

## **Seminar: Writing for Scholarships: The Journey to \$100,000 Begins With a Single Sentence**

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."—Lao Tzu

This seminar will focus on how to begin the journey to earning scholarship money--you must *choose* to start, and to start you only need to write one sentence.

While I will discuss how to strategize beginning the journey to maximize your time to pursue \$100,000 in the Dr. Pepper Tuition giveaway, we will also discuss several other scholarships that are open that require writing, some as few as 3-5 sentences to up to 250 words to 1,000 words or more.

Pursue Money, Not College Debt Initiative will also be discussed.

### **\$100,000 Dr. Pepper Tuition Giveaway is Open; Apply if you Qualify**

Dr. Pepper Tuition Giveaway is officially open.

***If you wait until the middle of September or the beginning of October to try for this scholarship, that might be too late.***

<https://www.drpeppertuition.com/>

***Ages 18-24, Must be at least 18 but no older than 24 on 12/2/17, you must have a Facebook account to participate***

Program Details: <https://www.drpeppertuition.com/program-details>

Selected criteria from webpage:

1. Tell us how you'll change the world in 350 characters or less.
2. Rally your friends to vote
3. Once you reach 50 votes, submit a video to inspire more fans.

TUITION PRIZES

**\$100,000 in tuition — Dr Pepper selects finalists to compete during throw-offs at NCAA conference championship games."**

Official Rules: [https://www.drpeppertuition.com/official\\_rules.pdf](https://www.drpeppertuition.com/official_rules.pdf)

*By reading the official rules, you can get more details about how the videos will be judged and how to best make sure you aren't disqualified (for example, you are only allowed one goal and you "may not use more than one name or residential or email address. Once a video is submitted, the video cannot be replaced or altered. Only one video, one time, per person."*

**Knowing you can only submit one video, you want to make sure you understand how the video will be judged and plan it a little.**

*One student in Tennessee created a video and did get a chance for the \$100,000 scholarship; with planning and practice, she received \$100,000, which she will use to finish paying her undergraduate education and pay for graduate education as well.*

**I would love to see a student at Tennessee State University be one of the future scholarship winners!**

***In the workshop, we will look over what some students have written about "how they will change the world" and we will brainstorm your own ways you wish to change the world. Then, we will jot down notes to include in the description.***

**Other Scholarships that Require Writing or Brainstorming  
(in case of the \$5,000 video)**

<https://www.directtextbook.com/haiku>

**\$500 DirectTextbook.com Haiku Scholarship Contest 2017, D: Sept 10, 2017**

<https://www.jonestshirts.com/scholarship>

**\$1,000 Love Your Career Scholarship, D: Sept 11, 2017**

<http://www.votacall.com/scholarship>

**\$2,000 VotaCall.com Scholarship, D: Sept 15, 2017**

<https://www.murrellscholarshipfund.com/>

**\$1,200, \$800, and \$500 Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest, abstracts due by Oct 2, 2017; speeches to be delivered on Oct 8, 2017**

**Prizes will be awarded for two categories: Freshman and Upperclassmen (30 or more completed hours); only open to Tennessee State University students**

<http://www.getupgetactive.org/scholarship/>

**\$1,000 Active Life Scholarship for Financial Literacy, D: Sept 30, 2017**

<http://www.getupgetactive.org/active-life-weakness/>

**\$1,000 Active Life Scholarship to Tackle Your Weakness, D: Oct 31, 2017**

**The above two scholarships involve only answering a few questions and writing a 3-5 sentence answer to a Short Answer question.**

<http://www.asuresoftware.com/about-us/international-scholarship-essay-contest/>

**\$2,500 Asure Software International Scholarship Program, D: Oct 1, 2017**

<https://www.liaison.com/scholarship/>

**\$5,000 Liaison's Data-Inspired Future Scholarship, D: Oct 31, 2017 for spring semester; May 31, 2018 for the fall semester (create a video)**

<https://www.foreclosure.com/scholarship/>

**\$5,000 and \$1,000 Foreclosure.com Scholarship Essay Program, D: Dec 15, 2017**

<https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships>

Unigo.com offers several scholarships that require 250 or less short answer responses.

**\$1,500 Shout It Out Scholarship, D: Sept 30, 2017**

**\$2,000 Zombie Apocalypse Scholarship, D: Oct 31, 2017**

**\$5,000 Education Matters Scholarship, D: Nov 30, 2017**

**\$10,000 Unigo Scholarship, D: Dec 31, 2017**

<https://jlvcollegecounseling.com/scholarships/>

***To find more scholarships, search out Jessica Velasco of JLV College Counseling's list of scholarships and contests***

**SKIP THE ADS!** (Some of the ads are legitimate, but sadly I can't vouch for them all. Avoid the single mom or single dad scholarships—I and a few other students have received calls, and some of the operators are not scrupulous, trying to pressure students in pursuing degrees at for-profit colleges and to take on heavy student loans.)

### **Pursue Money, Not College Debt Initiative**

The Pursue Money, Not College Debt Initiative is an agreement that you will spend 12 hours this semester focused on finding money to pay for school to reduce reliance upon college debt.

You do this by choosing to spend an hour a week for the next 12 weeks in this endeavor. You will sign up to work with Mr. Mike Turner or if he is not available a particular week, another writing tutor, to focus on either

searching for scholarships, completing applications for scholarships, or writing required for scholarships.

The hour will be more robust than simply searching for scholarships, in that you might be working with Mr. Turner to create strategies to bring in more money to cover tuition and books than just simply pursuing scholarships. Such strategies may include how to keep your GPA up, so that you can pursue more scholarships in Spring 2018.

We will keep track of how much money you bring in to offset debt, and that track record will be used to motivate yourself and others to pursue money instead of debt.

Each particular journey will be shaped by what you need to do to get to where you want to go. Your steps will be chronicled so that your experience will help you and others.

I am seeking 5 people who are willing to make this commitment to their future and their lives.

While seeking scholarships may take more than 12 hours, at least you know that during each week you will *choose* to spend an hour a week towards that goal.

This opportunity to sign up is open to Tennessee State University students, but anybody can choose to make his or her own Pursue Money, Not College Debt Initiative.

### **For Tennessee State University students only: How to Make an Appointment for the TSU Writing Center**

First, you must make an appointment on the scheduling system.

How to set up an appointment:

<https://tnstate.mywconline.com/register.php>

Once you create an account for the schedule, you can see when I, Michael Turner, am available.

Go to the above link and register. It will ask you questions. I would choose an email that I check often. It could be the email associated with your phone.

Once you have registered, you can sign in to the schedule by putting in your username (email address) and the password you created.

Your student ID is your complete Tnumber.

Select "**Writing Center Fall 2017**" for the current TSU Writing Center schedule.

You cannot schedule for the day you register, but there are directions once you log on for what to do if you need an appointment for that same day.

***If you wish to email me instead, Mr. Mike Turner can be reached at [mjturner@tnstate.edu](mailto:mjturner@tnstate.edu).***

## **How to Receive Entire Blog Entries from ScholarshipTigers.com as They are Published**

**<https://scholarshiptigers.com/>**

**On the right hand side of the webpage, scroll down until you see the words, EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION.**

**If you enter your email address and click on the box, Sign me up, you should receive an email, and then all you have to do is confirm it.**

***You will then receive updates with scholarships and clues so that you can discover more college money and aim for less student debt.***

**You will receive the text of the entire blog post, and I try to blog twice a week.**