

# Scholarship Scams

## Scam Warning Signs:

- You Have to Pay a Fee
- Money Back Guarantee
- Credit Card/Bank Account Information Required
- Offers Exclusive Information

## Common Scams:

- Phony scholarship - promises cash if you pay a registration fee
- Phony scholarship matching service - pay a fee and they guarantee you will win scholarships
- Phony educational loan - pay a fee and receive a low interest rate
- Phony financial aid seminar - one big sales pitch

## Reporting Scams:

1. National Fraud Information Center (NFIC)
  - o Call their toll-free hotline at 1-800-876-7060
  - o visit [www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org)
  - o write: National Fraud Information Center, P.O. Box 65868, Washington DC, 20035
2. Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
  - o call 1-888-FTC-HELP (1-202-382-4357)
  - o visit [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)
  - o write: Federal Trade Commission, CRC-240, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington DC, 20580
3. State Attorney General's Office
  - o File your complaint with the Bureau of Consumer Protection in your state.
4. Better Business Bureau (BBB)
  - o Report business fraud or ask for information about a company.
  - o visit [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).
5. US Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)
  - o call the Postal Crime Hotline at 1-800-654-8896
  - o write: United States Postal Service, Attention: Hotline, 1735 N. Lynn Street, Arlington, VA 22209-2020