

# College Scholarships for Students with Autism

## Making a Difference for Autism Scholarship

Founded by the CEO of KFM Making A Difference Kerry Magro in 2009, this scholarship awards \$500 to selected applicants. Upcoming and current college students with an autism diagnosis across the globe are eligible to apply.

Applicants can reapply if they were not selected during a previous year. The deadline is April 27, 2020.

**<https://kfmmakingadifference.org/scholarship-programs-for-adults-with-autism/>**

## Schwallie Family Scholarship

This is a \$3,000 scholarship provided by the Organization for Autism Research for students attending two or four year universities. The application opens up in December and is due in May. Applicants who have an autism diagnosis and have plans on pursuing a post-secondary career are eligible to apply. Past recipients or immediate family members of anyone serving on OAR's Board of Directors or Scientific Council are not eligible.

**<https://researchautism.org/how-we-help/scholarships/>**

## Lisa Huggins Hussman Scholarship

This is another \$3,000 scholarship provided by the Organization for Autism Research for students attending two or four year universities, life skills or post-secondary program, vocational, technical, or trade schools. The timeline and eligibility criteria are the same as for the Schwallie Family Scholarship.

**<https://researchautism.org/how-we-help/scholarships/>**

## Avonte Oquendo Memorial Scholarship

This \$5,000 scholarship is provided by the Perecman Firm P.L.L.C. To be eligible to apply, either the applicant or an immediate family member must have an autism diagnosis and either be accepted or enrolled in a university or another post-secondary program.

**<https://www.perecman.com/avonte-oquendo/autism-scholarship/>**

# Helping an Applicant with their Essays

The essays are usually about the applicant's personal journey and how the scholarship will benefit them in their future endeavors. When applicants are working on their essays, they probably need some help with brainstorming and organizing ideas. It is a good idea to have a conversation with them by asking the following questions and scribing their answers. It would also be helpful to bring up information about their lives that they might not immediately have thought about. Ultimately, this is the applicant's essay.

## Questions to Ask to the Applicant:

1. Why do you want to go to college?
2. What do you want to get out of your college experience?
3. What are your dreams?
4. What challenges have you overcome?
5. What are you proud of?
6. What are your interests?
7. What are your fondest memories?

Prepared by Christine Huang '20, Bryn Mawr College as a part of the course, Promoting Change Thru Service for students and families of Parkway West High School