



University of Louisville photo

Take Note!

By Benjamin J. Wilson

If you've participated in band, chorus or orchestra during high school, think about putting your musical talents to work to earn money toward college.

"But I don't want to major in music!" you say. No problem!

Many schools offer music scholarships to students with musical abilities – even if they plan to pursue another major. For instance, at U of L, if you play in the

marching band in the fall, a portion of your fall tuition is covered by the university. Other colleges in the state offer similar programs.

In almost every music program, the scholarship process requires an audition; most schools have a weekend in the spring when hopefuls swarm to the school to show their wares to a panel of professors. Other criteria vary from school to school. Some schools place more emphasis on academic performance when awarding music scholarships; others consider talent and need more important.

"Performance ability is what counts," according to Teg Evans of UK's Band Department, where auditions are held in the spring for the fall marching band and accompanying scholarships. Cash awards for being in the band there can range from two hundred dollars to over a thousand.

So go ahead, toot your own horn – and earn some money while you play!

Sound Advice

- \$ Keep practicing – most schools require auditions
- \$ Turn application forms in as early as possible
- \$ Many schools offer scholarships to non-music majors
- \$ Get as much info as possible – look at Web sites and call the schools
- \$ Apply for several different scholarships in case the one you want doesn't come through

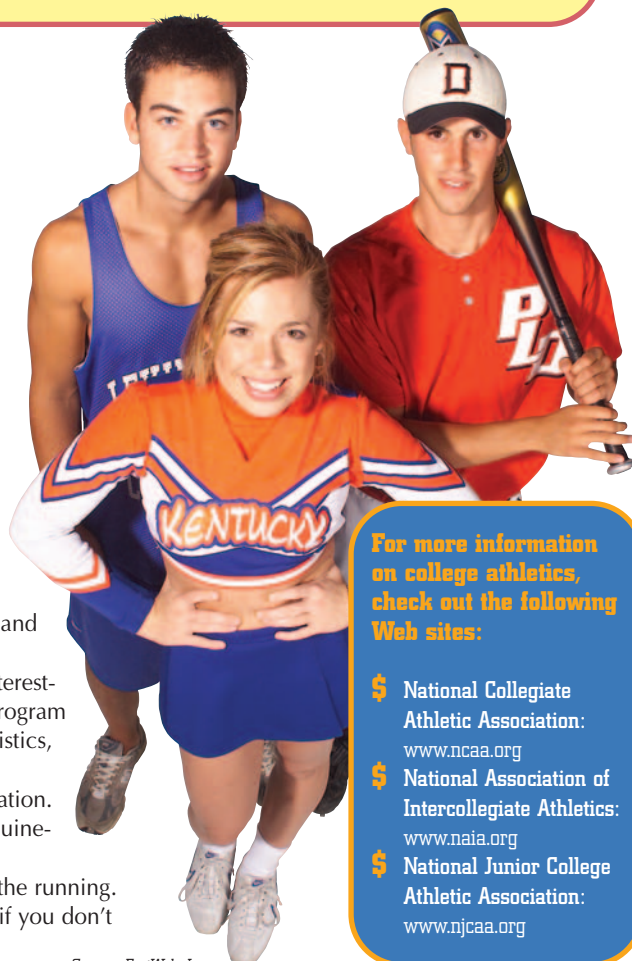
Play to Win

There's plenty of talk that surrounds high-profile high school athletes, but don't automatically count yourself out of the running just because you're not a superstar or you don't participate in a major sport (such as football, baseball or basketball).

There are scholarships out there for a wide variety of sports, ranging from tennis and golf to volleyball, soccer and even archery. But remember: You have to let the colleges know you're there.

If you're interested in pursuing an athletic scholarship, here are some tips to get you going:

- \$ Start by exploring different colleges and the types of scholarships they offer. (The Internet is an invaluable resource and nearly every school now has a Web site.)
- \$ Ask your coaches about which schools might be a good fit for you.
- \$ Collect news clippings and videos that highlight your achievements and abilities.
- \$ Get the name of the head coach at the colleges in which you are interested and send a letter directly to him/her. State your interest in their program and include information about yourself (such as honors, athletic statistics, press clippings, etc.).
- \$ If you are truly serious about a particular program, submit an application. Schools will be much more interested in you if they see you are genuinely interested in them.
- \$ After you apply, stay in touch with the coach to keep your name in the running.
- \$ Last – but not least – keep your grades up! You won't get anywhere if you don't remain eligible!



For more information on college athletics, check out the following Web sites:

- \$ National Collegiate Athletic Association: www.ncaa.org
- \$ National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics: www.naia.org
- \$ National Junior College Athletic Association: www.njcaa.org

Source: FastWeb, Inc.