



APSU Writing Center

Scholarship Essay

What is a Scholarship Essay?

- A scholarship essay requires a student to reflect on themselves and their accomplishments so far in life. It should focus on informing your audience of your unique achievements and accomplishments. The goal is to demonstrate why you should receive a scholarship over other qualified applicants.

Questions to consider:

- **Who:** Who is my audience? What stands out about me?
- **What:** What are the requirements for the essay? What is my audience hoping to learn from the prompt? What am I passionate about? What skills have I excelled in (leadership, academics, etc.)? What past achievements do I have? What makes me stand out from other applicants? What experiences have shaped who I am? What adjectives would others use to describe me?
- **When:** When did I accomplish my skills? When am I going to submit my application?
- **Why:** Why do I want this scholarship? Why should my audience grant me a scholarship?
- **How:** How do all of your activities come together to further your future goals or career plans? How do I want to express my emotions about this scholarship? How will I capture the attention of my audience? How will I answer the prompt questions? How will I transition between paragraphs?

How to write a Scholarship Essay?

- Answer the Prompt & Follow the Guidelines for the Essay
- Include specific information about you strengths & achievements
- Organize your ideas in a way that flows
- Focus your essay on a theme or specific topic

How to review my work?

- Reread the instructions and double check that you have answered each question
- Read your essay aloud to check for errors
- Bring your essay to the writing center for a second pair of eyes to review



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Scholarship Essay One Page Outline

Title:

General Purpose:

Specific Purpose:

Thesis Statement:

INTRODUCTION

Who are you:

What do you value:

Where are you from:

OBSTACLE

What has been a significant challenge in your life:

How did you overcome this challenge to attend college:

EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Major:

Why did you choose this field of study:

How this degree will impact your career:

Future plans:

BACKGROUND

Brief Background of yourself:

How did you get to where you are today:

What is important to you:

Examples of your character & strengths:

What are you interested in (hobbies, volunteer work, leadership experience, etc.)

What makes you stand out:

NEEDS

Why do you need a scholarship:

How will the scholarship make a difference to you:

CONCLUSION

Summarize your story briefly:

Restate how a scholarship can help you attain/achieve your academic goals:

BRAINSTORMING IDEAS:

TITLE:

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SPECIFIC PURPOSE:

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References

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