Things to Consider When Offering a Scholarship

1. A scholarship that is too easy to apply for may bring more applications than you want to wade through. Even if using the scholarship form included on this Web site, an organization may want to create their own essay question. Another option could be for students to come up with an idea and write a business plan to support it.

2. Decide whether to limit the scholarship to current high school seniors, or to open it to homeschooled students who are already in college. Many scholarships cover only the freshman year, so there is a need for those that provide funds for sophomore through senior years.

3. Decide how much weight should be placed on academic performance and how much should be placed on character or community involvement. With homeschooled students, academics can be hard to gauge unless they are already receiving grades in college.

4. Decide whether you want to place geographic limitations on the scholarship, specifying a certain state or geographic region.

5. Determine whether you want to specify a major, or a certain type of college.

6. Consider whether to narrow the pool of applicants by requiring the applicant possess a certain rank, skill or accomplishment.

7. Decide whether the scholarship will be renewable, and if so, under what conditions.

8. For some organizations, a decision may need to be made as to whether to offer one large scholarship or several smaller ones.