on Facebook/uclasrc to get alerts
on upcoming scholarships!
Also, follow us on Twitter @UCLASRC**

Write Your Personal Statement this Weekend!

By Hannah Nahm, SRC Staff

Let's face it: If you're like the rest of us, writing is not easy. Chances are, an impending paper deadline leaves you feeling anxious, queasy, or downright resistant, where suddenly you realize that between writing that paper and cleaning the toilet (for the third time), the choice seems clear: the toilet. When it comes to scholarship applications, a personal statement is perhaps the single-most important and valuable document that can set you apart from the rest of the applicant pool. More than any other supporting data (such as the letter of recommendation or academic transcript), the personal statement is where you have exclusive control over what is included. It is a powerful tool you can use to present yourself in a winning light, whether that be as an individual with desirable personal qualities and interesting experiences, or a person who has overcome hardships or someone with ambitious professional aspirations.

Ironically, this knowledge of how heavily the personal statement is weighed is precisely why many of us dread or put off writing it, and why so many otherwise competitive students give up on the scholarship process altogether. It's easy to tell ourselves to "just write it," but where do we start? What questions can we ask to generate ideas that we can eventually build into the personal statement draft?

Like any major task, it helps to break down the writing into manageable parts and approach it as a process. By following this four-step process, you will have the first draft of your personal statement by the end of this weekend!

Goal: To write the first draft of a personal essay by the end of this weekend

Step 1: Friday (1-2 hours). Use questions from the *Brainstorming Ideas* in the next column. Don't worry about writing in complete sentences. Brainstorm and take lots of notes.

Step 2: Saturday (2-3 hours). Write a draft of the essay based on brainstorming ideas. Don't worry about length, grammar, or style, and to some extent, even content. Remember: *Do not judge!*

Step 3: Sunday (1-2 hours). Use the *Strategies for Revision* checklist below to revise what you have written. Read it through at least 3 times and make changes.

Step 4: Schedule a writing appointment with the SRC and email the draft as an attachment to your assigned SRC writing consultant no later than 24 hours before your scheduled appointment.

BRAINSTORMING IDEAS: Consider Your Abilities, Background, Interests, and Plans

- How do I think of myself? What sets me apart from others, and what do those qualities indicate about me? How did I acquire these qualities?
- How have my experiences and values prepared me for the study or career I want to pursue?
- What is my interest and motivation in my field of study? What have I gotten out of it so far and what do I hope to get out of the future?
- How did I become interested and motivated? Can I trace my interest to any concrete experiences?
- What are my strengths—personal, academic, and experiential?
- Is there any relevant aspect of myself that my resume or record does not reflect accurately?
- Do my relevant experiences form any pattern? Broad exploration? Increasing focus? Tackling greater and greater challenges?
- What kinds of experiences have taught me the most? How did I become the person I am today?

STRATEGIES FOR REVISION

- Read out loud, sentence by sentence
- Read out loud backwards, from last to first sentence
- Be sure to cut any sentence that is not specific or clear to you
- Make the writing personal, specific—YOURS (as opposed to impersonal, generic or general)

Example: "I want to be an engineer so I can build things for the future."

Better: "I want to be a civil engineer so I can build type x bridge in Boulder, Colorado, as my initial interest in this community was sparked by my childhood visits there."

Special thanks to Dr. Valerie Shepard of the UCLA Graduate Resource Center for having first developed this four-step approach to writing the personal statement.



2012-13 UCLA College Division of Undergraduate Education Donor Scholarships

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must

- Demonstrate **FINANCIAL NEED** by completing the **FAFSA**. Go to <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.
- Be UCLA undergraduate students enrolled full time within the College of Letters and Science.
- Fill out an application online, available at http://www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu/DUE/Cont_Students.html.
- Provide all supporting documentation, including an **official or unofficial transcript** and a copy of the **PAL (Provisional Award Letter)** or **FAN (Financial Aid Notification)** letter. **DO NOT SUBMIT A DPR.**
- Submit completed applications to UCLA Scholarship Resource Center, 330 DeNeve Drive, 233 Covell Commons, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

DUE MAY 15

Myrtle Hickey De Luce Scholarship: preference to graduates of Lincoln, Belmont, John Marshall, or other LAUSD high schools who participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

Heather L. Kase Endowed Scholarship: preference to female undergraduates of the Jewish faith who demonstrate financial need and academic potential.

Louis Levy Endowed Scholarship: students should have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA, demonstrate financial need, and have graduated from a CA public high school.

Los Angeles Chapter of the Links Scholarship: preference to African-American students who demonstrate financial need.

Bess F. Raab Scholarship: preference to students with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA; must provide evidence of participation in at least one extracurricular activity at UCLA or in the community.

Rancho Park Rotary Club Scholarship: preference to full-time UCLA seniors of Iranian/Persian descent who actively participate in community service and demonstrate strong financial need; minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA.

John Ringlbauer UCLA Veteran's Scholarship: awarded to a full-time UCLA student who is either currently enlisted or is a veteran of the Armed Forces and who honorably served the US. Preference to those who made the greatest commitment or sacrifice during their service.

Louis and Zephyr Stuart Scholarship: preference to Armenian students who demonstrate leadership through extracurricular activities at UCLA and in the community; minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Jo-Belle Wolf Undergraduate Scholarship: preference to female students born in the US; minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

DUE JUNE 30

Nancy Diane Orford Scholarship: preference to students with cystic fibrosis or other disabilities.

National Notary Foundation Scholarship: preference to students with a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA and CA resident with strong leadership skills. **(for incoming freshmen only).**

Don Shepherd Scholarship: preference to students from San Diego County with a minimum 3.75 cumulative GPA **(for incoming freshmen only).**

Gertrude Pomish Scholarship: preference to students who actively participate in and demonstrate strong record of community service **(for incoming freshman only).**

Leah Bettelman: available to first year students with high merit and high financial need

Ola Zuckerman: available to first year students with high merit and high financial need

Take advantage of these FREE
resources and more!

Wide-Ranging Library
Workshops Every Quarter
Extensive Scholarship Website
One-on-one Counseling
Writing Assistance
Even a Typewriter!

Scholarship Resource Center Spring 2012 Workshop Schedule

*All workshops are held in Covell 229 and include a
personalized follow-up counseling session.
Sign up for a workshop through MY.UCLA.EDU.*

It's all waiting for you at the

UCLASRC

Scholarship Resource Center

*guiding UCLA students through
the scholarship process*

233 Covell Commons

(310) 206-2875

Open Monday to Friday

11 am—6 pm

src@college.ucla.edu

www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu

**Join our fanpage
on Facebook to get
alerts on upcoming
scholarships!**

Secrets to Winning College Cash

| | | |
|----------|-----------|--------------|
| April 4 | Wednesday | 5:30-6:00 PM |
| April 10 | Tuesday | 4:30-5:00 PM |
| April 19 | Thursday | 4:30-5:00 PM |
| April 27 | Friday | 4:30-5:00 PM |
| April 30 | Monday | 5:30-6:00 PM |
| May 2 | Wednesday | 5:30-6:00 PM |
| May 7 | Monday | 5:00-5:30 PM |
| May 15 | Tuesday | 4:30-5:00 PM |
| May 24 | Thursday | 5:00-5:30 PM |

How to Win Scholarships

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|----------|-----------|--------------|
| April 11 | Wednesday | 5:00-6:00 PM |
| April 24 | Tuesday | 5:00-6:00 PM |
| May 8 | Tuesday | 4:30-5:30 PM |

How to Find Scholarships

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|----------|-----------|--------------|
| April 17 | Tuesday | 5:00-5:30 PM |
| May 16 | Wednesday | 4:30-5:00 PM |

How to Write Personal Statements for Scholarships

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|----------|-----------|--------------|
| April 12 | Thursday | 5:00-5:30 PM |
| April 25 | Wednesday | 5:00-5:30 PM |
| May 9 | Wednesday | 5:30-6:00 PM |

How to Get Letters of Recommendation for Scholarships

| | | |
|----------|-----------|--------------|
| April 5 | Thursday | 4:30-5:00 PM |
| April 18 | Wednesday | 5:00-5:30 PM |
| May 3 | Thursday | 5:00-5:30 PM |