

Dec 1, 2020

Dear Seniors, Juniors and their Parents/Guardians,

Some of our students have received either Koplik or Adams Scholarship letters in the past weeks. These awards cover tuition at Massachusetts State Schools. Please note that the “tuition” part of cost of attendance is just a fraction of the overall cost, so the typical award is somewhere around \$1,500. The two scholarships have different [requirements](#). Please pay special attention if your student received the Koplik certificate. In order to receive the scholarship, he or she will need to [demonstrate proficiency by taking an AP or SAT Subject Test exams](#) (additional details on the back of the scholarship letter).

While doing scholarship searches with my own son, I’ve been very impressed with [GoingMerry.com](#). It is a free service that aggregates scholarships and then emails you when a batch of scholarships are due. For example, Nick just got a notice that ten scholarships that could match his profile are due in December. I can now annoy him by constantly reminding him to submit the application.

[Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) has been open since October 1st, and I’ve been fielding questions about it. Please make sure you choose the correct year when filling out the form. It is currently available to applicants starting in Spring 2021 and in the Fall 2021. Current seniors starting in the fall will need the 2021/2022 application. After the application is completed, you can submit it to 10 schools. Once you get the SAR back (3-5 days), you can go back to FAFSA, remove the first batch of schools and add another 10 schools.

Below are some examples of outside scholarships that are available to our students:

My name is Calvin Rosser, and I’m the CEO of Life Reimagined Ventures, a company dedicated to empowering 10 million people to live a more fulfilling life. Each year, we award \$500 in scholarships to high-achieving, high school students who have been affected in some way by the increasing prevalence of mental health challenges. The scholarship is designed to inspire greater awareness about mental health and fuel innovative solutions that help the millions of people who are suffering <https://calvinrosser.com/scholarships/mental-health-awareness>

[The RevenueZen Social Selling Scholarship](#) is an award for any current or soon-to-be undergrad who is looking to innovate the hiring process. In an ideal world, what would hiring and applying for a job look like? How will you stand out? The RevenueZen Scholarship has a brief submission process, and applicants will be judged on their ability to convey their idea for an innovative social selling process focused on getting hired at a specific company.

*Hello Mr Libenzon, I wanted to mention that we are in the middle of our Army ROTC High School National Scholarship process. The second board submission deadline will be in early January and the third will be in March. There is plenty of time for students to meet the deadline for both boards. Contact: [Scott T. Lyons](#), Enrollment and Scholarship Officer, Northeastern U (617) 373-2376*

[Applications are now being accepted for the KPMG Future Leaders Program](#) – Class of 2021! KPMG Future Leaders Program will award 22 deserving female high school seniors with a scholarship of \$10,000 per year. Applicant criteria includes: Proven track record of academic excellence and leadership potential, Minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA, Interest in a business or STEM academic track, Demonstrates a significant financial need, Letter of recommendation from a nonprofit.

Thank you,  
Lenny Libenzon, BHS College Counselor

**Previous letter: October 2020**

Dear Seniors, Juniors and their Parents/Guardians,

I would like to share some resources for the college scholarship search. BHS has our own scholarships to distribute, and information about these scholarships will be released in January. Meanwhile, below are some additional options that are FREE. We believe that you do not need to pay any outside agencies to find scholarships for your student (they are probably utilizing the same databases).

**MEFA** financial aid events will all be online this fall. BHS Guidance partners with the Massachusetts Education Financing Authority (MEFA) each year to provide families with a wealth of financial aid information. This year, due to the global pandemic, MEFA will not be sending their speakers out to high schools. Please visit <https://www.mefa.org/events> to investigate upcoming webinars and take a look at their very informative website.

One of our favorite scholarship search engines is **FastWeb.com**. The site provides multiple resources, as well as “Targeted Scholarship” search (Scholarships just for you based on your strengths, interests, and skills.)

Another resource is **Naviance**. After logging in, your student should go to the Colleges Tab, then click on Scholarships & Money. After that, click on National Scholarship Search to find scholarships based on your data.

Another great resource that came about a few years ago is called **Going Merry**. To find and apply for scholarships, sign up for **Going Merry** (<https://www.goingmerry.com>) -- it’s free! Going Merry has thousands of national, regional, and local scholarships. There are also opportunities for every grade level, from freshmen to seniors. You can also download the Going Merry mobile app (and sign up that way) on your phone. Here are some reasons why Going Merry is an excellent resource:

- Vetted scholarships: The Going Merry team personally reviews every scholarship listing on the site, to ensure the scholarship program is still active and the information is correct.
- Personal matching: Once signed up, you’ll answer a few questions to fill out a basic profile, and then get matched to scholarships that fit your background, academics, interests, etc.
- Clear organization: You can shortlist favorites and get deadline reminders about them. All drafts and applications are saved, and you’ll get updates on the scholarships you’ve applied to.
- Direct, auto-filled applications: You can apply to many scholarships directly on the site (with forms helpfully pre-filled).

Finally, would like to provide some examples of the scholarships that are available for your students:

-- [the Science Ambassador Scholarship](#), a full-tuition scholarship for women studying science, technology, engineering, or math. Applications for the 2021 award are now open. Check out their [our website for more information](#).

-- The [Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute](#) awards more than \$1 million in college scholarships to exceptional student leaders each year. High school seniors nationwide who demonstrate leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship are invited to apply. Additional information, eligibility requirements, and a link to the [application are available](#) online.

BHS’s own Brookline DoSomething Club generated a campaign to gather a list of scholarships & resources for undocumented students. They did an amazing job! [Here is the link to the list](#)

Lenny Libenzon, BHS College Counselor