O'Neill School Scholarships and Fellowships

Eight Tips for a successful application

Tip One – Start Early: Review All Available Awards

- Undergraduate Awards: https://oneill.indiana.edu/undergraduate/cost-financial-aid/scholarships/current.html

- Graduate Awards: https://oneill.indiana.edu/masters/cost-financial-aid/funding-opportunities.html

Tip Two – Make Yourself Aware of All Application Steps

Steps to apply:

1. Complete 'Part I' of the Online Application Form
   - Have your resume updated and ready to upload (in PDF format)

2. Complete 'Part II: Individual Scholarship Applications'
   - Write essays in a separate document, edit, and upload when complete.
   - Note: you cannot save and return to the application for updates.

3. Submit References

Tip Three – Apply for Every Award for Which You Are Eligible

- Give yourself adequate time to personalize your application essays based on criteria. Many of the awards have similar criteria, but you should demonstrate that you've thought specifically about how you meet eligibility for each and every award.

- Write and edit your essays in Word, then upload them as PDFs to the application portal when finished.

Tip Four – Understand the Financial Need Requirements

- If the award states '**financial need**' this means you *must* have a FAFSA on file

- If the award states '**<mark>demonstrated</mark> financial need**' this means you must indicate your financial constraints in your essay and clearly describe how the funding will assist you financially

Tip Five: Clearly Describe How You Meet the Criteria

- You should have at least one statement per eligibility requirement that clearly outlines how you meet the criteria.

  e.g. **Criteria** = Dedication to a career in sustainability

  Your response = "I interned last semester with the IU Office of Sustainability..."

Tip Six – Tell Your Story

- What impact with this award have on your success?

- Why are you studying what you are studying? What makes you excited about what you are learning?

- What does leadership mean to you? What have been your greatest successes?

- What makes you passionate about public or community service?

Tip Seven – Don't Forget Your Attachments

- Some of the award call for specific attachments (e.g. proof of employment, letters of reference, etc). Failing to upload this documents will mark your application as incomplete.

Tip Eight - Ask Questions!

- Our scholarship team is here to support you! Not sure if you meet the eligibility requirements? Interested in learning more about the awarding timeline? Send us an email and we'll get back to you right away.

- oneilsch@indiana.edu