# **Scholarship Universe**

The latest training topics, news, and announcements

#### **What's Happening Now**

Financial aid advisors are compiling lists of this year's eligible renewal students.

#### What's Ahead

Be on the lookout for an invitation to discuss the renewal process for the 25-26 cycle!

#### Important Dates to Remember

FAFSA data will be input into the system late January. This will generate more questions for students to answer & additional matches!



## Training, training, & more training!

### Get ready to learn in the new year 🔄 🖋 📝

"You don't understand anything until you learn it more than one way," says to cognitive scientist Marvin Minsky. If I may also add, you don't understand anything until you become involved in the process and do it yourself, perhaps even a few to several times. Learning takes time and practice, but almost always proves well worth the investment.

This focus on learning, through a variety of tutorials and some trial and error, will guide us this year. Financial aid seems like it is straightforward—that's what I thought when I was hired! Little did I know that "it depends" would be the mantra-like answer to financial aid questions.

As such, the <u>SU Training Topic 4: Matching Criteria</u> seeks to provide a fundamental understanding of how SU functions as a matching platform. Paired with the <u>Training Tidbit: Direct Award vs. Application</u>, I hope it will give you a better understanding of the unique ways in which Scholarship Universe facilitates the administration of donor scholarships. Happy watching!