

Suggestions for Writing a Scholarship Application: Your Personal Statement

In order for the selection committee to better understand your strengths and your needs, you may consider the following items for your personal statement:

- An introduction that reflects your request for consideration
- A statement containing your overall academic and life goals
- A list of specific academic objectives
- A description of your career goals
- Personal reasons reflecting need for financial assistance
- Academic history, including both challenges and achievements
- Work history, leadership roles, and recognition
- Cultural factors
- Travel and relocations as related to life goals
- Volunteer experiences
- High school history and achievements
- Awards, recognition and previous scholarships received
- Community service participation
- Leadership experiences in community and school organizations
- Challenges regarding health and wellness issues, learning disabilities, etc.
- Special considerations in terms of rural locations, commute issues, etc.
- Family considerations
- Summary statement that contains specific or general requests
- Statement of appreciation, in advance, for consideration of your statement

Format suggestions:

- Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar and punctuation
- Have another person read your work for clarity and errors
- Use complete sentences
- Begin with a introductory paragraph and end with a summary statement
- Length should be approximately one page, and not less than a half-page
- Use a computer and type in 12-point Arial or Times font, if possible
- Do not use bold type
- Double space between paragraphs
- Use a new paragraph for each topic area

****MAKE SURE TO COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS ON THE APPLICATION ****