

CMR High School *Scholarship News* Scoop # 1 October 2020-2021



Financial Aid Information

The 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA forms for the current senior class will be available online October 1st. The information needed on the FAFSA form will be based on your and your parents' tax information from 2019.. Before you can apply for FAFSA you and your parents will have to create a PIN. You can do this at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>. **Plan to file your FAFSA early. Priority deadline for filing is December 1st.**

Time to Register - Selective Service and You

All male United States citizens and male aliens residing in the U.S. and its territories must register with Selective Service within the period starting 30 days before and ending 30 days after their 18th birthday. Log on to www.sss.gov and you can get yourself registered in about 5 minutes. If you have any questions or need assistance, please see your counselor.

Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

Through WUE, students in western states may enroll in more than 140 two-year and four-year college institutions at a reduced tuition level: 150% of the institution's regular resident tuition. Participating states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming. Search the WUE Online Database to see which institutions participate and which programs are available at the discounted WUE. Contact participating schools for applications and more information.

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Montana State University 2020 Presidential Scholarship

The Presidential Scholarship is MSU's most prestigious scholarship award. Up to twenty-three Presidential Scholarships will be awarded to freshmen entering Montana State University-Bozeman in September, 2021.

Criteria: Students will be selected as finalists on the basis of their academic accomplishments, intellectual or creative distinctions, extracurricular activities, letters of reference, and original essays.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must apply for admission to MSU-Bozeman as an entering freshman.
- Should have a cumulative GPA or 3.75 and a composite score of 30 on the ACT or 1360 on the SAT. Exceptions to these norms may be indicated on your application.

The online application can be accessed at www.montana.edu/honors/scholarships. Students are encouraged to visit the site and begin the application process in a timely manner as the process is quite lengthy. Deadline is December 4, 2020 by 3p.m. MST.

MSU Premier Scholarship Program

Hundreds of scholarships will be available to new freshman from Montana. If you are planning on attending MSU next year, you should apply for admission, have your ACT and/or your SAT scores sent to MSU and check the website www.montana.edu/admissions/premierscholarship/ to access the application. Priority deadline is February 1, 2020.

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA SCHOLARSHIPS

Davidson Honors College Presidential Leadership Scholarship

Applications for the Davidson Honors College Presidential Leadership Scholarship at the University of Montana are available and can be downloaded and printed at <http://umt.edu/dhc>. Application deadline is December 4th, 2020.

Montana Resident Entering Student Scholarship

To apply you must complete the University of Montana Undergraduate application. All general scholarships will be considered from the undergraduate application. The application can be found at <http://www.umt.edu/finaid/scholarships/mt-resident-entering-student-scholarships/default.php> Scholarship awarding begins November 15th.

MONTANA PRIVATE COLLEGES

University of Providence Scholarships

The University of Providence will award Academic Merit Scholarships and Competitive Academic Awards. Information and applications are available at <https://www.uprovidence.edu/admissions/paying-for-college/scholarships-grants/>

Carroll College

Carroll College will be offering several merit scholarships and a Montana Advantage Award on incoming freshman. Visit <https://www.carroll.edu/scholarships-aid/scholarships-new-students> for scholarship opportunities to this venerable Montana institution.

GFPS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Great Falls families, alumnus, and organizations generously fund yearly scholarships to graduating high school seniors each year. The Foundation is proud to administer these local scholarships representing about \$350,000 in awards each year. The scholarships are awarded to best reflect the wishes of the donors and the needs of students. The following scholarships are available at <http://tinyurl.com/scholarships-gfpsfoundation>. You will have to create an account, but once you enter your information, it will pre-populate for each scholarship.

The deadlines for ALL of these scholarships is November 30 at 5PM. No Exceptions.

Fred and Visilia Grasseschi Scholarship

The Fred and Vasilia Grasseschi Scholarship was created because of the Grasseschi family's strong belief in academics and athletics as well as their promotion in building character. The Fred & Visilia Grasseschi Scholarship will be given this year to an applicant with the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated acceptable citizenship
- Participated in sports all four years (football player given preference)
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Must have participated in one extra-curricular activity for each of the four years in high school
- Must show financial need

Jack and Rosann Johnson Scholarship

A couple who wish to remain anonymous and who are outstanding supporters of CMR football has provided an endowment gift to fund the Jack and Rosann Scholarship. This is a four-year renewable scholarship and will be awarded each year. Applicants must be a CMR senior, have a GPA of at least 3.0, participate in at least one sport, be involved in at least one school/community activity, submit two letters of recommendation by non-family members activity and write an essay. Recipient must maintain a 3.0 GPA all four years as college as well as maintain good citizenship.

Kelly Johnson Memorial Scholarship

The Kelly Johnson Scholarship was established as a memorial to Kelly Johnson, who was an outstanding Rustler during her high school career at Charles M. Russell High School. Kelly died tragically in an accident on July 1, 1991. This scholarship serves as a tribute to the memory of her. Scholarship will be given this year to an applicant with the following qualifications:

- Must be a CMR graduate.
- Must participate in and earn a varsity letter in at least one varsity sport at CMR.
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Must submit two letters of recommendation (one from a high school teacher, one from a coach).

Samantha Sipes Scholarship

The Samantha Ann Sipes Scholarship was established in 2014 to honor a CMR senior interested in pursuing a career in health care who demonstrates determination in overcoming obstacles, compassion for those in need, and kindness towards a diverse population. This four-year renewable scholarship is funded annually as a continuing tribute to Samantha Sipes. Scholarship Qualifications:

- Applicant must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25.
- Applicant should demonstrate school involvement and concern for others (one letter of recommendation and resume).
- Applicant must write a 250-word essay discussing and adversity they faced, how they dealt with it and what they learned from it.
- Applicant must write a 250-word essay describing their plans to enter into a health-related field and what motivates them to pursue this course of study and career.

Treacy Giesler Memorial Scholarship

Treacy Giesler was a 1984 graduate of Charles M. Russell High School. Throughout her junior and senior years she suffered from a debilitating brain tumor. In spite of the tumor, her determination, compassion for others and love of life triumphed. She participated in many activities and maintained a high academic record. The Treacy Giesler Memorial Scholarship was established by her family and friends and is funded annually as a continuing tribute to her memory.

Criteria of Scholarship:

- Graduating CMR senior who is seeking further accredited education
- 3.0 GPA
- Demonstration of having overcome some adversity (economic, emotional, family conflict, learning OR physical disability)
- Demonstrate participation in school and community activities
- Demonstrate concern for others and self determination
- One letter of recommendation and transcript

Class of '18 Green and Gold Scholarship

This scholarship will be awarded to a CMR student who is active both in school and in the community and who demonstrates positive Rustler Pride. It is the hope of the Class of 2018 that the winner of this scholarship will continue to contribute to both their school and community at their college or university.

Scholarship Qualifications:

- Applicant must participate in at least one school-sponsored activity (sport, music, drama, or club)
- Applicant must provide proof of community activism.
- Applicant must carry at least a 3.0 GPA.
- Applicant must submit two letters of recommendations from non-family members



Jaraczski Family Scholarship

This scholarship was established in November 2004 after Richard Jaraczski died after a long battle with cancer. He highly valued well-rounded young adults who demonstrated integrity, care for others, character, strength and determination. This scholarship is intended to reward one graduating senior who exhibits these values and who is serious about receiving a higher education. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or better. If a student has a GPA of 2.5-2.8 and has overcome any special circumstances or obstacles and meets the other requirements of this scholarship, he or she will be considered for this scholarship. Applicants must have participated in organized physical and non-physical activities 3 out of the 4 years of high school. The activities are not limited to school sponsored activities.

Rudolf Schoesser Memorial Scholarship

This particular scholarship is awarded to a student who plans to pursue his or her post-secondary education at an accredited institution, who exhibits motivation and action in making his or her dreams a reality. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0, be involved in at least one extracurricular activity each year of high school, have applied to an accredited college or university, and provide a transcript and two letters of recommendation.

Lowry Family Scholarship

The Lowry Family Scholarship was established in 2018 by Gary and Marie Lowry in recognition of their two children and six grandchildren who all graduated from CM Russell High School. Gary and Marie see the value of excellence in education and athletic and extra-curricular activities and are grateful for the education their children, grandchildren and currently great grandchildren have received in Great Falls Public Schools. They want to honor two C.M.R. students who plan to continue their education and have excelled as a Rustler. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded and is not restricted to an in-state school.

Scholarship Requirements:

- Must be a graduating CMR senior.
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Must have athletic, extra-curricular and/or school involvement.
- Must submit two letters of recommendation (one from a high school teacher, one from a coach).

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

Horatio Alger Scholarship

The Horatio Alger Association seeks to assist students who have demonstrated integrity, perseverance in overcoming adversity, strength of character, financial need, a good academic record, commitment to pursue a college education, and a desire to contribute to society. Scholarships range from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Several scholarships are available and each has unique qualifications and deadlines, so APPLY EARLY. Applications are available at: <http://scholars.horatioalger.org>.

Prudential Spirit of Community Scholarship

These \$1,000-\$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to students who are recognized for volunteer community service. Applications must be completed online at <http://spirit.prudential.com> (click on "Apply Now") and the **"Certification" page must be turned in to Mrs. Lowry by Nov. 10th, 2020.**

Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation

Sponsored by the local Coca-Cola bottler and the Coca-Cola Company, a public nonprofit foundation and the largest business-supported scholarship fund of its kind. Each year the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation recognizes outstanding seniors and awards 250 merit based scholarships. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is awarding over \$3 million in scholarships to high school seniors who demonstrate leadership, commitment to community, and academic achievement. Applications are available online at www.coca-colascholars.org. Application deadline is October 31, 2020.

Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship

Any high school senior who is a US citizen is eligible to apply for this scholarship that ranges from \$1,000 to \$12,500. Male and female students compete separately for identical awards. Scoring is based on scholarship, leadership and financial need. Application deadline is on or before November 15, 2020. Applications are available at: www.enf.elks.org

Elks National Foundation Legacy Award

The Elks National Foundation Legacy Awards scholarship contest awards one-year, \$4,000 scholarships to children and grandchildren of Elk members who are high school seniors, going on to college and exhibit the core values of the Elks National Foundation: Knowledge, Charity, Community and Integrity. Applications are available online at www.enf.elks.org/leg . Deadline is February 5, 2020.

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Scholarships

Each year, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution awards over \$150,000 through more than 25 scholarships to young individuals for their outstanding academic achievements. Scholarships and scholarship deadlines can be found at www.dar.academicworks.com. Application portal opens November 1, 2020.

Things to Think About

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT YOUR COUNELOR'S GOOGLE CLASSROOMS!

Scholarship Tips

- ✓ **Please check out the criteria carefully.** For example, if the scholarship requires you to attend a Montana school and you are going out-of-state, you will not qualify.
- ✓ **Scholarships have deadlines.** Don't wait until the last minute to get your application(s) completed, references turned in, or transcripts sent. It takes time and effort to do a quality application.
- ✓ **Have a back-up plan.** Apply to more than one school, and/or at least have a second and third choice in mind. Many quality students make the mistake of applying only to schools where admission and selection are very limited. It is recommended that you take your **ACT** or **SAT** test **no later than the December test dates**. Most colleges will accept results from either test. Please see your counselor about whether or not it might be beneficial or necessary for you to retake the test.
- ✓ **Scholarship Scoops.** Be attentive to the Scholarship Scoops as they arrive monthly. It is impossible to put every scholarship that colleges, universities, and vocational schools offer in the scoops. **It is your responsibility** to be searching out scholarships that fit your needs. The Advisement Center will pass along scholarships that arrive periodically.
- ✓ **All scholarship applications should:**
 - Be word processed.
 - Be on time.
 - Be complete. (Proofread, double check scholarship requirements and directions)
 - Be carefully and thoughtfully done.



***Don't forget to write a thank you note to those who write you letters of recommendation.**

***MSU Visits**-MSU will be offering daily on-campus or virtual visits Monday through Friday. Students can attend a campus tour, visit residence halls, meet with an admissions counselor, and get more information from academic departments of interest. Explore opportunities at www.montana.edu/visit.

Carroll Campus Visit Dates – Tour the campus, attend a class, meet a professor and have lunch with current students. Carroll is offering several options to visit their campus. **Visit** <https://www.carroll.edu/admission-aid/visit-campus> to find out what those options are.

***Common Application**—provides applications, both online and in print, that may be submitted to more than 400 colleges and universities, mostly private and/or out of state schools. See Mrs. Lowry or your counselor for more information.

REGISTER FOR THE ACT/SAT

*Register for the December 12th ACT test BEFORE November 6th @ act.org

*Register for the December 5th SAT test BEFORE November 5th @ collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register

CHECK OUT REACH HIGHER MONTANA-A great resource for students looking to find their future. Also a great resource for Montana scholarships. www.reachhighermontana.org. Follow them on Instagram/Facebook.



Other Scholarship Search Engines and Programs You Might Want To Check Out

- www.studentscholarships.org/newsletter.php - Download the student scholarships newsletter to receive a monthly update of available national scholarships.
- **Scholar Snapp** - A free, simple to use data standard that allows students to reuse their application information, including contact information, essays, transcripts, etc., from one scholarship application to another thereby streamlining the college scholarship application process.
- **Scholly** – A mobile app that provides students with a fast and simple way to find scholarships for college. (Created by Christopher Gray, a Coca-Cola Scholar!)
- **fastweb** – Create a profile and let fastweb do the research on scholarships, internships colleges and more for you.
- **Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation** – Educational and scholarship opportunities for students of all levels.
- **Scholarships.com**– A free college scholarship search and financial aid information.
- **Scholarship America** – Provides information and resources for your scholarship search.
- **KnowHow2GO** – Complete information on college prep, whether in middle school or seniors.
- **HS Finder (Hispanic Scholarship Fund)** – Scholarship information for Latino students.
- **Thurgood Marshall College Fund** – Provides scholarships, programmatic and capacity building support to the 47 public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).
- **Gates Millennium Scholars** – Provides outstanding low income African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American, and Hispanic American students with an opportunity to complete an undergraduate college education in any discipline they choose.
- **Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund** – The nation’s largest non-profit organization devoted to providing college scholarships for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI).
- **American Indian College Fund** – Provides Native American students with scholarships and financial support for the nation’s 33 accredited tribal colleges and universities.
- **Dell Scholars Program** – Recognizes academic potential and determination in students that have a definite need for financial assistance.