

**SCARLETT FAMILY FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIP NEWSLETTER***PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TO MIDDLE TENNESSEE STUDENTS OF ALL AGES***Scholarship Deadline - December 15th****Attn: Business Majors, you still have time to apply**

Since 2006, the SFF has awarded 135 need/merit-based renewable scholarships (totaling \$2.6M) to Middle Tennessee students. Last year, the average award was \$7,700 (per year) and 20 scholarships were awarded. There is no limit to the number of awards; it's based solely on the ability, interest, and effort of each applicant.

Students may [learn more](#) or begin their [application](#) today!

Coaching our kids

Executive advice - for parents!

by Joe Scarlett



Each day in our professional leadership roles we teach, push, encourage and reward. We rally our team members in effort to achieve maximum success. We are, in essence, coaches.

As parents, we are also coaches for our children. Just like with our team at work, we want each child to be wildly successful. We encourage them to follow their dreams because we want our youngsters to be happy in life. We also want to give them the freedom to choose their own career—one that they believe is the right fit for them.

The tough part is helping our children weigh risks and rewards. Do we want our kids to follow a dream that leads to no job or just a low-paying job? Probably not. I often hear parents and grandparents talk with mixed pride about a daughter who has a degree and is now making just above the minimum wage because that's what the particular field pays. Or worse, a son can't find any work in his chosen field and is now working in an industry that has no relation to the degree he worked so hard to earn.

Just as we coach for success at work, we need to give our children career coaching that will lead to solid professions. Quite frankly, it's a lot easier to be happy when you're making \$75,000 a year than \$35,000. We have a parental obligation to gently guide our children into careers that will be rewarding and satisfying both personally and financially.

Part of that coaching as a parent includes staying in tune with the times—knowing which jobs are in most relevant and in demand, and therefore profitable, in the current marketplace. Here are some examples of strong jobs today:

- Healthcare: dentists, nurses, pharmacists - almost anything in the field
- Technology: systems analyst, software developer - you name it in technology
- Engineering: civil, mechanical, electrical, etc.
- Professions: lawyers, accountants and managers

We love our kids and grandkids; so let's use our coaching skills to position them for a lifetime of success.

**Top Career Paths**

Tennesseans! Here's a glimpse into the future job market for your state!

[View the career paths](#) with the most projected post-secondary openings. Explore related occupation demand, degree requirements, and average wage projections.

[View the projected post-secondary demand openings](#), ratio and gap for career paths for the state or in a workforce investment area. Explore related occupation demand, graduate supply, degree requirements, and average wage projections.

MOOCs

The latest bright shiny object? Or the most disruptive innovation to hit higher education?



Massive Open Online Courses...they are 'all the rage' for Higher-Ed. Fans of MOOCs applaud them as an opportunity for anyone in the world to access top-notch instruction, and as a model for reducing the cost of higher education. For every fan, there are critics that point to lack of rigor, inconsistent quality, and high course drop out rates, but it's too early to determine the future of MOOCs.

Have you taken a MOOC? I have NOT, but I will! In January, I will begin my first class, and I'll share my experience in the April newsletter.

Care to join me? Learn more from the three top providers: [Coursera](#), [edX](#), and [Udacity](#)

Featured Resource

Resources to Help Pay for and Prepare for College

How does Fastweb work? Fastweb members are matched to relevant scholarship opportunities completely free of charge. With roughly 1.5 million scholarships worth more than \$3.4 billion, there are scholarships that fit every student or prospective student's educational goals, activities, and interests.

Tips for a Successful Application

(For past tips, check out newsletter archives at "Resources.")

1. **Letters of Recommendation:** Approach your teachers early. Give them time to write a concise letter, not a generic letter. Letters often carry a great deal of weight in an application.
2. **Transcripts, and Test Scores:** Your guidance counselor can help you obtain an official transcript. Haven't taken the ACT or SAT? Registration deadlines are below. Allow time to take each test twice. Most scholarships will take your highest score.
3. **Keep Your Grades Up!** Your senior year matters. Admissions directors and scholarship committees want to see you finish strong.

Upcoming Fall Deadlines

ACT: Register by January 10th for the February 8th test.

SAT: Register by December 27th for the January 25th test.

EASFA: January 1st is the first day you may begin your application.

