

Scholarship Essay Tips

1. **Follow Instructions:** Be sure to follow the word count limit, rules, and any formatting guidelines specified in the application. Example: If the scholarship requires a 500-word essay, don't exceed the limit to avoid disqualification.
2. **Understand the Essay Question:** Read the question carefully to know what they're asking. Example: If the question is about a challenging experience, you've had and how it has shaped your life, they want to know not just about a difficult situation but also the lessons you learned and how it made you think about your future.
3. **Start Strong.** Your first lines matter. Grab their attention and make them want to read more about you.
4. **Be Specific and Give Details:** Give concrete examples to explain your point rather than making general statements. Example: Instead of writing that you want to be a nurse because you want to help people, you could write about your volunteer/job shadowing experience at a local hospital.
5. **Turn Weakness into Strength:** If you have had a challenge or a problem, write about how you have learned and grown from it and how it impacts you as a person. Show you can handle hard things and change for the better.
6. **Proofread and Edit:** Review and revise your essay many times to correct grammar errors and flows smoothly. Read aloud and see if it makes sense. After writing your essay, take a break, then come back to read it again to catch any typos or awkward phrasing.
7. **Be Genuine and Authentic:** Write honestly about yourself. Don't exaggerate to make it sound better.
8. **Be You:** Don't pretend to be someone else. Just be yourself and tell your story honestly. The scholarship committee is not your enemy. They want to get to know you.
9. **Wrap It Up:** Finish your essay by summarizing how it answers the question and why you want the scholarship.
10. **Get Feedback:** Have trusted friends, family members, or teachers review your essay and provide constructive criticism.
11. **Pretend to be a committee:** Imagine you're selecting who gets the scholarship. Would you pick yourself after reading your essay?

Remember, your scholarship essay is an opportunity to showcase your unique strengths and convince the committee that you're the best candidate for the award. Good luck!