

Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families 2010-2012

Twelfth Edition

**Gail Ann Schlachter
R. David Weber**

A List of Scholarships, Fellowships/Grants, Grants-in-Aid,
and Awards Established Primarily or Exclusively for Persons
with Disabilities or Members of Their Families, Plus a Set of
Six Indexes: Sponsor, Program Title, Residency, Tenability,
Subject, and Deadline Date

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El Dorado Hills, California

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Introduction

WHY THIS DIRECTORY IS NEEDED

With a total population of 49 million, the disabled constitute America's largest "minority" group. Each year, billions of dollars in financial aid are set aside to assist persons with disabilities and members of their families. But, how can these individuals find out about the available funding?

Traditional financial aid directories don't offer much assistance. Instead, those resources have tended to focus either on a small portion of the total funding or on only one type of funding. For example, the latest edition of *Career Resource Guide for People with Disabilities* (last published by Ferguson in 2006) contains thousands of entries, but only a small number identify funding—and many of those programs are for researchers and organizations working to help the disabled, not for the disabled themselves. Similarly, general financial aid directories have never included more than a few of the programs designed primarily or exclusively for persons with disabilities or their families. The *Scholarship Book* (published by Prentice Hall) is representative; it describes thousands of diverse funding opportunities, but less than 150 of those are aimed specifically at either disabled persons or members of their family.

As a result, many individuals with disabilities and members of their family (along with the counselors and librarians there to serve them) have been unaware of the vast array of funding programs available to them. Now, with the ongoing publication of the award-winning *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*, all that has changed. Here, in one place, you can now find comprehensive information on the biggest and best financial aid opportunities set aside specifically for persons with disabilities or members of their family.

WHAT MAKES THIS DIRECTORY UNIQUE

Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families is the first and only publication to identify and provide comprehensive information on the more than 1,250 programs specifically set aside to provide funding to those with physical, sensory, or other disabilities, as well as to their family members. The listings in this book cover every major field of study, are sponsored by more than 600 different private and public agencies and organizations, and are open to all levels of applicants—from high school and college students to professionals, postdoctorates, and others.

In addition to its comprehensive coverage, the 2010-2012 edition of the directory offers several other unique features. First, all funding described here is substantial; every program offers at least \$1,000, and many award \$20,000 or more. Even better, all of this is "free" money; not one dollar will ever need to be repaid (provided, of course, recipients meet the program requirements). Another plus: you can take the money awarded by these funding programs to any number of locations. Unlike other financial aid directories, which often list large numbers of scholarships available only to students enrolled at one specific school, all of the entries in this book are "portable." And, many of the programs listed here have never been covered in other financial aid directories. So, even if you have searched elsewhere, you will want to look here for new leads.

Here's another advantage: unlike other funding directories, which generally follow a straight alphabetical arrangement, this one groups entries by both type of disability (e.g., hearing impairments, orthopedic impairments) and type of program (e.g., scholarships, grants-in-aid)—making it easy for a user to search for appropriate programs. The same convenience is offered in the indexes, where the entries are also subdivided by disability and program type. With this unique arrangement, users with one set of characteristics (e.g., persons with hearing impairments) will be able to find all programs set aside spe-

cifically for them—and not be distracted or have to waste time sorting through descriptions of programs intended for individuals with other types of disabilities.

In fact, everything about the directory has been designed to make your search for funding as easy as possible. You can identify programs not only by recipient group and type of funding, but also by program title, sponsoring organizations, where you live, where you want to spend the money, individual subject areas, and even deadline date (so fundseekers working within specific time constraints can locate programs that are still open). Plus, you'll find all the information you need to decide if a program is a match for you: purpose, eligibility requirements, financial data, duration, special features, limitations, number awarded, and application date. You even get fax numbers, toll-free numbers, e-mail addresses, and web site locations (when available), along with complete contact information, to make your requests for applications proceed smoothly.

Reviewers have consistently praised the unique value of *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*. For example, *Disability Resources Monthly* called the directory a "must-have." *College Financial Aid* agreed and, because of its "wealth of information," gave the directory its "four-star" (highest) rating. *American Reference Books Annual* predicted that "this directory will assuredly be a major reference tool in most libraries" and labeled it "an essential purchase." The directory has been chosen as one of the "best reference books of the year" by *Library Journal* and as one of the "outstanding reference books of the year" by the New York Public Library, which commended Reference Service Press for its "excellent contribution in an area of publishing where quality is at a premium."

THE EXTENT OF UPDATING IN THE 2010-2012 EDITION

The preparation of each new edition of *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families* involves extensive updating and revision. To insure that the information included in the directory is both reliable and current, the editors at Reference Service Press 1) review and update all programs open to persons with disabilities or members of their families currently in our funding database and 2) search exhaustively for new program leads in a variety of sources, including printed directories, news reports, journals, newsletters, house organs, annual reports, and sites on the Internet. Our policy is to write program descriptions only from information supplied in print or online by the sponsoring organization (no information is ever taken from secondary sources). When that information could not be found, we sent up to four letters or e-mails (followed by up to three telephone inquiries, if necessary) to those sponsors. Despite our best efforts, however, some sponsoring organizations still failed to respond and, as a result, their programs are not included in this edition of the directory.

The 2010-2012 edition of the directory completely revises and updates the earlier biennial edition. Programs that have ceased operations have been dropped. Profiles of continuing programs have been rewritten to reflect operations in 2010-2012; more than 80 percent of these programs reported substantive changes in their locations, requirements (particularly application deadline), or benefits since 2008. In addition, more than 450 new entries have been added to the program section of the directory. The resulting listing identifies more than 1,250 available funding opportunities: scholarships, fellowships, grants, grants-in-aid, and awards.

HOW THE DIRECTORY IS ORGANIZED

Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families is divided into two separate parts: 1) a descriptive list of financial aid programs designed primarily or exclusively for persons with disabilities and their families and 2) a set of six indexes.

Financial Aid Available to the Disabled and Their Families. The first part of the directory describes 1,257 funding opportunities aimed primarily or exclusively at persons with disabilities and members of their families. The programs described are sponsored by federal and state government agencies, professional organizations, foundations, educational associations, and military/veterans organizations. They are open to applicants at any level (high school through postdoctoral) to support a whole host of activities, including education, research, travel, training, equipment acquisition, career development, and innovative effort. All areas of the sciences, social sciences, and humanities are covered.

Entries in this part are grouped into the following six chapters, to make it easy to search for funding intended for members of specific disability groups (the list is based on a condensation of the disability categories established in Public Law 94-142, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act):

Visual Disabilities: Programs open to individuals who have visual impairments (are partially sighted or blind), with or without correction.

Hearing Disabilities: Programs open to individuals who have difficulty in receiving linguistic information, with or without amplification.

Orthopedic and Developmental Disabilities: Programs open to individuals with 1) a severe orthopedic impairment caused by birth defects (e.g., absence of an extremity), diseases, or other causes (e.g., accidents, amputations), or 2) a severe, chronic disability that was manifested before the age of 22 (e.g., spina bifida).

Communication and Other Disabilities: Programs open to individuals who have a communication disorder (such as stuttering or voice impairment), have a learning disability (including such conditions as brain injury and dyslexia), are emotionally disturbed, or have other chronic or acute health problems, such as cancer, tuberculosis, or hemophilia.

Disabilities in General: Programs open to persons with any disability (programs that do not specify or restrict the type of eligible disabilities).

Families of the Disabled: Programs open to the children, stepchildren, adopted children, grandchildren, parents, siblings, and other dependents or family members of persons with disabilities.

To make it easy to target available funding, each of these six chapters is then further divided (when appropriate) into four type-of-funding sections.

Scholarships: "Free" money available to support study or research at the undergraduate level in the United States. Usually no return of service or repayment is required.

Fellowships/Grants: "Free" money available to support graduate, postgraduate, or postdoctoral study, research, or creative activities in the United States. Usually no return of service or repayment is required.

Grants-in-Aid: Funding intended to assist with personal needs, including emergency situations, property and income tax liabilities, assistive technology, and the adaptation of housing and vehicles.

Awards: Competitions, prizes, and honoraria granted in recognition or support of creative work and public service.

Within each of these sections, entries are arranged alphabetically by program title. Some programs supply assistance to more than one specific group or supply more than one type of assistance, so those are listed in all relevant subsections. For example, since the Georgia Council of the Blind Scholarships are open to either legally blind Georgia residents or their children, the program is described in both the Visual Disabilities *and* Families of the Disabled chapters. Similarly, the Allie Raney Hunt Scholarship is open to oral deaf undergraduate *and* graduate students, so the program entry is included in both the Scholarships *and* Fellowships sections of the Hearing Disabilities chapter.

We have designed each program profile to include information, when available, on program title, organization address, telephone number, fax and toll-free numbers, e-mail address, web site, purpose, eligibility, money awarded, duration, special features, limitations, number of awards, and application deadline. (Refer to the sample on page 9).

Each of the entries in the directory has been written using information provided by the sponsoring organizations (in print or online) through the first half of 2010. While the listing is intended to cover available funding as comprehensively as possible, some sponsoring organizations did not respond to our research inquiries and, consequently, are not included in this edition of the directory.

Indexes. The directory's six indexes make it easy to target appropriate financial aid opportunities. Program Title, Sponsoring Organization, Residency, Tenability, Subject, and Calendar Indexes all follow a word-by-word alphabetical arrangement and refer the user to the appropriate entry by number.

Program Title Index. This index lists alphabetically all program titles and variant names (former names, popular names, abbreviations, etc.) of the scholarships, fellowships/grants, grants-in-aid, and awards covered in the first part of the directory. Since one program can be listed in more than one section (e.g., a program providing assistance to the disabled *and* to members of the disabled's family for either undergraduate *or* graduate study would be listed in four sections), each entry number in the index has been coded to indicate both availability groups (e.g., families of the disabled) and program type (e.g., scholarship, award). By using this coding system, readers can easily identify the programs that match their financial needs and eligibility characteristics.

Sponsoring Organization Index. This index provides an alphabetical listing of the more than 600 organizations sponsoring financial aid programs represented in the first part of the directory. As in the Program Title Index, entry numbers have been coded to indicate both recipient group and program type.

Residency Index. This index identifies the residency requirements of the programs listed in the directory. Index entries (state, region, country) are arranged alphabetically (word by word). To facilitate access, the geographic terms in the index are subdivided by recipient group and program type. Use this index when you are looking for money set aside for persons with disabilities and members of their families residing in a particular geographic area.

Tenability Index. This index identifies the geographic locations where the funding described in the directory may be used. Index entries (city, county, state, region, country) are arranged alphabetically (word by word) and subdivided by both availability group and program type. Use this index when you or your family members are looking for money to support research, study, or other activities in a particular geographic area.

Subject Index. This index allows the reader to use more than 150 subject terms to access the financial aid programs designed primarily or exclusively for persons with disabilities and members of their families listed in the first part of the directory. Extensive "see" and "see also" references facilitate the search for appropriate financial aid programs.

Calendar Index. To assist fundseekers who often must work within specific time constraints, the Calendar Index identifies financial aid programs by filing date. The Calendar Index is arranged by type of program (scholarships, grants-in-aid, etc.) and divided according to recipient group (hearing impaired, families of the disabled, etc.) and month during which the deadline falls. Filing dates can and quite often do vary from year to year; consequently, this index should be used only as a guide for deadlines beyond 2012.

WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

The focus of this directory is on substantive (\$1,000 or more) "portable" (noninstitution-specific) programs available primarily or exclusively to persons with disabilities and their families or descendants. Excluded from this list are:

Awards open equally to all segments of the population. Only funding opportunities open primarily or exclusively to persons with disabilities, or members of their families, are covered here. For information on unrestricted programs, see a general directory like *Kaplan Scholarships*.

Financial aid programs administered by academic institutions solely for the benefit of their currently-enrolled students. Financial aid seekers should write directly to individual schools for this information.

Services, such as training and counseling, that do not involve actual financial assistance to the disabled person. To obtain information on these benefits, check with the appropriate federal, state, local, or private social service agency in your area.

Nonmonetary benefits, such as special license plates for persons with disabilities. To obtain information, check with the appropriate agency in your area.

SAMPLE ENTRY

- (1) **[470]**
- (2) **INA BRUDNICK SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**
- (3) Great Comebacks Award Program
c/o ConvaTec Customer Interaction Center
100 Headquarters Park Drive
Skillman, NJ 08558
Toll-free: (800) 422-8811
E-mail: info@greatcomebacks.com
Web: www.greatcomebacks.com
- (4) **Summary** To provide financial assistance to college students with an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) or other related physical conditions.
- (5) **Eligibility** This program is open to people between 17 and 24 years of age who have undergone an ostomy and/or have an IBD (Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis). Applicants must be able to demonstrate financial need. Along with their application, they must submit statements on how their life has been changed or affected by their medical condition and their ostomy, how their comeback has positively affected their life and those around them, and what advice they would give to others struggling with similar medical conditions or facing ostomy surgery.
- (6) **Financial data** The stipend is \$1,000.
- (7) **Duration** 1 year.
- (8) **Additional data** This scholarship is provided by ConvaTec, a Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.
- (9) **Number awarded** 4 each year: 1 from each region of the country.
- (10) **Deadline** July of each year.

DEFINITION

- (1) **Entry number:** Consecutive number assigned to the references and used to index the entry.
- (2) **Program title:** Title of scholarship, fellowship, grant-in-aid, or award.
- (3) **Sponsoring organization:** Name, address, telephone numbers, toll-free number, fax number, e-mail address, and web site (when information was supplied) for organization sponsoring the program.
- (4) **Summary:** Identifies the major program requirements; read the rest of the entry for additional detail.
- (5) **Eligibility:** Qualifications required of applicants, plus information on application procedures and selection process.
- (6) **Financial data:** Financial details of the program, including fixed sum, average amount, or range of funds offered, expenses for which funds may and may not be applied, and cash-related benefits supplied (e.g., room and board).
- (7) **Duration:** Period for which support is provided; renewal prospects.
- (8) **Additional data:** Any unusual (generally non-monetary) benefits, features, restrictions, or limitations associated with the program.
- (9) **Number awarded:** Total number of recipients each year or other specified period.
- (10) **Deadline:** The month by which applications must be submitted.

Indirect aid programs, where funds go to agencies, organizations, researchers, and educational institutions that provide services to persons with disabilities or that study disabilities (rather than directly to the disabled or their families). For information on these programs, consult the various grants directories (such as the *Annual Register of Grant Support* or the *Directory of Research Grants*) or conduct a computerized search, using GrantSelect or another database.

Money for study or research outside the United States. Since there are comprehensive and up-to-date directories that describe all available funding for study and research abroad (see Reference Service Press's publications list opposite the title page in this directory), only programs that support study, research, or other activities in the United States are covered here.

Money that must be repaid. Only "free money" is identified here. If a program requires repayment or charges interest, it's not listed. Now you can find out about billions of dollars in aid and know that you will never have to repay any of this money.

Restrictive programs, where the funds are generally available only to a limited geographic area (specific cities or counties only), to a very limited membership group (e.g., a local union), or in limited amounts (under \$1,000). To get information on these more restrictive programs, contact Reference Service Press directly or access RSP FundingFinder, Reference Service Press's subscription-based online funding database.

TIPS TO HELP YOU USE THE DIRECTORY

To Locate Funding Available to Individuals with Various Types of Disabilities. To bring programs with similar eligibility requirements together, the directory is organized into six availability chapters: Visual Disabilities; Hearing Disabilities; Orthopedic and Developmental Disabilities; Communication and Other Disabilities; Disabilities in General; and Families of the Disabled. If you have a disability, be sure to check not only the chapter that covers your specific disability (e.g., Hearing Disabilities chapter) but also the Disabilities in General chapter, where programs that do not specify or restrict the type of eligible disabilities are listed.

To Locate Programs Offering a Particular Type of Assistance. If you are looking for programs offering a particular type of financial aid (e.g., a scholarship for undergraduate courses, an award for outstanding literary achievement), turn to the appropriate chapter in the first part (e.g., Disabilities in General, Families of the Disabled) and read through all the entries in the section that applies (e.g., scholarships, awards). Since programs with multiple purposes are listed in every appropriate location, each of the four type-of-funding sections functions as a self-contained entity. Because of that, you can browse through any of the sections in the directory without first consulting an index.

To Locate a Particular Financial Aid Program. If you know the name of a particular financial aid program *and* the type of assistance offered by the program (e.g., scholarship) *and* the availability (e.g., visual disabilities, hearing disabilities), then go directly to the appropriate category in the first part of the directory, where you will find the program profiles arranged alphabetically by title. But be careful: program titles can be misleading! The George H. Nofer Scholarship is available only to graduate students and therefore is listed under Fellowships/Grants not Scholarships. The Harry G. Starr Award isn't a competition; rather, it's a scholarship. Consequently, if you are looking for a specific program and do not find it in the section you have checked, be sure to refer to the Program Title Index to see if it is covered elsewhere in the directory. To save time, always check the Program Title Index first if you know the name of a specific award but are not sure under which section it has been listed.

To Browse Quickly Through the Listings. Turn to the type of funding and recipient categories that interest you and read the "Summary" field in each entry. In seconds, you'll know if this is an opportunity that might apply to you. If it is, read the rest of the information in the entry to make sure you meet all of the program requirements before writing or going online for an application form. Remember: don't apply if you don't qualify!

To Locate Programs Sponsored by a Particular Organization. The Sponsoring Organization Index makes it easy to determine groups that provide financial assistance to persons with disabilities and their families, or to identify specific financial aid programs offered by a particular organization. Each

entry number in the index is coded to identify recipient group and program type, enabling users to target appropriate entries.

To Locate Programs Open to Residents of or Tenable in a Particular Area. The Residency Index identifies financial aid programs open to residents of a particular state, region, or country. The Tenability Index shows where the money can be spent. In both indexes, "see" and "see also" references are used liberally, and index entries for a particular geographic area are divided by both type of disability and type of funding.

To Locate Financial Aid Programs for Persons with Disabilities and Their Families in a Particular Subject Area. Turn to the Subject Index first if you are interested in identifying financial aid programs for the disabled and their families in a particular field. To help you target your search, the type of funding indexed (scholarships, fellowships/grants, grants-in-aid, awards) and the availability group (e.g., hearing disabilities) are clearly identified. Extensive cross-references are provided.

To Locate Financial Aid Programs for Persons with Disabilities and Their Families by Deadline Date. If you are working with specific time constraints and want to weed out the financial aid programs whose filing dates you won't be able to meet, turn first to the Calendar Index and check the program references listed under the program type, appropriate group, and month of interest to you. If, instead, you want to identify every relevant funding program, regardless of filing dates, then go to the first part of the directory and read through all the entries in each of the program categories (scholarships, grants-in-aid, etc.) that apply.

To Locate Information on Geographically Restricted or Financially Limited Funding Programs. Only programs aimed at large segments of the population (at least a state) or offering significant awards (nothing under \$1,000) are covered in this directory. To get information on the other, more limited programs, contact Reference Service Press to learn how to search its comprehensive database directly.

To Locate Financial Aid Programs Open to All Segments of the Population. Only programs designed with the disabled and their families in mind are listed in this publication. However, there are thousands of other programs that are open equally to all segments of the population. To identify these programs, talk to your local librarian, check with your vocational rehabilitation or campus financial aid counselor, use a general financial aid directory (like *Kaplan Scholarships*), or use an online scholarship or grant database (like RSP FundingFinder).

PLANS TO UPDATE THE DIRECTORY

This volume, covering 2010-2012, is the twelfth biennial edition of *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*. The next edition will cover the years 2012-2014 and will be released in early 2012.

OTHER RELATED PUBLICATIONS

In addition to *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*, Reference Service Press publishes several other titles dealing with fundseeking, including the biennially-issued *Money for Graduate Students in the Social & Behavioral Sciences*, *Directory of Financial Aids for Women*, and *Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel, and Their Families*. Since each of these titles focuses on a separate population group, there is little duplication in the listings. In fact, fewer than five percent of the programs described in *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families* can be found in any of RSP's financial aid titles, with one exception. Because veterans constitute such a large portion of the disabled population, there is somewhat more overlap (approximately 15 percent) in the entries included in *Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel and Their Families* and *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*. For more information on these and other related publications, you can 1) write to Reference Service Press' Marketing Department at 5000 Windplay Drive, Suite 4, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762; 2) call us at (916) 939-9620; 3) send us an e-mail message at info@rspfunding.com; 4) fax us at (916) 939-9626; or 5) visit our web site: www.rspfunding.com.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A debt of gratitude is owed all the organizations that contributed information to this edition of *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*. Their generous cooperation has helped to make the twelfth edition of this award-winning publication a current and comprehensive survey of funding programs.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr. Gail Schlachter has worked for more than three decades as a library manager, a library educator, and an administrator of library-related publishing companies. Among the reference books to her credit are the biennially-issued *Money for Graduate Students in the Arts & Humanities* and two award-winning bibliographic guides: *Minorities and Women: A Guide to Reference Literature in the Social Sciences* (which was chosen as an "Outstanding Reference Title of the Year" by *Choice*) and *Reference Sources in Library and Information Services* (which won the first Knowledge Industry Publications "Award for Library Literature"). She was the reference book review editor for *RQ* (now *Reference and User Services Quarterly*) for 10 years, is a past president of the American Library Association's Reference and User Services Association (RUSA, formerly RASD), is serving her fifth term on the American Library Association's governing council, and is a former editor-in-chief of *Reference and User Services Quarterly*. In recognition of her outstanding contributions to reference service, Dr. Schlachter was named the "Outstanding Alumna" by the University of Wisconsin School of Library and Information Studies and has been awarded both the Isadore Gilbert Mudge Citation and the Louis Shores/Oryx Press Award.

Dr. R. David Weber taught history and economics at Los Angeles Harbor College (in Wilmington, California) for many years and continues to teach history as an emeritus professor. During his years of full-time teaching there, and at East Los Angeles College, he directed the Honors Program and was frequently selected as the "Teacher of the Year." Dr. Weber is the author of several critically-acclaimed reference works, including *Dissertations in Urban History* and the three-volume *Energy Information Guide*. With Gail Schlachter, he is the author of Reference Service Press' *College Student's Guide to Merit and Other No-Need Funding*, which was selected by *Choice* as one of the "Outstanding Academic Titles of the Year," and a number of other financial aid titles, including *Financial Aid for African Americans*, which was named the "Editor's Choice" by *Reference Books Bulletin*.

Financial Aid Programs for the Disabled and Their Families

- Visual Disabilities* ●
- Hearing Disabilities* ●
- Orthopedic/Developmental Disabilities* ●
- Communication/Other Disabilities* ●
- Disabilities in General* ●
- Families of the Disabled* ●

Visual Disabilities

- Scholarships* ●
 - Fellowships/Grants* ●
 - Grants-in-Aid* ●
 - Awards* ●
-

Described here are 266 programs open to individuals who have visual impairments (are partially sighted or blind), with or without correction. Of these, 119 entries cover scholarships (to pursue studies or research on the undergraduate level in the United States); 67 cover fellowships or grants (to pursue graduate or postdoctoral study or research in the United States); 74 cover grants-in-aid (to support emergency situations, travel, income/property tax liabilities, or the acquisition of assistive technology); and 6 cover awards, competitions, prizes, and honoraria (to recognize or support creative work and public service). If you are looking for a particular program and don't find it in this chapter, be sure to check the Program Title Index to see if it is covered elsewhere in the directory.

Scholarships

[1]

ABC SCHOLARSHIPS

Association of Blind Citizens
P.O. Box 246
Holbrook, MA 02343
(781) 961-1023 Fax: (781) 961-0004
E-mail: scholarship@blindcitizens.org
Web: www.blindcitizens.org/abc_scholarship.htm

Summary To provide financial assistance for college to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Eligibility This program is open to high school seniors, high school graduates, and currently-enrolled college students who are blind or visually impaired. Applicants must be interested in working on a college degree. Along with their application, they must submit an autobiography, indicating how the scholarship award would help them achieve their goal of attending college or a recognized vocational program; a high school or college transcript; a certificate of legal blindness or a letter from their ophthalmologist; and 2 letters of reference. The highest ranked applicant receives the Reggie Johnson Memorial Scholarship.

Financial data Stipends are \$2,000 or \$1,000. Funds may be used to pay for tuition, living expenses, or related expenses resulting from vision impairment.

Duration 1 year.

Number awarded 8 each year: 1 at \$2,000 (the Reggie Johnson Memorial Scholarship) and 7 at \$1,000.

Deadline April of each year.

[2]

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS OF THE FLORIDA COUNCIL FOR THE BLIND

Florida Council for the Blind
c/o Barbara Grill, Education and Leadership
Committee
2030 Preymore Street
Osprey, FL 34229
(941) 966-7056 E-mail: grillbh@comcast.net
Web: www.fcb.org/ScholAplInfo.htm

Summary To provide financial assistance to blind residents of Florida who plan to attend college in any state and can demonstrate academic and leadership excellence.

Eligibility This program is open to blind residents of Florida who are attending or planning to attend a college or university in any state. Applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher and be able to demonstrate academic and leadership excellence. Along with their application, they must submit a narrative statement on their vocational objectives and outlook for employment in their chosen field. Financial need is not considered in the selection process.

Financial data The stipend is \$2,000.

Duration 1 year.

Number awarded 2 each year.

Deadline March of each year.

[3]

ACBCO SCHOLARSHIPS

American Council of the Blind of Colorado
Attn: Executive Director
1536 Wynkoop Street, Suite 201
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 831-0117 Toll Free: (888) 775-2221
Fax: (303) 454-3378 E-mail: barbara.boyer@acbc.org
Web: www.acbc.org

Summary To provide financial assistance for college or graduate school to blind students from Colorado.

Eligibility This program is open to legally blind students who are residents of Colorado. Applicants must be working on an undergraduate (academic, vocational, or certificate) or graduate (master's or doctoral) degree. A cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher is generally required, but extenuating circumstances may be considered. Along with their application, they must submit a 750-word statement describing their educational, career, and personal goals. Financial need is also considered in the selection process.

Financial data The stipend is \$2,500. Funds are paid directly to the recipient's college or university.

Duration 1 year.

Number awarded 4 each year.

Deadline January of each year.

[4]

ALLEN-SPRINKLE MEMORIAL GIFT

National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia
c/o Debbi Wilson, Scholarship Committee Chair
1430 Magnolia Court
Cumberland, MD 21502
(301) 777-3017
Web: www.nfbww.org/downloadscholarship.htm

Summary To provide financial assistance to legally blind residents of West Virginia who are interested in attending college or graduate school in any state.

Eligibility This program is open to legally blind residents of Virginia who are graduating high school seniors, undergraduates, or graduate students. Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll full time at an accredited college, university, postsecondary vocational institute, or graduate school in any state. Along with their application, they must submit 2 letters of recommendation, transcripts, verification of blindness, and a personal letter that includes the kinds of things that interest them, their goals and aspirations, and how this scholarship would help them. Selection is based on academic excellence, community service, and financial need.

Financial data The stipend is \$1,000.

Duration 1 year.

Additional data The winner is expected to attend the annual convention of the National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia.

Number awarded 1 each year.

Deadline June of each year.

[5]
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND OF TEXAS SCHOLARSHIPS

American Council of the Blind of Texas
 c/o Ginger Kraft, Scholarship Chair
 4105 Blue Flag Lane
 Fort Worth, TX 76137
 (817) 306-0154 E-mail: gkraft5@charter.net
 Web: www.acbtexas.org/scholarshipinfo.html

Summary To provide financial assistance to blind and visually impaired residents of Texas who are interested in attending college in any state.

Eligibility This program is open to residents of Texas who can document legal or total blindness. Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll at a college, university, or vocational/trade school in any state. They must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Along with their application, they must submit documentation of financial need, transcripts, a copy of their acceptance letter (if not yet attending college), 2 to 3 letters of recommendation not more than 12 months old, and a 1- to 2-page autobiography, including information on their family, hobbies, activities, community service, and educational and career goals. Selection is based on career goals, academic achievement, and letters of recommendation.

Financial data Stipends range from \$250 to \$1,000 per year. Funds may be used for any educational purpose, including tuition, books, housing, and transportation.

Duration 1 year; recipients may reapply.

Additional data Recipients do not need to study in a field related to blindness; in general, they may major in any field (although 1 of the scholarships is specifically for a student interested in majoring in food service and another is specifically for a student majoring in business administration).

Number awarded Varies each year. Recently, 8 of these scholarships were awarded: 1 at \$1,000; 3 at \$500; and 4 at \$250.

Deadline June of each year.

[6]
ARNOLD SADLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

American Council of the Blind
 Attn: Coordinator, Scholarship Program
 2200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 650
 Arlington, VA 22201
 (202) 467-5081 Toll Free: (800) 424-8666
 Fax: (703) 465-5085 E-mail: info@acb.org
 Web: www.acb.org

Summary To provide financial assistance to undergraduate or graduate students who are blind and are interested in studying in a field of service to persons with disabilities.

Eligibility This program is open to undergraduate and graduate students in rehabilitation, education, law, or other fields of service to persons with disabilities. Applicants must be legally blind in both eyes. Along with their application, they must submit verification of legal blindness in both eyes; SAT, ACT, GRE, or similar scores; information on extracurricular activities (including membership in the

American Council of the Blind); employment record; and an autobiographical sketch that includes their personal goals, strengths, weaknesses, hobbies, honors, achievements, and reasons for choice of field or courses of study. A cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher is generally required. Financial need is not considered in the selection process.

Financial data The stipend is \$1,500. In addition, the winner receives a Kurzweil-1000 Reading System.

Duration 1 year.

Additional data This scholarship is funded by the Arnold Sadler Memorial Scholarship Fund. Scholarship winners are expected to be present at the council's annual conference; the council will cover all reasonable expenses connected with convention attendance.

Number awarded 1 each year.

Deadline February of each year.

[7]
BAY STATE COUNCIL OF THE BLIND SCHOLARSHIP

American Council of the Blind
 Attn: Coordinator, Scholarship Program
 2200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 650
 Arlington, VA 22201
 (202) 467-5081 Toll Free: (800) 424-8666
 Fax: (703) 465-5085 E-mail: info@acb.org
 Web: www.acb.org

Summary To provide financial assistance for college to blind students from Massachusetts.

Eligibility This program is open to legally blind students who are residents of Massachusetts or attending college in the state. Applicants must submit verification of legal blindness in both eyes; SAT or ACT scores; information on extracurricular activities (including membership in the American Council of the Blind); employment record; and an autobiographical sketch that includes their personal goals, strengths, weaknesses, hobbies, honors, achievements, and reasons for choice of field or courses of study. A cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher is generally required. Financial need is not considered in the selection process.

Financial data The stipend is \$1,000. In addition, the winner receives a Kurzweil-1000 Reading System.

Duration 1 year.

Additional data This scholarship is sponsored by the Bay State Council of the Blind, an affiliate of the American Council of the Blind. Scholarship winners are expected to be present at the council's annual conference; the council will cover all reasonable expenses connected with convention attendance.

Number awarded 1 each year.

Deadline February of each year.

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Awards

Visual disabilities:

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March: 261

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