



Final Release Notes

June 23, 2021

XAP Corporation

600 Corporate Pointe, Suite 220

Culver City, CA 90230

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Release Notes Summary | 3 |
| 1. Resolved Issues | 4 |
| 2. Updated Postsecondary School Database..... | 5 |
| 3. Reimagined Volunteer & Community Service Activity..... | 7 |
| 4. Redesigned Career List, Program List, Profiles and Explore Schools..... | 9 |
| 5. Updated Career Cluster Survey Selections | 13 |
| 6. Annual Reflection Time Period Revised | 14 |
| 7. Adult Student Added to Scholarship Profile | 15 |
| 8. Apply Button Added to Scholarship Cards | 16 |

RELEASE NOTES SUMMARY

These release notes detail the product improvements and new features included in the June 23, 2021, release.

Resolved Issues

1. On occasion, students were receiving duplicate emails / messages sent from the Professional Center.
2. The +More link in an Assigned Curriculum was not working if the activity was assigned more than once in a year.
3. The school profiles for vocational/technical schools incorrectly described the school as "Upper Division."
4. Account administration tools for school administrators wrongly permitted a school administrator to change their account to district administrator.
5. The "Submit for Approval" link on course plans should only appear on primary plans of study.
6. The text on the College Matching Assistant badge in Explore Careers was incorrect.
7. The styling of instructions in the Cover Letter Creator was not displaying correctly.
8. Adult account holders were not able to access the Basic Skills Survey.

Enhanced & New Features

- Updated Postsecondary School Database
- Reimagined Volunteer & Community Service Activity
- Redesigned Career List, Program List, Profiles, and Explore Schools
- Updated Career Cluster Survey Selections
- Annual Reflection Time Period Revised
- Adult Student Added to Scholarship Profile
- Apply Button Added to Scholarship Cards

1. RESOLVED ISSUES

This table summarizes the product improvements included in the June 23, 2021, release.

| | Problem | Improvement |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | On occasion, students were receiving duplicate emails / messages sent from the Professional Center. (80180) | The code was updated so that duplicate emails are no longer being sent out. |
| 2 | The +More link in an Assigned Curriculum was not working if the activity was assigned more than once in a year. (80302) | The ID for each activity was not updating properly when an activity was assigned more than once a year. It has been fixed. |
| 3 | The school profiles for vocational/technical schools incorrectly described the school as "Upper Division." (80695) | The database powering the school profiles has been updated and the schools are now described correctly. |
| 4 | Account administration tools for school administrators wrongly permitted a school administrator to change their account to district administrator. (80782) | The permissions for school administrators in the Professional Center have been revised to correct the error. |
| 5 | The "Submit for Approval" link on course plans should only appear on primary plans of study. (80784) | The code powering the Submit for Approval functionality was updated so that only primary plans of study can be submitted. |
| 6 | The text on the College Matching Assistant badge in Explore Careers was incorrect. (80854) | The text was revised so that it correctly describes the College Matching Assistant. |
| 7 | The styling of instructions in the Cover Letter Creator was not displaying correctly. (80895) | The styling was updated. |
| 8 | Adult account holders were not able to access the Basic Skills Survey. (80929) | The link to the Basic Skills Survey was not coded properly and has been fixed. |

2. UPDATED POSTSECONDARY SCHOOL DATABASE

The database powering the school profiles within the College Planning section has been updated to use Peterson's postsecondary school data. As a result, the college search and explore options have been revised to add new data fields, remove old data fields that are no longer available, and revise data names to reflect the data available from Peterson's. Here's a highlight of the changes:

1. The SchoolFinder and the page "Schools Offering This Program" have been updated to use a greater range of credentials
 - Certificate/Diploma
 - Associate
 - Bachelor
 - Graduate Certificate
 - Master
 - Doctorate

Agribusiness/Agricultural Business Operations

[Save to Portfolio](#)

[Program Description](#)

[Find a School](#)

[Print](#) • [Email](#) • [PDF](#)

Find a School Offering This Program ?

Choose the type or length of program:

- ☐ **Certificate / Diploma**
A short-term course narrowly focused on a specific topic
- ☐ **Associate degree**
Typically, a two-year program most commonly found at community colleges
- ☐ **Bachelor's degree**
A three to four-year program at a four-year college or university
- ☐ **Graduate Certificate**
A short-term narrowly focused program requiring a bachelor's or master's degree for entry
- ☐ **Master's degree**
Usually a one to two-year program requiring a bachelor's degree for entry
- ☐ **Doctoral degree**
A highly specialized degree requiring either a Bachelor or master's degree for entry

2. The institution type data field used in the SchoolFinder, Explore Schools, and the school profiles has been revised to use the following institution types:
 - Vocational / Technical
 - Two-year colleges
 - Four-year colleges
 - Graduate schools

[Print](#) • [Email](#) • [PDF](#)

Filters

☐ Four-year Schools
☐ Two-year Schools
☐ Graduate Schools
☐ Vocational/ Technical

Location:

Sort by:

Academy of Careers and Technology

Beckley, WV

TYPE

Vocational/Technical

TUITION

SETTING

Alderson Broaddus University

Philippi, WV

TYPE

Four-Year, Graduate

TUITION

\$29,000

SETTING

Rural

American Public University System

Charles Town, WV

TYPE

Four-Year, Graduate

TUITION

\$6,480

SETTING

Rural

3. The descriptions of the following search characteristics in the SchoolFinder were updated.

- School Setting
- Academic Calendar
- Entrance difficulty
- ACT Scores
- SAT Scores
- Advanced Placement
- International Baccalaureate
- Student Housing
- Career Services

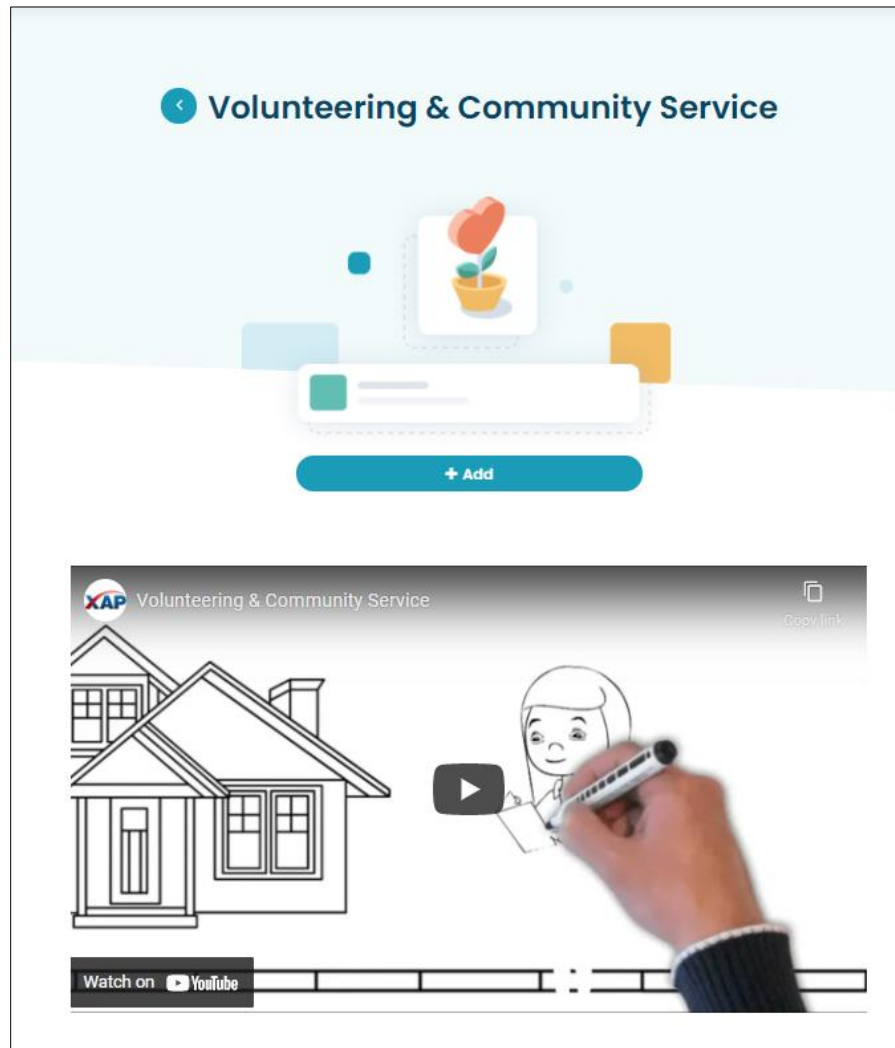
4. The following data fields were removed from the SchoolFinder as the data is no longer available:

- Test Preference
- Tuition Payment Plan
- Cultural Diversity
- At Home or Away
- Housing Policies and Services
- Learning Assistance Services
- Physically Disabled Services
- Computer Facilities
- Working During School

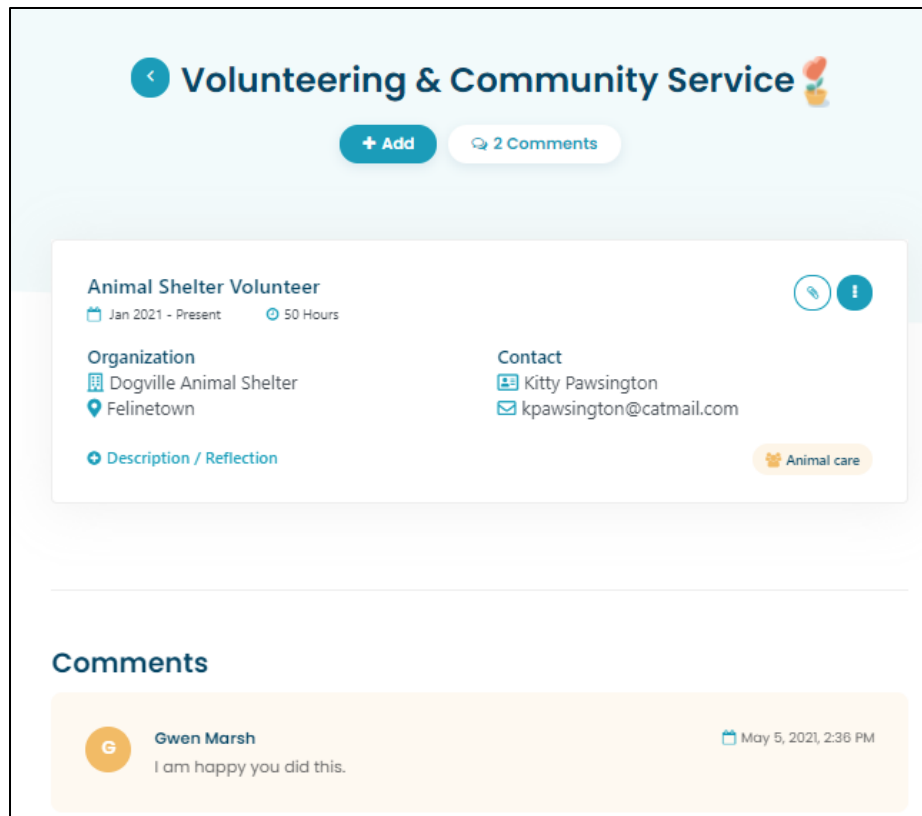
As a result of the updates, students will not be able to access Saved SchoolFinder searches (found in their Portfolio and upon return to the SchoolFinder).

3. REIMAGINED VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY

As part of the roadmap of improvements for Choices360, activities within students' Portfolio are being reimagined. The activity formerly known as Community Service and Service Learning has been renamed to Volunteer & Community Service. Additionally, the functionality has been enhanced. The first time a student views the activity, they can opt to view a very short video on the importance of volunteering. Students can enter the details of one or more of their volunteer or community service activity. Parents and educators can comment on the activity.



Students can watch a short introductory video on the value of volunteering



View of the activity with one record and comments.

Any previously entered activity data has been migrated to the revised activity.

4. REDESIGNED CAREER LIST, PROGRAM LIST, PROFILES AND EXPLORE SCHOOLS

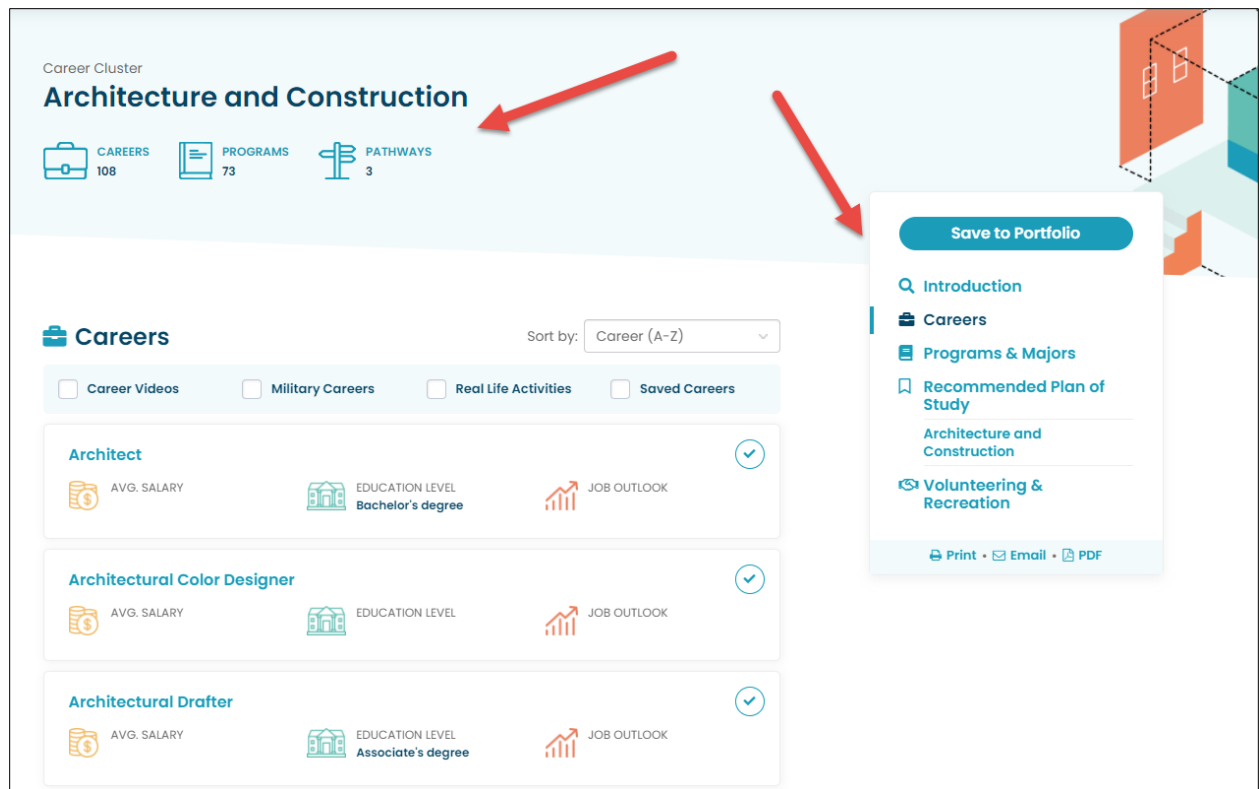
As part of an ongoing project to enhance the usability and look and feel of Choices360, the following pages have been redesigned:

1. **List of Careers:** It's now easier to scan the list of careers in Explore Careers to pick out, at a glance, each career's salary, education level, job outlook and Career Cluster. It's also much easier to sort and filter the list. Students can sort alphabetically, by salary, by education level, job outlook and Career Cluster.

The screenshot displays the 'Career List' interface. At the top, there's a 'Career List' header with 'Print', 'Email', and 'PDF' options. Below the header, a 'Filters' button is highlighted with a red arrow. To the right, a 'Sort by' dropdown menu is also highlighted with a red arrow, showing 'Career (A-Z)'. The main content area lists careers with the following details:

| Career | AVG. SALARY | EDUCATION LEVEL | JOB OUTLOOK | CAREER CLUSTER |
|---------------|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| Accountant | 78,820 | Bachelor's degree | Stable | Finance |
| Actor | 61,027 | High school preferred, plus long term, on-the-job training | Stable | Arts, Audio-Video Technology and Communications |
| Actuary | 116,250 | Bachelor's degree | Increasing | Finance |
| Acupuncturist | 85,600 | Master's degree | Stable | Health Science |

2. **Career Cluster Profiles:** The look and feel of the Career Cluster profiles has been drastically updated. Students can easily see the number of careers, programs and pathways within a Career Cluster from the icons at the top of the page. Careers within the Cluster are displayed in the same way as seen in Explore Careers. Associated Programs & Majors, Plans of Study and articles are accessed through the links at the right side of the page and students can quickly save the Cluster to their Portfolio.



3. **Program Profiles:** The layout of the Program profiles follows the same pattern as used in the Career Cluster profiles with links to additional information or functionality at the top right. Descriptions of the profiles based on interviews done with program instructors and students are included on the profile (whereas previously the description was on another page). This provides a deeper background and understanding of the program.

Architecture

Save to Portfolio

- Program Description
- Interviews
- Find a School

Print • Email • PDF

Program Description

Just the Facts

Architecture. A program that prepares individuals for the independent professional practice of architecture and to conduct research in various aspects of the field. Includes instruction in architectural design, history, and theory; building structures and environmental systems; project and site planning; construction; professional responsibilities and standards; and related cultural, social, economic, and environmental issues.

This program is available in these options:

- Associate degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Certificate / Diploma
- Doctoral degree
- Graduate Certificate
- Master's degree

High School Courses

See the high school courses recommended for programs in this career cluster:

- Architecture and Construction
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

See the high school courses recommended for programs in this pathway:

- Design/Pre-Construction
- Engineering and Technology

Related Careers

Check out related careers

- Architect
- Post-secondary Architecture Teacher

Related Programs

Often similar programs have different names. Be sure to explore all your options.

- Architectural History and Criticism, General
- Environmental Design/Architecture

Additional Information



Today's architecture students are responsible for designing tomorrow's living spaces.

Architects plan and develop designs for constructing and renovating buildings. However, the study of architecture opens up more career opportunities than you might imagine.

"The profession is changing so rapidly," says architecture professor Sherry McKay. "I know people who are now **working on film sets, creating virtual reality sets completely by computer, as well as diverging into such fields as furniture design.**"

You may be able to get a **five-year bachelor of architecture degree** from an accredited institution. But **some schools only offer a master's program.** These schools generally require a bachelor's degree, a diverse portfolio of creative and innovative projects and some experience showing interest in the field.

A master's degree is normally required for research, teaching and certain specialties. But many students find architectural work with only a bachelor's degree.

A typical architecture program includes courses in **architectural history.** Students look at the history of buildings and cities and the social dimensions in architectural traditions.

Other typical courses include **theory, building design, professional practice, math, physical sciences and liberal arts.** Students should also graduate with a working knowledge of **computer-aided design and drafting (CADD).**

In the design studio, students put classroom concepts into practice. During the final semester of most programs, **students complete a 3D model of their own architectural design.**

Thanks to computers, you don't have to be an accomplished artist to enter architecture. Artistic talent is still important, but students also need to focus on math and science. "It requires a skillful combination," says Frank Dimster. He is a professor of architectural design at the University of Southern California.

"Seek out a well-rounded education," says McKay. "This should include things like **physics or math, some art classes and cultural history.**"

She also recommends having a look at galleries and architectural exhibitions.

Some universities also have summer programs for high school students. "For a few weeks, students can live on the campus and explore what it would be like to be an architecture student at the university level," says Dimster. Check with your closest university -- they might have something similar.

All state architectural registration boards require a training period before candidates may sit for the Architect Registration Exam (ARE) and become licensed. The ARE is administered by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB).

Links

Occupational Outlook Handbook

For more information related to this field of study, see: Architects

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/architects.htm>

Architecture Resources

Explore modern and historical architecture

<https://lib.ku.edu/locations/art-and-architecture/electronic-resources/architecture/>

Architecture and Building Resource Directory

A list of links for you to try

<http://www.library.univ.edu/arch/rsce/webresources/>

The Great Buildings Collection

A reference site featuring some famous architectural works from around the world

<http://www.greatbuildings.com/>

4. **List of Programs & Majors:** The look and feel of the list of Programs and Majors within a Career Cluster has been drastically updated. Students can quickly scan the programs and credentials; they can also sort them by credential type and alphabetically.

Career Cluster

Architecture and Construction

CAREERS 108 **PROGRAMS** 73 **PATHWAYS** 3

Programs & Majors Sort by: Program (A-Z) ▾

☐ Saved Programs ☐ Associate degree ☐ Bachelor's degree ☐ Certificate / Diploma ☐ Doctoral degree ☐ Graduate Certificate ☐ Master's degree

Architectural and Building Sciences/Technology ✓

PROGRAM OPTIONS
Associate degree, Bachelor's degree, Certificate / Diploma, Doctoral degree, Graduate Certificate, Master's degree

Architectural Drafting and Architectural CAD/CADD ✓

PROGRAM OPTIONS
Associate degree, Bachelor's degree, Certificate / Diploma, Master's degree

Save to Portfolio

- Introduction
- Careers
- Programs & Majors**
- Recommended Plan of Study
- Architecture and Construction
- Volunteering & Recreation

Print • Email • PDF

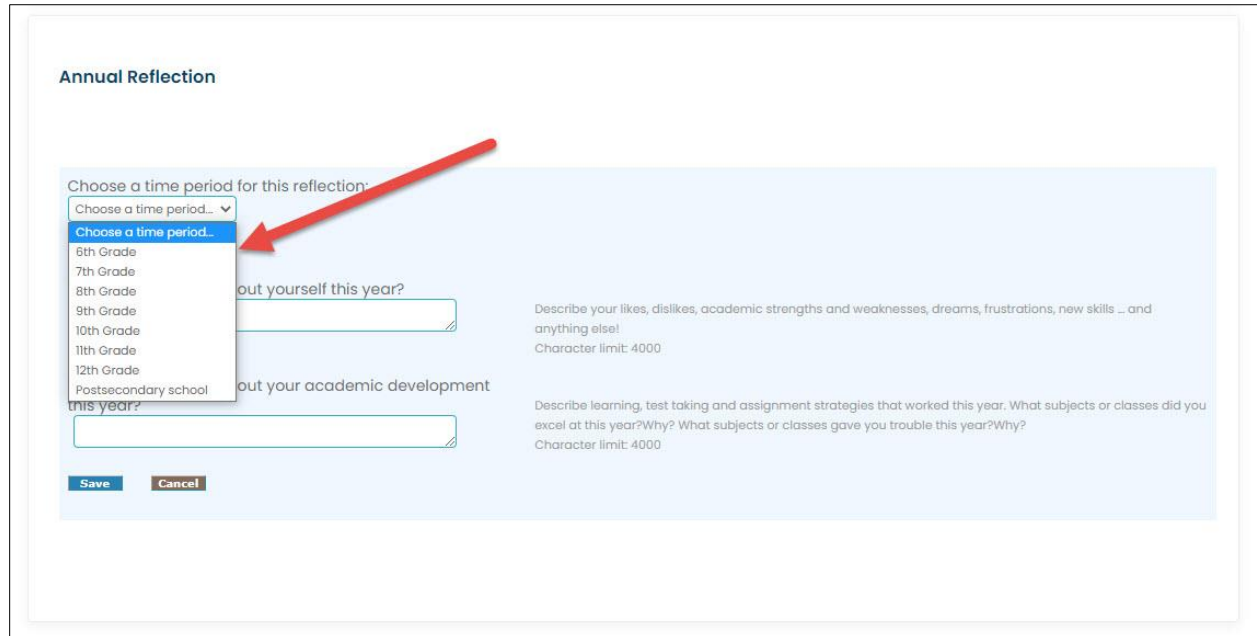
5. UPDATED CAREER CLUSTER SURVEY SELECTIONS

The activities, personal qualities, and school subjects that a student can select to determine which Cluster(s) are their best match in the Career Cluster Survey have been updated. The changes cover the following:

- Updating the text to be more modern
- Lowering the reading level
- Updating the associations between school subjects and Career Clusters

6. ANNUAL REFLECTION TIME PERIOD REVISED

The Annual Reflection in Your Portfolio → Your Profile → How You See Yourself has been updated. Previously the time period for the reflection did not include the option to select individual grades for middle school. Students can now choose 6th, 7th, and 8th grade as a time period.



The screenshot displays the 'Annual Reflection' form. At the top left, the title 'Annual Reflection' is shown. Below it, a section titled 'Choose a time period for this reflection:' contains a dropdown menu. A red arrow points to the dropdown menu, which is open, showing a list of options: 'Choose a time period...', '6th Grade', '7th Grade', '8th Grade', '9th Grade', '10th Grade', '11th Grade', '12th Grade', and 'Postsecondary school'. Below the dropdown menu, there are two text input fields. The first field is labeled 'Describe yourself this year?' and the second field is labeled 'Describe your academic development this year?'. To the right of these fields, there are two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph says 'Describe your likes, dislikes, academic strengths and weaknesses, dreams, frustrations, new skills ... and anything else!' and the second paragraph says 'Describe learning, test taking and assignment strategies that worked this year. What subjects or classes did you excel at this year? Why? What subjects or classes gave you trouble this year? Why?'. Both paragraphs have a 'Character limit: 4000' note. At the bottom left of the form, there are two buttons: 'Save' and 'Cancel'.

7. ADULT STUDENT ADDED TO SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

The scholarship profile used to find scholarships in OKcollegestart.org now has a new option. Adult Student has been added as one of the “Who are you?” types. By adding this new type, adult learners are better able to match themselves to scholarships for both non-traditional and traditional college freshmen.

My Scholarship Profile

Yikes! We know it's a long form. Take the time to complete as many fields as you can to match a better list of scholarships. Your answers are automatically saved so once you have filled it out, then you only need to keep it up to date when things change.

Almost There
MY PROFILE STATUS

About You

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Who are you? | Adult Student | ? |
| Age: | Select one... | ? |
| | Middle School Student | ? |
| | 9th Grade Student | ? |
| | 10th Grade Student | ? |
| | 11th Grade Student | ? |
| | 12th Grade Student | ? |
| | College Freshman | ? |
| | College Sophomore | ? |
| | College Junior | ? |
| | College Senior | ? |
| | Graduate Student | ? |
| | Adult Student | ? |
| Zip code: | | |
| State of residence: | | |
| Citizenship: | U.S. Citizen | ? |

8. APPLY BUTTON ADDED TO SCHOLARSHIP CARDS

Students and adults can now more easily apply to scholarships. Each scholarship “card” has an Apply button. The button opens a new tab and will display the scholarship’s website; ready for an applicant to begin filling out required information. If a scholarship does not have a website, detailed information on how to apply for the scholarship will appear. Scholarship “cards” appear in Matching Scholarships, Saved Scholarships and in the results of a scholarship keyword search.

The screenshot displays the 'Matching Scholarships' section of a website. On the left is a vertical sidebar with icons for a list, a person, a gear, a folder, a menu, and a search magnifying glass. The main content area has a header with a gear icon, the title 'Matching Scholarships', and a sub-header explaining the matching process. To the right of the header, it says 'Matched 9 scholarships' with a 'SEARCH AGAIN' button. Below the header are two scholarship cards. The first card is for the 'Varsity Tutors College Scholarship Contest', showing a deadline of '15th of each month, 2017' and an amount of '\$1,000'. The second card is for the 'Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship', showing a deadline of 'June 19, 2017' and an amount of '\$1,000'. Both cards have 'SAVE' and 'APPLY' buttons. A red arrow points from the 'SEARCH AGAIN' button to the 'APPLY' button on the first scholarship card. Green 'NEW' banners are on the right of both cards. Each card also has a 'DETAILS' link with a downward arrow.

Matching Scholarships
Find the scholarships that best suit your profile by searching for matching scholarships. Make sure the information in **My Scholarship Profile** is up-to-date to ensure the best results. You should also search regularly, as new scholarships are always being added.

Matched **9** scholarships
SEARCH AGAIN

Varsity Tutors College Scholarship Contest
DEADLINE 15th of each month, 2017
AMOUNT \$1,000
SAVE **APPLY** **NEW**
DETAILS ▼

Akash Kuruvilla Memorial Scholarship
DEADLINE June 19, 2017
AMOUNT \$1,000
SAVE **APPLY** **NEW**
DETAILS ▼