




**SCHOLARSHIP
ESSAY
WRITING**





Agenda

- » **Introduction**
 - » **Scholarship Essay Do's and Don'ts**
 - » **General Information**
 - » **Examples**
 - » **Contact information**
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Student Persistence Team

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Scholarship Essay Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- » Use a strong hook
- » Stay focused on the topic
- » Use a thesis statement
- » Re-use your essay
- » Follow directions carefully

Don'ts

- » Use clichés
- » Stray off topic
- » Be overconfident
- » Rely solely on spellchecker
- » Procrastinate

General Information to Include

» Who you are

- ◇ Personal statement
- ◇ Anecdote
- ◇ Make sure you are the subject

» Why education?

- ◇ Motivation
- ◇ Career goals
- ◇ Assurance


» Accomplishments

- ◇ Awards
- ◇ Recognitions
- ◇ Resume can be starting point

Examples



Hook

- » “It is important to have strong leadership skills in the 21st century”.
 - » “November 12 was the day I lost everything”.
- 

Stay Focused and Use a Thesis

- » *Explain something that made a big impact in throughout your life.*
- » “If you can’t live off of it, it is useless.” My parents were talking about ice skating: my passion. I started skating as a ten-year-old in Spain, admiring how difficulty and grace intertwine to create beautiful programs, but no one imagined I would still be on the ice seven years and one country later. Even more unimaginable was the thought that ice skating might become one of the most useful parts of my life.

Follow Directions Carefully

- » **Stick to word count**
- » **Include all materials**
- » **Use correct file type**
- » **Answer all parts of the question**

“In 600 words or less, please tell us about yourself and why you are applying for this scholarship. Please be clear about how this scholarship will help you achieve your personal and professional goals. Submit your application as a PDF.”

Sample Prompts

- » Explain something that made a big impact in throughout your life.
- » The Fund is committed to diversifying education abroad by providing funding to students who are typically under-represented. Please describe how you and/or your plans for study abroad could be viewed as under-represented.
- » Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- » Please explain a personal hardship or catastrophic life event that you have experienced. How did you manage to overcome this obstacle? What did you learn and how did you grow from it?

Sample Essay

- » Read through the sample essay and think about what the essay does well and what it can improve
- » How can you adapt an essay you would write using these suggestions?

QUESTIONS?

You can find me at

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