

THE WEDNESDAY READER

February 2, 2022

Happy Groundhog Day. Also, while it may not be Tuesday, welcome to a Day of Twos (2/2/22). 2-day is the first of 2 Days of Two; the second will be in 20 days on 2/22/22.

Apply Now for the Montana Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program

Through House Bill 211, the 2019 Montana legislature renewed the quality educator [student loan assistance](#) program as a recruitment and retention aid for rural schools. The Office of Public Instruction is responsible for administering the program. Applications for the [Montana Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program](#) will be accepted from February 1-March 31, 2022.

Newly hired quality educators who teach or work in a subject that has been identified as a “critical quality educator shortage area” at an “impacted school” are eligible to receive state paid loan assistance for up to four years, so long as they remain a full-time employee at an impacted school.

The [program](#) provides for up to \$3,000 of state-funded loan repayment at the end of the first year of teaching, up to \$4,000 at the end of the second year, and up to \$5,000 at the end of the third year. In addition, the school district has the option to offer up to \$5,000 at the end of the fourth year, but this is entirely a local decision.

Registration is Now Open for the Montana Financial Education Coalition’s 2022 Conference

The [Montana Financial Education Coalition](#) (MFEC) will be holding the [2022 MFEC Conference](#) on Wednesday, February 23, **VIRTUALLY** via WebEx.

[Registration](#) for this year’s conference is **FREE**.

A [schedule](#) with a listing of sessions for the [2022 MFEC Conference](#) is posted on the MFEC website.

Up to seven (7) OPI Renewal Units will be provided for participation.

Adobe Design Circle Scholarships for Students

The [Adobe Design Circle Scholarships](#) application is now open. Applications are due on Monday, March 14 at 11:59 pm Pacific Time.

Adobe believes that young people should have the opportunity to learn and express themselves through creativity and technology, regardless of their economic or cultural backgrounds. A diverse design community that reflects the world around us is essential to our industry’s future innovation and economic success.

To help reach untapped youth communities and foster more diversity in the design industry, the [Design Circle scholarship](#) will do just that: Adobe is awarding 10 annual college scholarships—up to \$25,000 per year, for each year of the recipient’s undergraduate education (up to four years or \$100,000).

The scholarship is ideal for students who want to enter product design or experience design-related careers (e.g. digital, web, UX/UI, interaction design, or similar).

For more information and to access the application, click [here](#).

Scholarship Applications for the CSTA 2022 Conference are Now Open

The [Computer Science Teachers Association](#) is excited to announce that [scholarship applications](#) for the CSTA 2022 Conference are now open. Thanks to the generous support of CSTA partners, they are able to offer financial support to cover the conference registration fee, three nights in a hotel, and/or airfare, train, or mileage reimbursement (up to \$400).

You must be an active CSTA member to apply. [Become a member](#) for free today.

The [CSTA 2022 Conference](#) will be held July 14-17, in Chicago.

Learn more and [start your application](#) today. The application will close on April 24, 2022, at 11:59 pm (PDT).

Scholarship Opportunity from the National Business Education Association

The [National Business Education Association](#) (NBEA) will again be awarding two (2) scholarships in the amount of \$3,000 each via the Business Education Scholarship program.

Administered by the Council for Business Teaching and Research (CBTR), the NBEA Rosemarie McCauley, Floyd L., and Doris H. Crank Memorial [Business Education Scholarship](#) provides funding for those seeking to pursue their undergraduate, graduate, or advanced degrees in Business Education as well as those pursue other degrees within business with the intent of becoming a middle school or high school Business Educator.

Completed applications are due May 1, 2022, and notification of award will be sent by July 1.

Please visit the NBEA Rosemarie McCauley, Floyd L., and Doris H. Crank Memorial [Business Education Scholarship](#) page of the NBEA website for complete guidelines and application procedures.

New 5-Hour Mini Professional Development Courses on CodeHS

CodeHS is offering [five new mini professional development courses](#) for teachers wanting to level up their computer science education knowledge over a week or even a weekend. The time to complete each mini course is about five (5) hours.

Explore the new courses available below.

[How CodeHS Works](#): Learn how to leverage CodeHS tools for grading, progress tracking, providing feedback, customizing courses, and more.

[Using the CodeHS IDE](#): Learn how to use the CodeHS integrated development environment to engage, assess and collaborate with students.

[Debugging in Java](#): Learn techniques for finding common code errors and effective debugging strategies for Java exercises.

[Collaboration in CS](#): Learn what collaboration in the CS classroom looks like and explore various collaboration techniques.

If you currently use CodeHS, be sure to check out other [professional development opportunities](#).

If you are interested in learning more about CodeHS and how to use the platform in your curriculum, either via the free or subscription format, get more information on the [CodeHS website](#).

National Career Clusters Framework Stakeholder Update Session

[Advanced CTE](#) thanks everyone for their ongoing support of and continued interest in [Advancing the Framework: A state-led crowdsourcing initiative focused on modernizing The National Career Clusters® Framework](#) (the Framework).

Over the past year, Advance CTE has worked diligently to aggregate and incorporate feedback from hundreds of stakeholders into an update of the Framework. Under the direction of our Board of Directors, Advanced CTE is charting a path forward that serves the needs of diverse learners by providing structural alignment between education and the world of work.

To that end, they are excited to unveil a beta version of the modernized Framework during a Stakeholder Update Session on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at 2:00 pm (MST).

This session will feature a presentation from Vivayic, the organization leading the research and design of the new Framework, followed by a short Q&A. Afterward, a form will be available for you to share any feedback you have about these updates and, as always, Advanced CTE is happy to schedule a follow-up call with you.

[Click here to register for this session](#). Please register by February 8.

If you cannot attend, this session will be recorded and shared afterward to allow as many stakeholders as possible to provide feedback about the updates.

If you have any questions, please contact Advance CTE Senior Policy Associate Dan Hinderliter at dhinderliter@careertech.org.

Stock Market Game Registration Open for Spring Competition—Trading Begins Monday

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE) is excited to announce registration is now open for teams for the [Spring 2022 Stock Market Game](#). The Spring 2022 Stock Market Game will run from February 7 to April 15, 2022.

Glacier Bancorp and their family of Montana Banks will once again sponsor all team fees, (\$15/team) for all teams with two (2) or more students enrolled, maximum size is five (5) students per team.

Glacier Bancorp will also provide prize money to the top 5 winning teams again this semester. Join MCEE in congratulating the top finishers from Fall 2021:

1. Corvallis High School - Teacher Joel Loran
2. Belgrade High School - Teacher Rodger Enochson
3. Skyview High School - Teacher Kurt Wohler
4. Bozeman High School - Teacher Abbey Wesche
5. Whitehall High School - Teacher BJ Robertson

You can learn more and register teams on the [Stock Market Game](#) website.

The Stock Market Game is an excellent classroom resource to teach the fundamentals of investing in the Stock Market. The simulation provides student teams a \$100,000 portfolio to apply in the real market by purchasing stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. The program can apply current events, macro-economic influences, and personal preferences of consumer brands in an engaging way.

When students connect the news with their investment positions while competing in real time against their class and other schools, don't be surprised they are logging-in without you asking. Buy low and

sell high, have fun while learning, and maybe be rewarded with cash prizes.

The Stock Market Game software is provided by SIFMA and shared nationally with other state councils. The program is intuitive and provides excellent teacher resources with videos and other learning tools making it an easy to implement program to introduce to your school.

For questions regarding the Stock Market Game or other MCEE programming, please contact Dax Schieffer, MCEE Executive Director, at mcee@montana.edu.

Keep Off Tax Season with Take Charge Today's Teaching Taxes and TurboTax Webinars

With Monday, January 24 marking the official start of the 2022 tax season, [Take Charge Today](#) invites you to join them in two tax-themed webinars to gain information and resources for your classroom.

The **Teaching Taxes Webinar** will be held Wednesday, February 2, 4:30 pm (MST). This one-hour webinar features the new TurboTax Simulation and activities within the Take Charge Today [Paying Your Income Taxes](#) lesson plan.

Join the Zoom Meeting: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/89756277234>; Password: 656701.

Build confidence for your students around handling taxes; join **Intuit's Interactive TurboTax simulation** webinar session.

The Webinar: Intuit team members will go through the tax simulation, educator resources and discuss how to help us prepare students to be responsible members of society.

The Simulation: Educators, students, and parents can [access the TurboTax simulation here](#). The simulation includes training material for educators, a glossary of terms, a parent discussion guide, and more. A Spanish-version will also launch in January to reach more under-represented communities.

Impact: Early education on tax filing advances wealth equity by preparing all students for adulthood.

[Click here](#) for a quick product demo on what to expect using the TurboTax simulation.

Recorded webinars can be found by clicking the Webinar tab in the [TCT Video Library](#).

Digital Lessons to Introduce Students on Savings + Retirement

[EVERFI](#) is proud to announce a brand new and cost-free classroom resource for Montana educators. [Grow: Financial Planning for Life](#) provides easily accessible lessons that help students identify important stages in their lives to save for, and how they can begin incorporating smart money habits into their lives now.

Topics include: financial goals, saving, budgeting, good vs. bad debt, growing wealth, retirement plans, and how to balance expenses, emergencies and other financial responsibilities while saving for their future.

Getting your students started only takes a few minutes. Contact your local EVERFI support leader Sean (stthomas@everfi.com) and he can show you how to access the lesson over email, in a 15 minute call, or by leading your class through their first virtual lesson.

Announcing the Junior Prospects Competition & Update on The Prospects

The Montana Chamber Foundation is excited to announce that this year's competition will also include a prize purse for entrepreneurial minded junior high schoolers.

These prizes include cash awards, sponsored by Jobs for Montana's Graduates (JMG) and Two Bear Capital, to encourage entrepreneurial thinking that improves local communities; and we are accepting submissions for existing or new business ideas for generating money.

This competition is open to all Montana middle school-aged entrepreneurs. To learn more, contact Tiana Yates, Youth Entrepreneurs Coordinator at tiana@montanachamber.com.

Current Prize Purse: \$2,000 cash—Enter as individuals, teams or as a class to compete for cash prizes of \$100-\$250 for entrepreneurial thinking that improves your community; and for existing or new business ideas that generate money.

Submission Requirements: Pitch Video (two minutes or less), Business Summary (1,000 words max.), Participation Agreement/Waiver Form signed by an Educator and/or Parent or Guardian.

Dates: The Spring Round will take place January 17-March 18 with the Awards Show (Virtual) on Friday, April 22 at 12 pm.

Submission Link: More information can be found on the [Montana Chamber's Prospects](#) website. To learn more, please contact Tiana Yates, Youth Entrepreneurs Coordinator, at tiana@montanachamber.com.

Categories & Structure: The Junior Prospects competition is designed to develop entrepreneurial thinking through the Youth Entrepreneurs project-based learning activities. To provide structure, the Montana Chamber Foundation recommends formatting your submissions in one or more of the following categories.

- [The Vacant Lot](#): Team or Class Competition
- Free Category: Follow your passion
- Industry Specific Ideas: Health, Tech, Construction, Manufacturing
- Mobile Applications to improve life
- Sports-related goods or services
- Non-Profit/Community Development New product or invention
- Improve existing services

The Prospects Update (High School): The Spring Round for The Prospects (high school division) has officially opened and will go through March 18. Great submissions have been received in the first round and are looking forward to seeing even more come in. The prize purse is up to \$63,500 and continues to grow.

To easily access the eligibility waiver, competition guide, and a full list of prizes please click [here](#). This Google Drive is being updated weekly with prizes and information so please make sure to keep checking back. The drive is a helpful place to help narrow down student ideas if they are struggling as there are some specific prizes and categories. You can also visit The Chamber website: [The Prospects - Montana Chamber of Commerce](#).

Register for Summer 2022 APBP Trainings and Reserve Your Hotel Today!

The Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (AICPA) is excited to announce that registration for the Accounting Program to Bridge the Profession (APBP) Advanced Accounting summer trainings is open on the [StartHereGoPlaces](#) website and the hotel discount codes are available.

If you are new to APBP and would like to learn more about the curriculum and free training, click [here](#).

Four trainings sessions will be held this this summer with the following hotel discounts:

Location: Las Vegas, Nevada at AICPA's ENGAGE Conference: June 7-9, 2022 (limited space available).

Hotel information: A reduced rate of \$150/night is available at the Park MGM. For more information, click [here](#).

Location: Chicago, Illinois: June 20-22, 2022

Hotel information: A reduced rate of \$169/night is available at the Chicago, Central Loop - Club Quarters Hotel. For more information, click [here](#).

Location: Houston, Texas: July 20-22, 2022

Hotel information: A reduced rate of \$149/night is available at the Houston Marriott West Loop by the Galleria. For more information, click [here](#).

Location: Roseland, New Jersey: August 1-3, 2022

Hotel information: A reduced rate of \$139/night is available at the Hampton Inn Suites Fairfield. For more information, click [here](#).

Discounted rates are on a first come first serve basis and rooms are limited.

To sign up for a training, go to [StartHereGoPlaces](#) and complete your registration. Training is **free** and breakfast and lunch will be provided to all attendees.

Should you plan to attend one of the trainings, be sure to work with your district/school to receive OPI Renewal Units for your participation.

Send any inquiries to apbp@aicpa-cima.com.

Register for Cryptocurrency Basics: NGPF's Newest Certification Course

[Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF) is introducing its NEWEST certification course: [Cryptocurrency Basics](#).

[Register now](#) to complete a five-week, nine-hour NGPF Certification Course during Cohort #20 to become certified in specific personal finance topics. Sessions are just two hours a week and start the week of February 7.

- Increase your confidence with current personal finance content knowledge
- Gather ready-to-implement resources to bring to your students
- Earn a Certification Badge to share on your email signature, resume, and LinkedIn
- Continue earning your credits for [NGPF Academy](#) this school year.

courses are available during nthis cohort:

- Banking & Budgeting
- Career
- Cryptocurrency Basics **New**
- Paying for College
- Psychology of Money

Visit NGPF to [register today](#). Remember to work with your district/school to receive OPI Renewal Units for completing the NGPF Certification Course.
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- Banking & Budgeting
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Visit NGPF to [register today](#). Remember to work with your district/school to receive OPI Renewal Units for completing the NGPF Certification Course.

Design, Create, Share, and Repeat with Ziro Studio

The [Computer Science Teachers Association](#) (CSTA) is excited to introduce you to their online, interactive, experiential learning platform called [Ziro Studio](#).

[Ziro Studio](#) is a fun interactive way to learn coding and STEM by allowing students to see the results of their work immediately in a 3D virtual world. It is free and open to all.

[Ziro Studio](#) is full of possibilities for teachers and students alike. CSTA will be delighted to support any CSTA teachers that would like to bring this platform to their students.

Take a look at some neat projects.

Secure Your Spot for the CSTA 2022 Conference

Engage with your community of computer science teachers during the Computer Science Teachers Association's [CTSA 2022 Conference](#).

Experience over 200 educational sessions to help you get the best educational experience possible. Energize in-person, where you will leave feeling refreshed and excited to start the school year, armed with new lessons and tools to implement in your classroom.

Join the community at CSTA 2022, set for July 14-17, in Chicago. [Secure your Early Bird rate](#) before prices increase on May 31.

Exclusive Scholarship Opportunity For Your Accounting Students

Applications for the [2022-2023 AICPA Foundation High School Scholarship](#) are open until March 1, 2022.

The AICPA Foundation will provide \$2,000 to 10 students who intend to continue their accounting studies at an accredited college or university, and who have taken an advanced high school accounting course taught by teachers who are a part of the Accounting Program to Building the Profession (APBP) program. Selected recipients will be awarded this scholarship during June-July of 2022 for the fall 2022

and spring 2023 academic year.

Eligible students must be/have:

- Taken an advanced accounting course taught by an APBP trained educator.
- The nomination of a registered educator or school counselor at [StartHereGoPlaces.com](https://www.startheregoplaces.com) or nomination by a current AICPA member.
- Proof of acceptance into a public or private, not-for-profit (501(c)) two or four-year accredited college or university located in the U.S. states or territories for the full 2022-23 academic year.
- Maintained a GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).
- Enrolling as a full-time undergraduate (12 semester hours or equivalent) for the full 2022-23 academic year.
- A registered High School student on [Start Here, Go Places](https://www.startheregoplaces.com).
- A U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card holder).
- Some financial need (i.e., not receiving a full or partial scholarship(s) and/or grant(s) that cover and/or exceed student's educational expenses)
- Note: AICPA staff and their family members are not eligible to receive this scholarship.*

Eligible students can apply online [here](#). Applications will be accepted until March 1, 2022.

[The Prospects 2022 High School Business Competition—Spring Round Opens Today](#)

[The Prospects](#) is a virtual statewide entrepreneurship competition for high school students with new ideas and existing small businesses. This collaborative initiative invests in our students while developing a mentorship platform to connect with business and community leaders.

[The Prospects](#) is Montana's premier opportunity for high school students to demonstrate and be handsomely rewarded for their entrepreneurial spirit...that spirit you are unleashing in your classes.

Any of Montana's 40,000+ high school-aged students are encouraged to submit their innovative ideas and solutions or enter their existing businesses. Matt and Tiana Zoomed with over 100 students in more than 10 classrooms around Montana in December. During these meetings they are encouraging students to think about their passions and what motivates them. They then offer suggestions on how to turn these passions and motivators into a business. They also discuss students' current business ideas and brainstorming on how to cultivate their ideas into a winning submission. If this is something you would like to bring into your classroom, please email Tiana Yates at tiana@montanachamber.com to schedule a time for Tiana and Matt to Zoom with your class.

The current prize purse includes \$51,000 in cash and scholarships. Stay tuned for regular updates as the prize purse grows. Prizes will include cash prizes, scholarships & financial aid, technology prizes, and opportunities for mentoring, internships, apprenticeships, and work-based learning.

Participants will need to submit a (1) a pitch Video (two minutes or less), (2) a business summary (1,000 words max.), (3) a waiver form signed by an educator and/or parent or guardian, and (4) a completed W-9 Form.

The Spring 2022 round runs January 17-March 18, 2022.

The awards show will be held Friday, April 22 at 12 pm (MDT).

Judging for both the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 rounds will take place following the closing of the spring round.

Complete details about The Prospects and submission information can be found at MontanaChamber.com/Prospects.

To learn more or to get questions answered, please contact Tiana Yates, Youth Entrepreneurs Coordinator, at tiana@montanachamber.com.

Introducing Creative Cloud Express for Education

Welcome to [Adobe Creative Cloud Express](#). Creative Cloud Express gives students and educators everything they need to create stunning graphics, flyers, photos, presentations, web pages, and videos – and express themselves in unique and beautiful ways both inside and outside the classroom.

Adobe Creative Cloud Express for Education brings together the ease of use of Adobe Spark, [Adobe Fonts](#), [Adobe Stock](#) images, education relevant templates, quick actions powered by [Photoshop](#), Premiere, and PDF and so much more, to help your classroom get started with awesome creative tools.

If your district or classroom already uses Adobe Spark for Education, you will be automatically upgraded to [Creative Cloud Express for Education](#). Your passwords will work the same as before, and any projects you and your students have completed in Adobe Spark for Education will appear in your new Creative Cloud Express account.

[Creative Cloud Express](#) works in all web browsers, so students can make content on any device, including Chromebooks. Students can also work on mobile devices using the iOS, Android, or Windows apps.

The [Adobe Education Exchange](#) offers free tutorials, courses, lesson plans, and video guides to help build your students' essential creative skills as they prepare for college or a career. Educators can also join the [Adobe Creative Educator](#) program to receive curated professional development materials, information about virtual and in-person events, and opportunities to connect with like-minded educators from around the world.

To find more information or get started, visit the [Creative Cloud Express for Education page](#).

CS Across the Curriculum Summit—February 12, 2022

Computer science can enhance learning of all subject areas. At the virtual [CS Across the Curriculum Summit](#), teachers will explore ways to integrate computer science into all subjects and grade levels. The CS Across the Curriculum Summit will be held Wednesday, February 12 from 9:00-2:00 pm (MST). The summit is tailored for teachers who teach any subject in grades K-12 or are already a computer science teacher, with pathways in English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Science, Social Studies/History and Visual/Performing Arts, and other subjects.

The [Computer Science Teachers Association](#) (CSTA) works hard to price events low enough so that all interested teachers are able to participate. The summit registration fees cover the costs associated with hosting the summit, including the technology platforms that we use. There are a limited number of [scholarships available](#) to support K-12 teachers for whom the registration costs are a barrier. If you'd like to help fund these opportunities for teachers, please contact daniel.rosenstein@csteachers.org.

To apply for a scholarship, you will need a CSTA membership. You can sign up for free [here](#).

ISTELive 22 Registration is Now Open—Go Big in the Big Easy

If you're choosing just one event this year, it has to be [ISTELive 22](#) in New Orleans, June 26-29. Conference registration and hotel reservations are now open.

When you sign up for [ISTELive 22](#), you will not only have the chance to participate in over 1,000 learning opportunities presented by global experts, you will also get to collaborate, share and see your community again—at last. And, the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) has designed this event for every comfort level, so you can do all of that in person or virtually.

ISTE Live is no longer just a four-day event—it is customized, flexible, year-round PD. So, be sure to check out all the ways you can participate.

[Register now](#). Prices increase in March.

K12 Grant Opportunity from TestOut for Spring 2022

[TestOut's K12 Grant](#) is an excellent way for teachers and students to soar to new heights using our IT and Microsoft Office courseware. Just like rockets blast into outer space, TestOut will help your students reach for the stars.

[TestOut's courseware](#) is an integrated suite of resources that provides everything teachers need to prepare their students for certification and a successful career in the IT industry and everyday Microsoft Office applications. TestOut courseware includes video instruction and demonstrations, concise text lessons, quizzes, and exams to test their knowledge in hands-on labs.

TestOut's easy-to-use, all-in-one courseware aligns to industry certifications like MOS, CompTIA, Cisco, EC-Council's Certified Ethical Hacker and includes a voucher to their 100% Performance-based TestOut Pro certification.

TestOut's complete, end-to-end certification training software provides teaching methods that keep users focused and engaged. Each course uses various resources that give you everything needed to prepare for certification, including video instruction, text lessons, demonstrations, lab simulations, and comprehensive practice exams.

[TestOut's grant](#) provides districts, teachers, and students with full access to training courseware, provides video instruction, hands-on practice through real-life simulations, testing, and certification prep in one easy-to-use platform at no cost. Grant access will run the entire semester from January 1, 2022, through July 31, 2022.

The K12 grant is for instructors that have never used TestOut course materials. Please visit [TestOut](#) for more details and a complete list of course offerings and resources.

Applications are Now Open in Montana for the Code.org Professional Learning Program

Applications are now open for [Code.org's Professional Learning Program](#) for middle and high school educators. If you are interested in teaching computer science for the 2022-2023 academic year, this is your time to explore computer science (CS) curriculum and collaborate with educators of all experience levels to develop lesson plans and teaching strategies.

What is the Professional Learning Program? Hosted by highly trained facilitators, the professional development workshops will prepare you to confidently bring CS to your students as well as connect with an online and in-person community of peers. Most workshops have scholarship funding available.

New this year, Computer Science A (CSA) professional learning has arrived. For teachers looking for support in teaching CSA in the 2022-23 school year, [find a professional learning program near you](#).

[Elementary teachers](#) can sign-up for a one-day workshop near you! Applications are not required for Computer Science Fundamentals workshops and take place throughout the country, year-round.

[Middle and high school teachers](#) will begin with a five-day workshop on Computer Science Discoveries, Computer Science Principles and Computer Science A in the summer, with academic year workshops thereafter.

Workshops for Montana teachers include—

CS Discoveries:

--June 27-July 1, 2022; Seattle

--August 1-5, 2022; Virtual

CS Principles:

--June 27-July 1, 2022; Seattle

--August 1-5, 2022; Virtual

Computer Science A:

--June 27-July 1, 2022; Seattle

Avid, Montana's regional Code.org partner, has scholarships available for teachers in Montana. That means you can apply to possibly attend this professional learning program at reduced or no cost to you/your school. AVID is planning on offering both virtual and in-person/hybrid summer workshops during the summer of 2022, and will switch to all-virtual if needed.

If you have any questions, please [use this form to contact your regional partner](#).

Career & Technical Education Scholarships—500 Scholarships at up to \$2,500 each

The [Career & Technical Scholarship Program](#) is funded through the generosity of Horatio Alger Association Members, Jim F. Dicke II and Dennis Washington. Scholarships are awarded to students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their lives who wish to pursue a career or technical education at an accredited non-profit post-secondary institution in the United States.

Eligibility Criteria:

--Have completed high school (or earned a high school equivalency credential)

--Enrolled in eligible program in Fall 2021

--Exhibit a strong commitment to pursue and complete a career or technical program (up to 2 years) at an accredited non-profit post-secondary institution in the United States

--Demonstrated critical financial need (must be eligible to receive the Federal Pell grant as determined by completion of the FAFSA)

--Demonstrated perseverance in overcoming adversity

- Be under the age of 30
- Be a United States citizen

Funds may be used for tuition, fees, books, and supplies. All scholarship funds are paid directly to the institution on behalf of the recipient.

If you are a school official, you may sign up for the Stay Connected list so that you will be notified of important application updates and to print a poster to put up in your school. To do so, please visit the [School Officials](#) page.

The [CTE application](#) is now open with a priority deadline of July 15 (applications will continue to be awarded on a rolling basis until all awards have been claimed).

[Apply Now.](#)

Fun Facts & Trivia

Quidditch: The Board Game is a Harry Potter inspired board game and was released in 2000.

Players control 14 quidditch pieces on a hex board quidditch field.

Three goals are locked in place on opposing ends, with each team's player standees arranged by their goals.

Teams take turns rolling and moving, turning over tiles to search for the snitch, or finding quaffles to shoot through the hoops.

Various other tiles reveal bonuses and penalties.

When a player wants to score with a quaffle, he loads a quaffle ball into a miniature catapult and tries to launch it through hoop, scoring 10 points.

If a seeker token finds the snitch, the team scores 150 points, ends the game, and more likely than not, wins.

Quidditch is a 7-on-7 sport that is essentially 95% handball and 5% capture the flag. Flying on broomsticks, most of the players on the field are concerned with throwing a ball through one of three hoops on the opposing end of the field.

The other 5% involves one player from each team trying to snag the Golden Snitch.

Catching the Snitch is worth 150 points and ends the game.

Whichever team has the most points after the Snitch is caught wins the game.

In a live game, there are over 700 unique fouls that can occur during a game of Quidditch and it is the job of the game's referee to be on the lookout for each and every single one of them during every game of Quidditch.

According to lore, myth, and legend, Quidditch is one of the longest-running games in wizarding history (and probably muggle history as well if we are being honest), as it has been played regularly for nearly 1000 years as the official version of the game, can be traced back to a spirited game held in the year 1050 at Queerditch Marsh.

Though Quidditch is a long-standing wizarding tradition, it is important to note that the sport (at its inception) was originally the combination of five other magical sports.

Elements from each one of these sports were taken and combined to create the sport that we all know and love—Swivenhodge provided the quaffle and chasers; Stitchstock provided the keepers; Ainginein provided the scoring hoops; an unnamed Scottish game provided the beater and bludgers; and the game of Shuntbumps provided the tradition to attempt to knock players off of their brooms.

The companion novel, *Quidditch Through the Ages*, which provides readers with historical information on the game, fun facts, and a brief overview of the main rules of the game was originally published in the muggle market by author J.K. Rowling in the year 2001.

Quidditch is not just for the movies (or for wizards) anymore as the infamous sport has crossed over into the muggle world as universities, clubs, and rowdy groups of friends across the globe have picked up their broomsticks and engaged in the beloved sport for themselves.

In fact, this sport is regularly played in twenty-six different countries.

Selling more than 500 million copies worldwide, the "Harry Potter" books have been translated into 80 different languages — recently, Scots, a language spoken as a first language by 90,000 people.

Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey ride opened with The Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal's Islands of Adventure in Orlando on June 18, 2010.

Since then, subsequent versions of the ride have opened at Universal Studios Japan on July 15, 2014, at Universal Studios Hollywood on April 7, 2016, and at Universal Studios Beijing on September 20, 2021.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh