The 10 best sites to look for scholarships (Published January 30, 2012, www.usatodayeducate.com)

By Her Campus

With a new semester upon us and our bank accounts drained from holiday shopping and much-needed nights out, scholarships of any amounts can certainly come in handy.

Here are the 10 best sites for searching for scholarship cash — along with one scholarship from each to get you started!

1. Zinch.com

Zinch is a college students one-stop-shop for scholarships that are creative, easy and fun to apply for and win. To apply for scholarships via Zinch, you'll have to create a username and profile that will help the site find scholarships that are specifically relevant to you! One of Zinch's most popular awards is the Weekly Three Sentence Essay Scholarship, where applicants must generate a 280-character essay (that's only two tweets!) while vying for \$1,000 of cold, hard cash.

Visit Zinch.com for more scholarships.

2. Fastweb.com

Fastweb is another terrific, free resource where you'll find thousands of scholarships at your fingertips. Not only does Fastweb offer a massive database of monetary awards, but it also features helpful career planning services and learning tools for its registered users! One of Fastweb's most recently featured scholarships is the "Natural Disaster" PSA Video Contest, a \$3,000 scholarship offered to creative undergrads with an eye for cinematography and knowledge of the consequences of natural disasters.

Visit Fastweb.com for more scholarships.

3. ScholarshipPoints.com

You know how you always seem to receive a new, complimentary gift after so many purchases at that favorite beauty counter of yours? ScholarshipPoints works the same way! Well, kind of. The site's users rack up points through a rewards system, making them eligible for different scholarships according to how many points they have earned. Members can earn points through fun, day-to-day activities like reading blogs, taking quizzes and playing online games. ScholarshipPoints offers a rolling, monthly \$1,000 for its members and a quarterly \$10,000 scholarship. Join today and start earning your points!

Visit ScholarshipPoints.com for more scholarships.

4. Cappex.com

You may remember being advised by your high school guidance counselor to make a Cappex account to help narrow down your college search, but don't delete that online profile just yet! The site is still helpful during our undergrad years, offering ample scholarship opportunities and financial advice. Once we're undergrads, Cappex graciously bumps us up to "College Pro" status, where we'll be eligible to apply for a \$2,500 College Pro exclusive scholarship! Don't wait, and check out all of the fine print of the Cappex College Pro scholarship today.

Visit Cappex for more scholarships.

5. Scholarships.com

A no-brainer of a URL, are we right? Scholarships.com is a wonderful resource for college students who aspire to kill two birds with one stone—the site finds both scholarships and colleges that are perfect for you! If you're looking to transfer to a school that is dying to recruit you and offer you scholarships, this is the site to visit. The site allows you to pinpoint specific scholarships by your major, year in school and location, increasing your chances for receiving awards and saving you tons of time. For meticulous proofreaders and aspiring editors, you may want to check out the Program featured on Scholarships.com! Although an essay is required, the \$1,500 you could earn is definitely worth the time spent behind the keyboard. Visit Scholarships.com for more scholarships.

For the next five sites, check out the rest of the story at HerCampus.