



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Scholarships

WHAT

Money for school: reimbursement up to **\$4,500.00**, with possible support funds.
Career Advisor to help you find work in your training field.

WHO

Lane County, Oregon residents in approved trainings who will finish within one year of scholarship award and who plan to go directly to work in their field upon program completion.

WHY

To invest public U.S. Department of Labor funds in individuals whose training will soon result in high-demand, living-wage occupations needed in the local labor market, enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of the nation as a whole.

WHEN

You may request a WIOA scholarship application at any time **starting October 5, 2020** – but don't wait to become fully registered with WorkSource Lane! Only fully registered customers will be emailed scholarship applications. See steps 1 and 2 below.

Final day to request an application is **November 9, 2020**.

WHERE & HOW

Step 1 - Create/update WorkSource Oregon profile as a "Job Seeker" at www.imatchskills.org

Step 2 - Call WorkSource Lane, 2510 Oakmont Way, Eugene at 541-686-7985:

- Leave a voicemail with your name and contact number, indicating you are interested in applying for the WIOA scholarship
- Or email your interest and contact info to: lchswm@lanecountyor.gov
- A Career Advisor will follow up with you to complete your Welcome Conversation and review the next steps in the scholarship application process

Step 3 - Attend a virtual Career Exploration Workshop or call 541-686-7985 for a one-on-one career advising appointment

Step 4 – Submit completed scholarship application no later than **November 16, 2020**

***** WIOA scholarships are competitive and based on funds available *****

Questions? Contact us at 541-686-7985 or lchswm@lanecountyor.gov . We look forward to hearing from you.

Helpful Tips – What can I do in the meantime?

- I don't know yet where I'm going to school / what kind of training I want:* It's premature to apply to ANY scholarship, including the WIOA scholarship. Attend Career Exploration workshop.
- Ask school / training program:
 - Does this school accept federal financial aid?
 - How do others pay for this training?
- If school accepts federal financial aid, submit FAFSA without delay at fafsa.ed.gov.
- Be FULLY and completely registered in imatchskills.org. Be sure iMatchSkills® reflects me well – no typos; work history is up to date; email address is professional; telephone number is current.
- Take the NCRC when it becomes available, social distancing guidelines permitting.
- I definitely know what I want to learn / train for:* investigate other potential scholarships and funding opportunities offered through your school, private foundations, and related industry grants.
- Research the labor market via www.qualityinfo.org and / or www.onetonline.org
- Look at Oregon's "Eligible Training Provider List" at <http://wioa.weebly.com/eligible-training-providers.html> . Training school must be on this list to be eligible for WIOA scholarship \$\$.
 - QUESTION: if my school is not on this list, can my school petition to be on this list? Yes. Your school's Admissions Counselor may visit the same site to find out how: <http://wioa.weebly.com/eligible-training-providers.html>.
- Think** about your training plan. Do self-reflection. **Write down** how you would "sell" your plan to someone else. What makes you a good investment for this particular training at this point in your life? What in your background points to this?

***** For the WIOA scholarship, especially think about how you would persuade someone that your (proposed / current) training will enhance your EARNINGS and JOB PROSPECTS. *****
- Line up job shadows – virtual perhaps! – for the occupation you'd like to get into / conduct informational interviews with people doing that type of work already.