

SAMPLE SCHOLARSHIP INQUIRY LETTER

This letter provides a sample format for inquiring about private student aid funds. Of course, you must first identify foundations and organizations which offer such assistance well in advance of any application deadlines. You can get help finding the names and addresses of private aid sources by conducting a scholarship search on the Internet or from a reference librarian in your public library or local school. Once you have obtained contact information you will need to customize this letter to reflect your own background and needs by replacing the bracketed bold text below.

[Your Street Address]
[Your City, State and Zip]
[Date]

[Ms. Susan B. A. Dollar]
[Director of Big Money Awards]
[Lots of Money Organization]
[P.O. Box 9999]
[Moneytown, USA 99999-9999]

Dear Ms. Dollar:

I am writing to inquire about any student financial assistance that the **[Lots of Money Organization]** may offer to college-bound students.

[Enter a concise paragraph about your background and goals. Try to show how you meet the requirements of the organization's financial assistance program(s). If this is a letter to find out if the organization offers aid, write a short paragraph about how your background and ambitions coincide with the mission of the organization and might qualify you for assistance that may be offered.]

I would greatly appreciate information about any student financial assistance available through your organization, including how I may apply for this assistance. Information about application forms and deadlines for the **[20XX-XX]** academic year would also be appreciated. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at **[your area code and phone number]** or via e-mail at **[your e-mail address]**.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Where can I find scholarships?

- www.peirce.edu
- www.scholarshipsforwomen.net
- www.collegescholarships.org
- www.studentscholarshipsearch.com
- www.collegegrant.net/Pennsylvania
- www.fastweb.com
- <http://www.aclupa.org/education/frankel-adair-scholarship/>

COST OF ATTENDANCE COMPARISON WORKSHEET

The actual cost of attendance (COA) is unique for each student at each school. While some expenses are fixed (like tuition and fees), others are influenced and controlled by the student's lifestyle (like housing and personal expenses). When considering the award package from a particular school, or in comparing packages from multiple schools, you can use this worksheet to compare your cost expectations to each school's estimated total COA. The goal of this comparison is to better decide if the resulting difference is realistically manageable given the resources available to your family and the aid being offered by each school. Copy this worksheet as needed.

School	1.		2.		3.	
	My Expectation	School's Estimate	My Expectation	School's Estimate	My Expectation	School's Estimate
Tuition and Fees	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Room	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Board	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Books and Supplies	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Computer Costs	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Transportation	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Personal:						
Clothing	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Laundry	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Medical	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Entertainment	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other_____	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other_____	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other_____	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total COA	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Difference between my expectation and school's estimate	\$		\$		\$	