

# Scholarships for Students with Disabilities



Make the  
dream of  
higher education  
possible

[www.nhcuc.org](http://www.nhcuc.org)

COMMITMENT THROUGH  
COLLABORATION

NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COLLEGE  
& UNIVERSITY  
COUNCIL

### **Authorization to Reproduce**

This scholarship guide is in the public domain. Authorization to reproduce it in whole or in part is granted.

### **Access NH Initiative**

This guide was made possible through the Access NH Initiative, created to increase opportunities and pathways to assist underrepresented students in accessing higher education in the state of New Hampshire.

### **Designed By**

Esteban López  
NHCUC Diversity Initiatives Director

### **Contributions**

Anna Leverage

# Scholarships for Students with Disabilities

## 2010

### 1) College Board's Scholarship Search

We created this online tool to help you locate scholarships, internships, grants, and loans that match your education level, talents, and background. Complete the brief questionnaire and Scholarship Search will find potential opportunities from our database of more than 2,300 sources of college funding, totaling nearly \$3 BILLION in available aid!

[http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch\\_ss/welcome.jsp](http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp)

### 2) Ethel Louise Armstrong (ELA) Foundation

ELA Scholarships are available only to women graduate students with physical disabilities who are enrolled in an accredited college or university in the United States. These scholarships are awarded on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis. Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements: (1) The student must be a woman with a physical disability. (2) The student must be currently accepted to a graduate program working towards a Master's degree or above in an accredited college or university in the United States. (3) The applicant must be a member of AAPD. (4) The student must be willing, as an ELA Scholar, to network on the ELA listserv. This will enhance the ELA Scholar's support base in professional and advocacy arenas. The ELA Foundation will award scholarships depending on academic and leadership achievements in addition to participation in disability activities. The ELA scholarship is a supplement to financial assistance for tuition costs for female graduate students with physical disabilities. The scholarship award is contingent upon the recipient's acceptance to, or continuation in, an accredited college or university graduate program. The scholarship check will be made payable to the educational institution.

<http://www.ela.org/scholarships/scholarships.html>

### 3) The National Center for Learning Disabilities, Inc

#### The Anne Ford and Allegra Ford Scholarship

The Anne Ford and Allegra Ford Scholarship offers a \$10,000 award to two graduating high school seniors with documented learning disabilities (LD) who are pursuing undergraduate degrees. The Anne Ford Scholarship was first awarded in 2002 to one graduating high school student with learning disabilities. In 2009, with a generous donation from Anne's daughter, Allegra, the award was renamed the Anne Ford and Allegra Ford Scholarship and was expanded to recognize two students with LD. The ideal candidates are high school seniors who have faced the challenges of having a learning disability; are committed to completing a college degree and setting career goals; have demonstrated perseverance; embrace new opportunities; have a well-rounded perspective shaped by experiences in school, in the community, and with family and friends; understand how LD affects their life and recognize the importance of self-advocacy; believe in contributing to society in ways that increases opportunities for individuals with learning disabilities; and will feel comfortable serving as role models for others who struggle with LD.

<http://www.nclid.org/about-us/scholarships-aamp-awards/the-anne-ford-and-allegra-ford-scholarship-award>

### 4) The American Institute of Architects

#### AIA/AAF Minority Disadvantaged Scholarship Program

The AIA/AAF Minority Disadvantaged Scholarship provides assistance to high school graduates, college freshmen, and community college students from a minority and/or financially disadvantaged background who intend to pursue a NAAB-accredited professional degree (5-year BA or BA + MA) in architecture. Eligibility: applicants must be legal residents of the United States and either: high school seniors entering a NAAB accredited professional program in architecture; college freshmen attending a NAAB accredited professional program in architecture; technical school or community college students that have completed high school or its equivalent and intend to transfer to a NAAB accredited professional program. <http://www.aia.org/education/AIAB081881>

### 5) Motivating Undergraduates in Science and Technology (MUST) Scholarship Program

Eligibility requirements: must be a U.S. citizen; must be enrolled full-time at an accredited university in the U.S. or U.S. Territory; must be a rising sophomore or junior; must have earned and must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; must be pursuing a degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. Students of all underrepresented groups (women, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans and persons with disabilities) are encouraged to apply.

[http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs/descriptions/Motivating\\_Undergraduates\\_Science\\_Technology.html](http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs/descriptions/Motivating_Undergraduates_Science_Technology.html)

## 6) National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Scholarship Program

The NIH Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP) offers competitive scholarships to exceptional students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are committed to biomedical, behavioral, and social science research careers at the NIH. The scholarships pay for tuition and reasonable educational and living expenses up to \$20,000 per academic year. In return, recipients are obligated to serve as paid employees in NIH research laboratories during the summer and after graduation. In addition to financial assistance, the scholarship program offers invaluable training and mentoring, as well as practical experience in a state-of-the-art research setting. <https://ugsp.nih.gov/home.asp?m=00>

## 7) Scholarships for Health Professions Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

The Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program provides scholarships to full-time, financially needy students from disadvantaged backgrounds, enrolled in health professions and nursing programs. Participating schools are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, making reasonable determinations of need, and providing scholarships that do not exceed the cost of attendance (tuition, reasonable educational expenses and reasonable living expenses).

<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/dsa/sds.htm>

## 8) Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

### AG Bell College Scholarship Awards

The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell) offers several scholarships for full-time students who are pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree. This is a merit-based scholarship program with award selection being extremely competitive. While the number and value of awards varies from year to year, in 2010, 144 eligible applications were received for 18 awards, which ranged from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Information about the 2011 College Scholarship Program (for the 2011-2012 academic year) will be available on this page in January 2011.

<http://nc.agbell.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=486>

## 9) ChairScholars Foundation, Inc.

### ChairScholars Scholarship

Available to students in every state in the continental U.S., the ChairScholars National Scholarship Program provides eligible high school seniors and college freshmen up to \$20,000 for tuition to attend the college or university of their choice. Eligibility requirements: student must be physically challenged and may be "chair-confined" (the physical challenge must be significant-- no minor disability will be considered); must have verifiable unmet financial need; must have at least a B average; must be a high school senior or college freshman-- we do not fund graduate studies (our charter does not permit anyone over 21 years of age from applying); the applicant must show some form of significant community service or social contribution in the past. **APPLICANTS WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT REGARD TO GENDER, RACE, CREED, OR RELIGION.** Fifteen to twenty new students are taken yearly and are given \$1,000-5,000 per year for each college year to a maximum of \$20,000 total. About 150 applicants apply yearly. [www.chairscholars.org](http://www.chairscholars.org)

## 10) National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program

Each year at its national convention in July, the NFB gives a broad array of thirty scholarships (\$12,000 - \$3,000) to recognize achievement by blind scholars. All applicants for these scholarships: must be legally blind in both eyes; must be residing in the United States, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico; must be pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time, postsecondary course of study in a degree program at a United States institution in the 2010 scholastic year, except that one scholarship may be given to a person employed full-time while attending school part-time; must participate in the entire NFB national convention and in all scheduled scholarship program activities. In addition to a scholarship, each winner will receive assistance to attend the 2010 National Federation of the Blind Annual Convention in July, providing an excellent opportunity for high level networking with active blind persons in many, many different professions and occupations. [www.nfb.org/scholarships](http://www.nfb.org/scholarships)

## 11) Christian Record Services

### Christian Record Services Scholarship

Partial scholarships are offered to legally blind young people striving to obtain a college education. Scholarships are given on a limited basis to those who qualify. The amount Christian Record Services gives for scholarships varies from year to year. The actual amount given to each student is in proportion to the funds available. For the school year of 2008-2009, we had 23 applications from outstanding and worthy students. We wish we could help all of them, but our budget constraints prevented us from doing that. Ten students were selected to receive scholarships of \$500 each, payable in installments of \$250 per semester. Unfortunately changes in the economy prevented Christian Record Services for the Blind to offer any scholarships for the 2009-10 school year. An applicant must meet two requirements before the

application will be considered: 1) applicant must be legally blind (20/200) with correction) and 2) applicant must be planning to attend college as a full-time student on the undergraduate level to secure training that will enable independence and self-support. If you or someone you know qualifies, please print, complete, and return the application and \*character reference forms. Applications for tuition scholarships are accepted between November 1 of the present year and April 1 of the following year for assistance the next fall term. For example, if tuition assistance is desired for the school year 2008-2009, the application should be received in our office between November 1, 2008, and April 1, 2009. <http://services.christianrecord.org/scholarships/index.php>

### **12) Lighthouse International Scholarship & Career Awards**

Established in 1980 by Lighthouse International's Women's Committee, the Scholarship & Career Awards (SCA) is a time-honored tradition that recognizes outstanding students who have overcome the challenges of vision loss by awarding them with scholarships for college and graduate studies. The program also honors extraordinary corporate citizens committed to breaking down barriers in the workplace for people with vision loss. There are three scholarship award categories, and each carries a \$5,000 prize: 1) college-bound Award: for high school seniors or recent high school graduates who will attend college in the upcoming school year, 2) Undergraduate Award: for college students in their freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year and 3) Graduate Award: for 1st or 2nd year Masters level students or college seniors who will pursue a graduate level education. Eligibility criteria: applicants must be legally blind (i.e., have a best corrected visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye, and/or a visual field of less than 20 degrees in the better eye); scholarships are based on academic and personal achievements-- therefore, candidates are not required to demonstrate financial need; applicants must be US citizens, and reside in the United States or a US Territory; applicants must attend an accredited college or university in one of the 50 states, District of Columbia or a US Territory; proof of citizenship will be required of all award recipients; previous SCA recipients and current Lighthouse employees and members of their immediate families are ineligible. <http://www.lighthouse.org/services-and-assistance/scholarship-award-programs/>

### **13) American Council of the Blind Floyd Qualls Memorial Scholarship**

Applicant must be legally blind in both eyes and must be in or currently under consideration for postsecondary program. Requirements: Essay; transcript, interview, recommendations. Applicant must demonstrate academic achievement, proof of eligibility, leadership, and character. Award Amount: \$2500. \*One of the 2009-2010 winners is a Keene State student pursuing music education. [www.acb.org](http://www.acb.org)

### **14) American Foundation for the Blind**

Applicants must be legally blind. The following scholarships are available for 2010:

Scholarships in the Field of Rehabilitation and/or Education of Persons who are Blind or Visually Impaired:

- a. **The Delta Gamma Foundation Florence Margaret Harvey Memorial Scholarship:** One (1) scholarship of \$1,000 to an undergraduate or graduate student in the field of rehabilitation or education of persons who are blind or visually impaired.
- b. **The Rudolph Dillman Memorial Scholarship:** A one-time award not open to previous recipients. It provides four (4) scholarships of \$2,500 each to undergraduates or graduates who are studying full-time in the field of rehabilitation or education of persons who are blind and/or visually impaired. One of these awards is reserved specifically for a student who presents proof of economic need (Student Aid Report required).  
Scholarship for Engineering or Computer, Physical, or Life Sciences:
- c. **The Paul and Ellen Ruckes Scholarship:** Provides one (1) scholarship of \$1,000 to a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in the field of engineering or in computer, physical, or life sciences.  
Scholarship for Literature or Music:
- d. **The R.L. Gillette Scholarship:** Two (2) scholarships of \$1,000 each to women who are enrolled in a full-time four-year undergraduate degree program in literature or music. In addition to the general requirements, Gillette applicants must submit with their supporting documents: A performance tape/CD not to exceed 30 minutes, or a creative writing sample.
- e. **The Gladys. C. Anderson Memorial Scholarship:** One (1) scholarship of \$1,000 given to a female undergraduate or graduate student studying classical or religious music. In addition to the general requirements, Anderson applicants must submit with their supporting documents: A performance tape/CD not to exceed 30 minutes.

Other Scholarships:

f. **The Karen D. Carsel Memorial Scholarship:** provides one (1) scholarship of \$500 to a full-time graduate student who presents evidence of economic need. (Student Aid Report required.)

g. **The Ferdinand Torres Scholarship:** provides one (1) scholarship of \$2,500 to a full-time undergraduate or graduate student. Strong preference will be given to new immigrants to the United States, and to those residing in the New York City metropolitan area. To be eligible the applicant must reside in the United States, but need not be a citizen of the United States. [www.afb.org/scholarships.asp](http://www.afb.org/scholarships.asp)

#### 15) The GuildScholar Program

The Jewish Guild for the Blind has created an annual scholarship program for college bound high school students who are legally blind. Applications will be accepted from students at the end of their junior year, with recipients selected and scholarships awarded the following academic year. The GuildScholar Program will award 12 to 16 scholarships of up to \$15,000 each. Eligibility requirements: proof of legal blindness (verification should be in the form of a statement from a state rehabilitation agency, an ophthalmologist or an optometrist); proof of US citizenship (a passport, birth certificate, naturalization papers or proof of legal residency). <http://www.jgb.org/guildscholar.asp?GS=TRue>

#### 16) United Association of Blind Athletes

##### ARTHUR E. AND HELEN COPELAND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Arthur E. and Helen Copeland Scholarships are awarded annually to one male (Arthur E. Copeland Scholarship) and one female (Helen Copeland Scholarship) United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) current member who is legally blind and enrolling/enrolled at a two-year or four-year or technical institution or university as a full-time student. Applicants must have participated in USABA sports programs. Consideration will be given to students with good academic records, involvement in civic/extracurricular activities, academic goals/objectives and USABA involvement at various levels. Applicants must be United States citizens. Scholarship amount awarded is \$500. Please send cover letter and transcripts by August 15 of each academic year. <http://www.usaba.org/>

#### 17) NHTI, Concord's Community College

##### Edward C. Sweeney, Jr. Scholarship

Criteria include: student with a visible and permanent walking disability; must be a NH resident who graduated from a NH high school; award will be used to defray tuition expenses at NHTI.

<http://www.nhti.edu/financialaid/scholarshipopportunities.html>

#### 18) Sertoma Hard of Hearing or Deaf Scholarship Program

\$1,000 scholarship to cover tuition, books and supplies. The funds may be used for any term, including the summer term, during the awarded academic school year. This scholarship is made possible by the generous support from the members of Sertoma and Oticon, Inc. Qualifications: student must have a minimum 40dB bilateral hearing loss as evidenced on audiogram by an SRT of 40dB or greater in both ears; must be a citizen of the United States of America; must be either entering college on a full time basis or currently attending college on a full time basis at a college or university in the United States of America; must be pursuing a bachelor's degree in any discipline. Graduate degrees, associates degrees, community colleges or vocational programs do not qualify; must have a minimum 3.2 on a 4.0 scale un-weighted GPA or be at least 85% in all courses. (For high school students entering college this is cumulative GPA for grades 9-11 and first semester of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. For students currently at a freshman level in college it is cumulative GPA for grades 9-12 and first semester of college. For college students who are sophomores or higher it is your college transcript for all semesters completed). The student must also submit application and all required materials in single envelope by deadline date.

<http://www.sertoma.org/missionactivities>