

Equity Initiative: Leveraging Scholarship Resources



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

HOUSTON GPS

GUIDED PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

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Project Overview

Title: Leveraging scholarship resources to develop equity in educational opportunities.

Call to Action: Acquire and implement a software that will allow us to centralize available scholarship funds that is easily accessible to qualifying students.

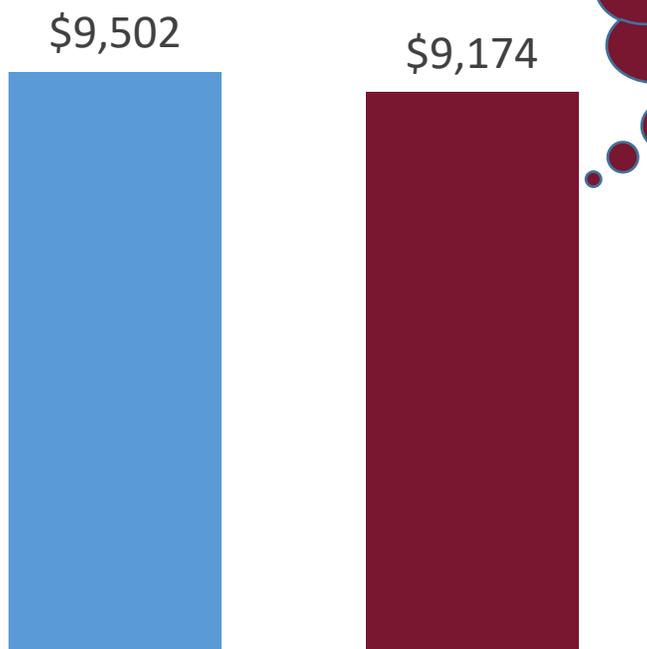
Project Goals:

- Software acquisition and implementation, Marketing-Provide Scholarship Awareness, Improve business processes of awarding scholarships.
- Reduce Student Loan Debt, Increase Completers

Software “**Scholarship Universe**” implemented May 2022.

Quick Data Overview

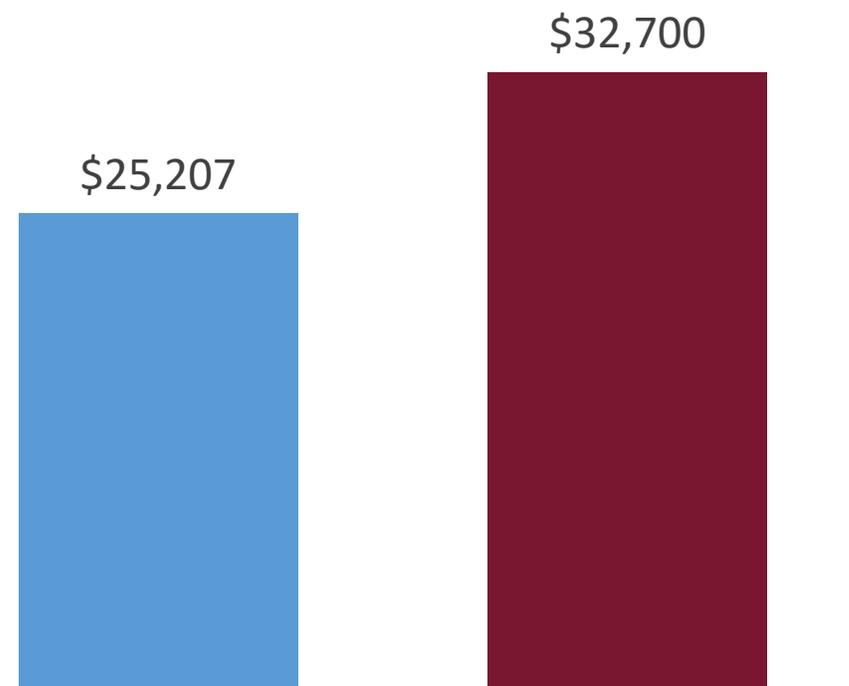
Tuition and Fee Charges



TSU charges are nearly 4% less.

TSU student debt is nearly 30% higher.

Native Student Loan Debt (UG Degree Recipients)

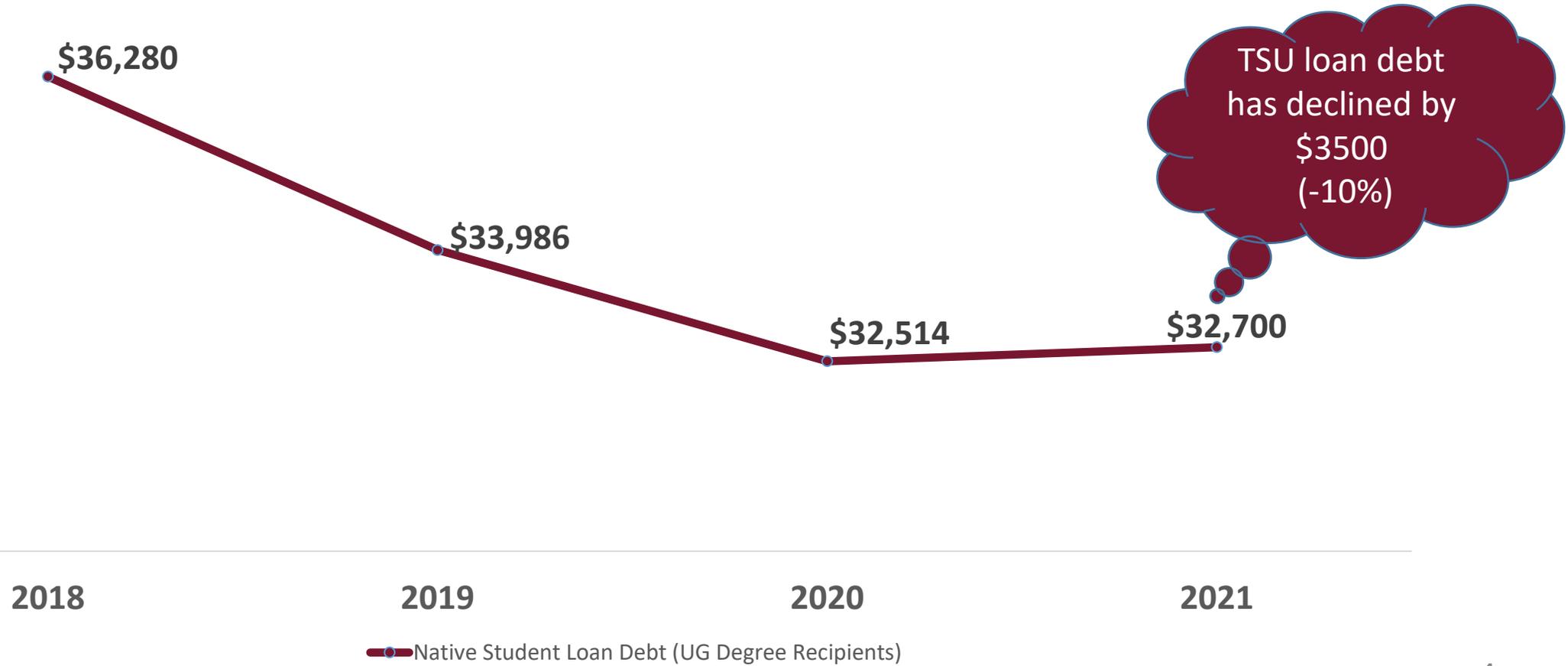


■ Statewide-4yr ■ TSU

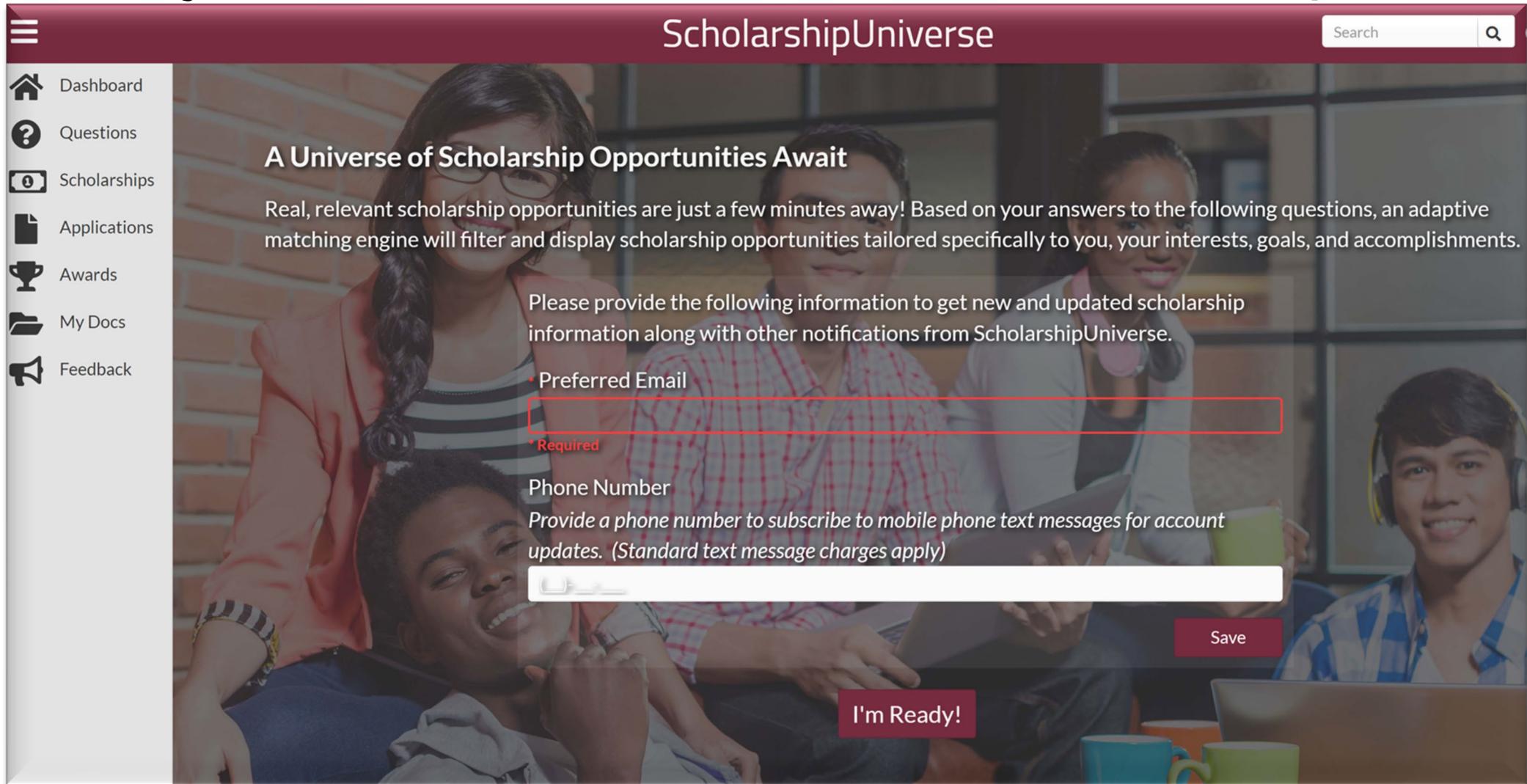
■ Statewide-4yr ■ TSU

Quick Data Overview

Native Student Loan Debt (UG Degree Recipients)



Project Overview-Software Sample



The screenshot shows the Scholarship Universe web application. The header is maroon with the text "ScholarshipUniverse" and a search bar. A left sidebar contains navigation icons for Dashboard, Questions, Scholarships, Applications, Awards, My Docs, and Feedback. The main content area features a background image of diverse students. The text reads: "A Universe of Scholarship Opportunities Await" followed by a paragraph about an adaptive matching engine. Below this is a form with a "Preferred Email" field (highlighted with a red box and marked as required), a "Phone Number" field, and a "Save" button. At the bottom, there is an "I'm Ready!" button.

Dashboard

Questions

Scholarships

Applications

Awards

My Docs

Feedback

ScholarshipUniverse

Search

A Universe of Scholarship Opportunities Await

Real, relevant scholarship opportunities are just a few minutes away! Based on your answers to the following questions, an adaptive matching engine will filter and display scholarship opportunities tailored specifically to you, your interests, goals, and accomplishments.

Please provide the following information to get new and updated scholarship information along with other notifications from ScholarshipUniverse.

- Preferred Email
- * Required
- Phone Number

Provide a phone number to subscribe to mobile phone text messages for account updates. (Standard text message charges apply)

Save

I'm Ready!

Project Overview-Software Sample

Tell Us About Yourself

Matches	Opportunity
0	\$0

Have you completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the upcoming academic year?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

What is your current or intended major(s)?

 N/A

[Leave Feedback](#)

What is your cumulative GPA? 

 N/A

What is your current or intended major(s)?

 N/A

Project Overview-Software Sample



Tell Us About Yourself



Matches 6	Opportunity \$6,750
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What is your citizenship status?

N/A

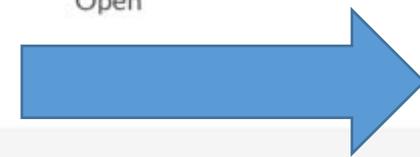
[Leave Feedback](#)

Skip

Continue

- Matches
- Pinned
- Partial Matches
- Application Submitted
- Non-Matches
- Not Interested

AMOUNT	Scholarship	ORGANIZATION	APPLY BETWEEN	STATUS	
\$750		External Scholarship	1/1/2022 - 7/15/2022	Open	  
\$1,000		External Scholarship	9/30/2021 - 7/31/2022	Open	  



Apply View

Apply View

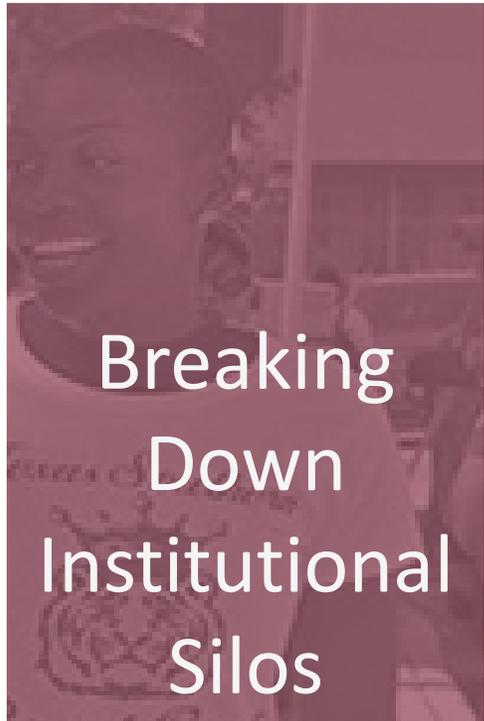
Key High points/Strengths



Seamless
Scholarship
Matching



Enhanced
Internal and
External
Partnerships



Breaking
Down
Institutional
Silos



Student
Empowerment
And Networking



Transformative
Business
Processes



Active and Timely
Communication



Improved
Transparency and
Financial Literacy

Major lessons-learned

- Equity awareness and operationalization is key
 - TSU defines equity as the fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all individuals, while at the same time striving to identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of diverse groups.
- Project/Initiative implementation must be broad-based
 - *Institutional initiatives transcend change in personnel*
- Cross-training is key: Scholarships awarding in not solely a “financial aid” responsibility
- Acknowledge small victories
- Regularly evaluate institutional “practices” that are not “policy”

Summary of primary next steps:

- Marketing
- Training
- Cultivate internal partnerships to incorporate ALL scholarship resources
- Develop report summaries to share with University leadership
- Increase Scholarship availability
- Analyze Summer and Fall 2022 grads scholarship applications, and loan debt



Group Discussion/Q & A



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