

UCLA Scholarship Resource Center STRATEGIES

SPRING-SUMMER 2014/ VOL. 19 NO. 3

SUMMER FUN(DING)

By Kat Webster, SRC Staff

It's early Spring, and by now you know that there are only about 10 weeks between you and summer! Gone are the days, however, when most of us can spend our summers blissfully riding bikes and hanging out in the pool. Once spring quarter begins, many people start thinking about how they're going to spend the summer months. An internship? Study abroad? Summer classes? Research? No matter what path you choose, paying for your summer activities can pose a significant challenge.

Obtaining scholarship funding can help you overcome those challenges, but there are a few things to keep in mind as you consider your opportunities for summer. First, scholarships are not an immediate solution: searching and applying take time, and scholarship organizations often work on a year-long schedule (meaning that you apply during the 2013-14 academic year for funds that do not kick in until the 2014-15 academic year). Secondly, there are not many scholarships available during the summer months. If you are planning a one-month study abroad program beginning in August, you won't be able to hunt down as many applications in July as you would in March. It is essential, in other words, to start as early as possible!



Here are a few tips to guide your search. First, many scholarships you will find for summer activities are program-specific. This means that the organization, group, or institution offering the activity you are interested in is the most likely source of funding for that activity. Interested in studying abroad in France, Brazil, or China to fulfill a UCLA requirement? Check out the

UCLA International Education Office's website for scholarships: ieo.ucla.edu/scholarships. Would you like to gain lab experience but can't find the funding to do so at UCLA? Try finding another institution that does offer scholarships or stipends. The Mayo Clinic (mayo.edu/mgs/programs/summer-undergraduate-research-fellowship) and the National Science Foundation (http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5517&org=NSF) both offer funded research opportunities for undergraduates during the summer months.

Additionally, it helps to cast a wide net by searching broadly for general scholarships, as well as for scholarships that are offered for use during the summer months. Your goal might be to establish a health information center in your community over the summer, but

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

Public Edit: Revising the Personal Statement

By Elena Shih, SRC Staff

As you prepare your next winning personal statement, consider these suggestions for revision based on the Scholarship Resource Center's winning strategies. Feel free to make a writing appointment at the SRC for similarly detailed edits or to brainstorm ideas for your next personal statement.

Scholarship Prompt: *Tell us about how this scholarship will help you achieve your academic goals and career aspirations.*

It [1] was a hot summer day in Los Angeles. I walked through the doors of the [downtown Los Angeles family courthouse](#) [2] and down to the hallway where the human-trafficking workshops were held. Outside the room where we would be meeting, a young [Chinese woman in her mid-to-late twenties](#) [3] was sitting on the floor with her back against the wall. ~~Since it was fifteen minutes before the doors to the workshop opened~~—I sat down across from the woman, introduced myself, and asked her if she was planning to attend the workshop. [4] Once I told her that I was a volunteer [5], she started asking me questions about the process of filing immigration papers for victims of violence. ~~It was my first day volunteering.~~ As a [Mandarin language assistant for the free anti-trafficking workshops during the summer following my freshman year](#), and I was prepared to ~~answer questions about~~ [de-mystify the legal process](#). [6] I felt the need to assure her that everything would be okay, and that we would provide her with the help she needed.

I want to change the world and be a humanitarian. [7] I have many more opportunities [8] than my parents [9] and hope to make the most of them. My career goal is to help others who find themselves in unexpected circumstances, [such as facing violence, unsafe working conditions, discrimination, and medical negligence](#). [10] I want to help find and use the legal tools that are available to assist vulnerable immigrant populations. ~~I want to become a lawyer because~~ The law is a very powerful tool to help people achieve this. This is why I want to become a lawyer. ~~Winning this~~

~~scholarship will prove to myself that I am serious about the path I want to take.~~ [11] I believe that my experiences have prepared me for law school and beyond—I am more motivated, dedicated, and more empathetic because of them.

Comments:

[1] Really great to start off this essay with an anecdote that draws the reviewer into your commitment to the law.

[2] Offer the name or location of the courthouse to give some more specificity to the scene. Also take the opportunity to give a sense of time; when did this take place? How did it fit into your academic coursework and progress? Similarly, provide a sense of scale and commitment; how often did you go to the courthouse, or how many cases have you dealt with?

[3] Describe the woman.

[4] Say something about the woman's demeanor. Did she seem happy? Sad? Tired? Anxious?

[5] Volunteer with what organization?

[6] What process?

[7] Avoid broad sweeping statements like this, especially when you have the work experience to know exactly how you intend to change the world. Being a humanitarian is not a career, but being a public interest immigration lawyer is.

[8] Be specific about what kinds of opportunities: Financial resources? Educational opportunities? Language competency?

[9] You have suggested your fluency in Chinese above. Here would be a great place to talk about race/ethnicity/immigration status and different personal characteristics that your parents have imparted to you.

[10] Be specific about what types of unexpected circumstances.

[11] Proving something to yourself or your parents raises a red flag in the context of an essay that is otherwise about altruistic motives. Instead, stay true to your commitment to the goals you have stated.

Getting an Early Start on National and International Merit Scholarships

By Francesca Marx, SRC Staff

EARLY DEADLINES

Have you ever dreamed of being a Fulbright recipient or a Rhodes scholar and seeing the world? Why not try to make that dream a reality? There are prestigious scholarships open to students in every field of study. Above all else, the applications for these high-profile national and international scholarships require planning. While most scholarship deadlines fall between January and April, these deadlines are often in fall or early winter. That makes the summer a good time to get started on these kinds of applications.

SEPTEMBER

Some national and international merit scholarships due in September include the following awards: the Marshall Scholarship (<http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/honors/marshall.html>) is open to students in any discipline who want to study in Britain. And to study in Ireland, there is the Mitchell Scholarship (<http://www.honors.ucla.edu/mitchell.html>). The Rhodes Scholarship, for study at Oxford, is open to exceptional students in any discipline (<http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/honors/rhodes.html>).

OCTOBER

The Churchill Foundation is for seniors or recent graduates in the fields of Engineering and Mathematics who want study in Cambridge, England (<http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/honors/churchill.html>). For students in the arts, humanities, or social sciences, there is the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship for up to \$30,000 to study in the US or anywhere else in the world (http://scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu/national_international/javits.htm).

NOVEMBER

Some prestigious awards due in November include the Jack Kent Cooke, which is for students planning on a graduate degree in the performing arts, visual arts, or creative writing (<http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/honors/cooke.html>). This is another award that students can take wherever they want to study. The Ford Foundation Fellowship seeks to increase the presence of



underrepresented minorities in the nation's college and university faculties by funding graduate study for students who show the greatest promise for future achievement as scholars, researchers, and teachers in institutions of higher education (http://scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu/national_international/ford.htm).

Students interested in fashion

should keep in mind the Fashion Scholarship Fund (FSF) award. This scholarship includes not only a substantial monetary prize but also includes an internship in New York or Los Angeles (contact the SRC at 310-206-2875 for more information).

MORE SCHOLARSHIPS

For information on these and many other scholarships, please contact the UCLA Scholarship Resource Center (http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/src/national_international/National_International.html) and the UCLA Honors Department (<http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/honors/opportunities.html>). We will help you get started on your dream of winning a prestigious national or international merit scholarship! Our staff can help you identify awards for which you might be eligible and then help you create the most successful application possible.

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

Spotlight on SRC Scholarship Winners

By Hannah Nahm, SRC Staff

“Do students actually win all these scholarships that are out there?”

“Have you personally helped students who went on to win scholarships?”

These are some of the most common questions we field at the SRC. The answer to both of these questions is a resounding ***YES!*** In this article, we profile four recent scholarship recipients. We have asked each winner to respond to two specific questions, in the hope that their words of wisdom will inspire you to start on your own scholarship application journey!

1. How has the SRC and its staff helped you in your scholarship journey?

2. If there is one piece of advice you can give to aspiring scholarship applicants, what would it be?



Student: Lyolya Hovhannisyan
Scholarship Won: Donald Strauss Scholarship
Award Amount: \$10,000

1. The SRC helped me tremendously in winning the \$10,000 Donald Strauss scholarship, which is awarded to California college juniors for a public service project. I learned about this opportunity close

to the application deadline, but the SRC team was willing to help on such short notice. They were wonderful in reading my personal statement and project proposal and providing meaningful and valuable feedback. The counselors I met with helped me greatly improve my application and supported me throughout the application process. I am very thankful for all of their help. UCLA students are fortunate to have access to a

great resource like the SRC! I highly encourage all students to visit the SRC regardless of where they are in their scholarship application processes!

2. Never approach an application with intimidation and the mindset and attitude that there is nothing special about you. The secret to winning any scholarship is allowing your passions and your uniqueness to speak through your application. Have others read your application and personal statements and make sure your voice speaks through your works!



Student: Howard Chung
Scholarship Won: numerous scholarships won; most recently, the UCLA Phi Delta Theta Fraternity Scholarship
Award Amount: \$1,000

1. Dr. Elizabeth Raisanen and Ms. Katherine Webster provided a critical evaluation of my personal statement, recommended excellent editing advice, and helped me to overcome the challenges of furnishing an essay that best articulated my background,

adversities, and accomplishments. I am tremendously grateful for their expertise in streamlining the writing and editing process! In addition, enrolling for and attending the SRC's “How to” series of workshops through MyUCLA's student account portal provided a wealth of useful tips and information that covered the entire application process from “How to Get Letters of Recommendation for Scholarships” to “How to Write Personal Statements for Scholarships.”

2. After winning my eighth scholarship award over the course of two years, I would like to think that I have developed a sort of know-how from my experiences. My advice to any aspiring applicant is to concentrate on your studies, collaborate with your colleagues, form study groups, get good grades, do community service, volunteer, assume a leadership role within a campus organization, intern, or work in a field pertinent to your major. All of these activities helped me—and I propose will help you—to become a stronger scholar, leader, and member of our society that scholarship donors intentionally seek out to honor with a scholarship award.



Student: Michelle Razavi
Scholarship Won: UCLA Honors Collegium Scholarship

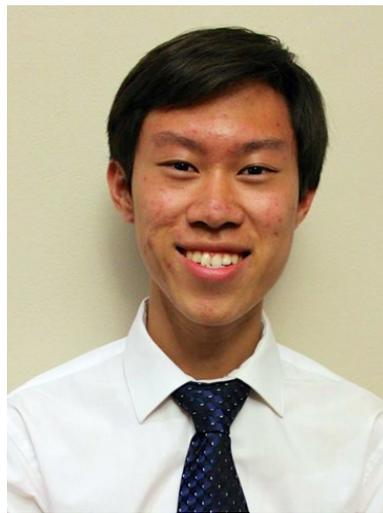
Award Amount: \$2,000

1. The Scholarship Resource Center and its staff have provided me with an accessible place where I can meet one-on-one with counselors. This ability to interact in person provided me with the opportunity to go in multiple times to edit my personal statements and scholarship essay responses. They are really efficient in that they have you e-mail

your essays that you want to review with them beforehand, so that your appointments are very efficient and focused. Going over my personal statements has not only improved my writing skills for the future but also polished my essays because I had another person review them and give me feedback.

2. I would say two things: stay organized and start early! I've applied to countless scholarships, and they all require unofficial transcripts, personal statements, resumes, summary of activities, etc. I have a folder on my computer specifically with all of these documents that I've used in the past. Usually you can tweak things you've written in the past or use older samples as a base to start from. This quickens the application process (so you can apply to more) and also makes it feel less daunting (so you're actually motivated to apply to more). Also, start early, especially with the essays. I try to finish the time-consuming essays first so I have adequate time to revise them and look them over with a fresh pair of eyes. These are usually the components of an application that make you competitive, so you want to make sure the essays are polished, focused, and well-written. If you have letters of recommendation that you

need, it's not only courteous but highly recommended to give your recommender ample time to write a thoughtful and thorough letter for you.



Student: Michael Huynh
Scholarship Won: Resnick Family / Getty Trust

Award Amount: \$5,000
Scholarship Won: Robert and Marian Wilson Endowed Scholarship
Award Amount: \$5,500

1. One of my hardest problems when it came to scholarship applications was knowing how to start essay prompts and what to write about. I received a great deal of assistance

from the SRC to figure out what sorts of strengths and activities I should include in my essays and how to improve my writing in a more cohesive manner. I learned not only how to grammatically structure my paragraphs and sentences, but I also realized what kind of information scholarship organizations look for and want to find out from their recipients.

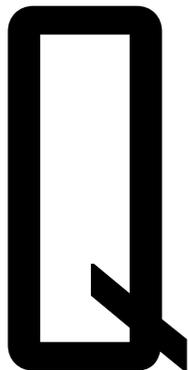
2. For any incoming students, whether freshmen or transfers, I would say to take chances and apply for whatever interests you as soon as possible! My advice is that it is never too early to start getting involved and active in new organizations, because these options will help you understand your passions and really form that college niche for yourself. It took me many interview rejections and club tryouts to finally see where I wanted to belong, and I can say that I do not regret any of my results from my first year here at UCLA.

Summer Funding, continued from page 1

you should search according to a number of criteria. To research your options, you can focus on community service scholarships, but you may also have a very high GPA, be a member of an underrepresented group, an avid bird-watcher (yes, there are bird watching scholarships! <http://www.aba.org/yb/scholarships.html>), or even a frequent customer at Target (<http://www.collegescholarships.org/scholarships/companies/target.htm>). Following up on each of these aspects of your profile could lead to unearthing more options as you search for scholarship list-

ings. Keep in mind, too, that you should definitely apply to general scholarships, or scholarships meant to be used during the regular academic year, in addition to summer scholarships. One way that students save money for summer programs, after all, is by paying less for school from September to June!

Last, but certainly not least, visit the Scholarship Resource Center for help. Our library has books on study abroad programs, grants, and other research funding opportunities. And, of course, we are here to help you on your applications and essays for any of the scholarships you find! Visit our office in 233 Covel Commons to get started!



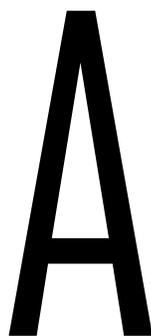
Is financial aid available for the summer?

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. As of the Summer of 2012, financial aid is no longer available for Non-UC Study Abroad programs.

What type of aid is available during the summer?

On-time applicants (that is, 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 finding funding for 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 (http://www.fao.ucla.edu/summer/Summer_Info.htm). 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>

2014-15 UCLA College Division of Undergraduate Education Donor Scholarships

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must

- Demonstrate **FINANCIAL NEED** by completing the FAFSA (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>) or Dream Application (<https://dream.csac.ca.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, 233 Covell Commons, Los Angeles, CA 90095.

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 and demonstrate a strong record of community service.

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**).

Donald R. 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 a strong record of community service (**for incoming freshmen 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 2014 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 2	Wednesday	5:30-6:00 PM
April 8	Tuesday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 17	Thursday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 25	Friday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 28	Monday	5:30-6:00 PM
April 30	Wednesday	5:30-6:00 PM
May 5	Monday	5:00-5:30 PM
May 16	Friday	4:30-5:00 PM
May 22	Thursday	5:00-5:30 PM

How to Win Scholarships

April 9	Wednesday	5:00-5:30 PM
April 29	Tuesday	5:00-5:30 PM

How to Find Scholarships

April 15	Tuesday	5:00-5:30 PM
May 12	Monday	4:30-5:00 PM

How to Write Personal Statements for Scholarships

April 10	Thursday	4:30-5:30 PM
April 24	Thursday	5:00-6:00 PM
May 7	Wednesday	4:30-5:30 PM

How to Get Letters of Recommendation for Scholarships

April 4	Friday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 16	Wednesday	5:00-5:30 PM
May 1	Thursday	5:00-5:30 PM