



HOW TO ACE YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

TIPS FOR STANDING OUT IN THE CROWD



Carefully Follow Directions:

An effective essay only delivers requested information. Avoid going off topic or on tangents.



Research Online:

Study essay examples online to get the ball rolling, but never copy examples, in full or in part.



Use the Basic Essay Format:

Include a compelling introduction with a thesis statement (describe the goal of your essay), 3-4 paragraphs supporting the thesis statement, and a concluding paragraph that reemphasizes the main point of your essay. Do not summarize.



Use Proper Grammar, Punctuation, Sentence and Paragraph Structure:

Consider using a writing style guide like <http://www.libraryspot.com/grammarstyle.htm>



Have the Essay Proofread:

It is easy to miss mistakes, grammatical errors, or inconsistencies in structure. Have multiple qualified people proofread your essay.



Consider Aesthetics:

1. Print your essay on high quality paper.
2. Use a font that is professional and easy to read like Arial, Calibri, Tahoma, Times New Roman, or Verdana.
3. If a font size is not specified in the instructions, use 10 or 12 point for the body of your essay and 14 point for the title.
4. Do not fold the essay or application form.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- <https://www.fastweb.com>
- <https://www.scholarships.com>
- <https://www.salliemae.com/college-planning/college-scholarships/>
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>



SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH POINTERS

- NEVER pay for a scholarship application.
- Pay attention to different deadlines for each scholarship.
- Consider creating a separate email account for scholarship applications (eg, <yourname>scholarships@gmail.com)



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