

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS TO COLLEGE

There are vocational trade scholarships for nearly every trade you wish to follow. It is just a matter of searching for your area of interest. Do you want to be a Funeral Service Director? Search through our list of scholarships by category and see if they are applicable to the school you are attending.

The local Rotary Club is a great place to start as they offer yearly scholarships for vocational training. Local Union chapters are also excellent sources. Union offices are listed in the phone book, so call the Local chapter of Masons and see what they have available. Most offer some financial aid for non-members hoping to pursue their trade.

Home Depot Trade Scholarship Program

Description: Home Depot recently announced its support for a new scholarship program to support students enrolled in building and construction trade programs. The program will award \$500 scholarships to more than 600 students nationwide. Applicants must be enrolled in their last year of a building and construction trade school program. Students can be studying to become a home builder, general contractor, carpenter, electrician, plumber, HVAC specialist, or other building and construction trade professional. If you need assistance with your application, call the 24-hour helpline at 1-877-7HD-LEARN (1-877-743-5327).

Award: \$500

Awards per Year: 600

Award is Open to: Trade School Seniors

Major/Field of Study: Building and Construction

How to Apply/Contact: Full application information is available at the **Home Depot website**.

Michelle North Scholarship for Safety

Description: The helicopter industry isn't one that you might immediately think of when thinking about scholarships, but since industries of all types offer scholarships to try to lure students in, the Helicopter Foundation International is doing the very same thing. These scholarships are not exactly traditional, and many seek existing helicopter maintenance professionals who are looking for scholarships to obtain certain certifications. Other scholarships, like the Michelle North Scholarship for safety, speak to a larger audience of vocational students who are interested in specializing in helicopter safety. These students have the opportunity to earn scholarships to take HELIO safety courses.

Award: \$3,000

Awards Per Year: Varies

Award is Open to: Professionals, Undergraduate Students

Major/Field of Study: Helicopter Maintenance and Safety

How to Apply/Contact: You can find out about this and other helicopter maintenance certification scholarships at the Helicopter Foundation International **website**.

A.O. Smith Water Heaters Scholarship

Description: The Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractors (PHCC) Education Foundation was established to encourage young people to enter the plumbing, heating and cooling professions through vocation programs, four-year undergraduate study and apprenticeships. The A.O. Smith Water Heaters Scholarship is open to students in any of the previously mentioned situations, and is one of many college scholarships offered by the PHCC Educational Foundation. These awards range from \$1,500 to \$12,000.

Award: \$2,500

Awards per Year: 2

Award is Open to: Undergraduate Students

Major/Field of Study: Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Technology

How to Apply/Contact: You can request a paper application from the PHCC Education Foundation by following the

directions at the bottom of the **A.O. Smith Water Heaters Scholarship page**. Make sure to check out some of the other scholarships available from PHCC Education Foundation as well.

Straightforward Media Vocational-Technical School Scholarship

Description: Enrollment in vocational and technical education programs is on the rise, owing in much part to the rapid development of new technology and the industries it creates. Even traditionally "manual" industries like automotive and construction employ new and rapidly changing technology. New and specialized technology creates a demand for the new and specialized skills that vo-tech programs provide. Many of these jobs pay well -- better than the average job landed by a four-year college graduate. And usually, the price tag for a vo-tech education is significantly lower than a four-year school. But vo-tech programs cost money, too. The training is specialized, and it's not always cheap. In light of that, we offer the StraightForward Media Vocational-Technical Scholarships to those of you who are trying to get ahead in life with one of these programs.

Award: \$500

Awards per Year: 4

Award is Open to: Vocational Technical

How to Apply/Contact: Before you apply, we recommend you check our scholarship help site, GiveMeScholarships.com. It'll help you avoid mistakes that'll get your application tossed in the trash! Once you've read those tips, go to www.straightforwardmedia.com/votech/ to apply.

Joe Francis Haircare Scholarship

Description: To help deserving students receive financial assistance for the professional training necessary to build successful, long-term careers in the cosmetology industry. In honor of the life, work, and memory of Joseph Francis, 1933-1994, born into poverty, who achieved worldwide success through sacrifice, hard work, and determination.

Award: \$1000

Awards per Year: Not disclosed

Award is Open to: To be considered, applicant must be currently applying for entrance into Cosmetology/Barber School, OR actively enrolled in a Cosmetology/Barber program. If you graduate from Cosmetology or Barber School between the dates of: January 1st through August 31st of the current award year, you are not eligible. Esthetician or Nail training students are not eligible

How to Apply/Contact: One page essay and letter of recommendation by fax or mail. Application can be downloaded at <http://www.joefrancis.com/apply.html>. Applications for 2011 are accepted January 1st through June 1st.