

Protect Yourself – Scholarship Scams

The Community Foundation’s Preventing Financial Scams Initiative protects our community. Here are some tips on scholarship scams:

Red Flags:

- If a scholarship charges a fee, it is usually a scam.
- Be incredibly cautious of scholarships asking for your bank account number, Social Security Number, credit card number, or other personal information.
- If you receive a scholarship you never applied for, it is probably a scam. Scammers will ask you to pay a fee to receive the supposed scholarship.
- The scholarship claims to be sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. The Department of Education and other federal agencies do not endorse scholarships or businesses.
- The scholarship says they will do all the work and makes big promises, like “We will give you your money back if you do not receive the scholarship.”

Reporting:

- If you suspect fraud, file a complaint with the Nevada Attorney General at http://ag.nv.gov/Complaints/File_Complaint/ or by calling 888-434-9989.
- You can also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by calling their Consumer Response Center at (1-877-382-4357) or visit <https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov/#/>.

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