

## 2020 Student Scholarships

**Thanks to the generosity of our donors, The Miami Foundation's scholarship programs help students gain access to higher education. Programs are listed below by their submission deadline date.**

### **Alan R. Epstein 'Reach for the Stars' Scholarship**

The Epstein family established the Alan R. Epstein 'Reach for the Stars' Scholarship to honor the life of an outstanding young man who was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Scholarships are awarded to students who have overcome life's obstacles. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. **Deadline: April 15, 2020**

### **Judge Sidney M. Aronovitz Memorial Scholarship**

The Aronovitz Family partnered with The Miami Foundation to honor the memory of the late Judge Sidney M. Aronovitz. Judge Aronovitz stood as an example for the community, excelling in his chosen profession and always thinking of those less fortunate than himself. Scholarships are awarded to Miami-Dade County minority students planning to continue their education through the university level and pursue a career related to the legal field or social-justice issues. Preference is given to students who plan on returning to Greater Miami after graduation and improve the local community. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$3,000. **Deadline: April 15, 2020**

### **Ortega Foundation Scholarship**

The Ortega Foundation established the Ortega Foundation Scholarship Program in honor of its founder Jose Antonio Ortega, Sr. Jose Antonio believed strongly in giving academically accomplished individuals the opportunity to pursue a college education. Scholarships are awarded to Miami-Dade County high school seniors with a GPA of 3.5 or above. Award amounts are up to \$7,000 per year for up to 4 years if student maintains a 3.5 GPA while in college.

**Deadline: April 15, 2020**

### **Give Kids a Chance Scholarship**

The Give Kids a Chance Scholarship was established by Brian McDonough, Esq. to support children of lower-income families. Scholarships are awarded to high school seniors desiring to continue their education but need additional financial assistance to do so. Recipients are eligible for additional awards given they maintain full-time status and meet academic requirements. Awards are typically \$1,000. **Deadline: April 30, 2020**

### **Liberty Square Student Scholarship Fund**

The Related Group established this fund in 2018 to assist students with high aspirations **who live or who have immediate family in Liberty Square**. Scholarship recipients may pursue their future goals by supporting their post-secondary education through either a college degree or a career-path vocational/technical certification program. Awards range from \$2,000 to \$5,000. **Deadline: April 30, 2020**

### **College Assistance Program (CAP, Inc.)**

CAP, Inc. provides scholarships to Miami-Dade County Public School graduates who have exhausted all avenues of financial assistance (federal, state and institutional), but still have significant unmet needs to attend the college of their choice. Award amounts typical range from \$500 to \$2,000 and are based on financial analysis for each applicant of unmet need. **Deadline: May 22, 2020**

### **About The Miami Foundation**

The Miami Foundation partners with donors to champion their causes and improve local quality of life. Since 1967, we've done this by taking leadership on civic issues, investing in our community and nurturing philanthropy. Thanks to our more than 1,000 donors, we currently manage over \$350 million in assets and have made almost \$350 million in grants that create opportunities for residents, make Miami-Dade County more resilient and foster home-grown creativity.

**For more information:** visit [miamifoundation.org/scholarships](http://miamifoundation.org/scholarships) or email [arosales@miamifoundation.org](mailto:arosales@miamifoundation.org)

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### **Financial Aid Displacement – Check Your School Financial Aid Package Before Applying:**

Private scholarships can be an important piece of paying for college. However, students should know they can also impact the financial aid award packaged offered by the school they select to attend. Upon acceptance of a student, colleges and universities provide a Financial Aid Award Letter. The letter presents the expenses that comprise the Estimated Costs of Attendance and a financial aid package that lists all the aid you are eligible to receive. It is intended for you to see and fill the gap between the cost of attendance, financial aid offerings, and therefore the amount you/your family will need to pay.

This package includes aid offered directly by the school in the form of grants (typically need-based) and scholarships (typically merit-based.) Some colleges reduce their contribution to the financial aid package (school grants or scholarships) when a student secures outside private scholarship dollars – known as Financial Aid Displacement. This is especially likely in cases where school grants and scholarships cover a large portion of the cost of attendance, leaving only a small gap for what students/their families must pay, and a new outside scholarship results in them having financial aid that actually exceeds the cost of attendance.

We strongly recommend that you reach out to the financial aid office of the post-secondary institution you plan to attend and request an explanation or copy of its Outside Scholarship Policy and how they address financial aid displacement. This will ensure you can anticipate any financial aid consequences if you receive new outside scholarship funds.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**1. Where do I find the Foundation’s scholarship offerings?**

You can find all scholarships and links to guidelines on our website at [miamifoundation.org/scholarships](http://miamifoundation.org/scholarships). Review the guidelines carefully for eligibility criteria and what’s required for submission before you get started.

**2. Where do I submit a scholarship application?**

You must create an account on the Foundation’s [online portal](#). Along with entering your profile and login information, in the Portal Access section please select “Scholarship Applicant (Student)”. This will give you access to all the available applications. Click here to download a copy of the **Scholarships Application Portal User Guide**.

**3. Do you have to be a student in Miami-Dade County to qualify?**

For most of the scholarships, you must be a student who is attending, or is a graduate of, a high school in Miami-Dade County. Scholarships differ in whether that must be a public school or may include private schools. Please review the [guidelines for each program](#) for specifics and any exceptions.

**4. Are these scholarships only for Miami and/or Florida-based colleges or universities?**

No. Scholarship recipients can be enrolled in any college or university in the United States.

**5. Can I win more than one scholarship?**

Yes. So long as you meet the qualifications for the scholarship and the committee selects you as a recipient, you may be awarded more than one scholarship.

**6. When will I be notified whether I was awarded a scholarship?**

You can refer to the guidelines for each scholarship program on the top where it says “[Notification of Award](#)”.

**7. Can I deposit the scholarship check into my personal bank account?**

No. The Miami Foundation will send all scholarship payments directly to the colleges or universities that students are enrolled in with a letter of instructions to the attention of the school’s respective Financial Aid Office.

**Unmet Need Calculator and Other Resources** – Scholarship seekers are highly encouraged to use the unmet need calculator that we have developed for students who want a full understanding of their educational expenses and unmet gaps. We have also compiled other helpful resources all students should consult:

- [The Miami Foundation’s Unmet Need Calculator](#)
- [Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance](#)
- [Florida Student Scholarship Grant Programs: Florida Financial Aid Application & Bright Futures Scholarships](#)
- [Miami-Dade County Public Schools – Division of Student Services & College Planning](#)
- [Federal Student Aid – U.S. Department of Education: FAFSA](#) (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*)
- [The College Board](#)
- [FastWeb Scholarship Directory](#)