



# Scoring Guide for Scholarship Applications

Updated 01/24/2019

1. What are your specific educational plans and career goals and why? What inspires you to achieve them? (300 word max)

**Score Key**

1 - 2	Poor: Very little information, no detail, obvious oversights or mistakes
3 - 4	Fair: Some information is present, but there are still gaps between their career aspirations and educational plan.
5 - 6	Average: Most information is given, not a lot of detail, but career goals seem to be in line with their educational plan. Transcripts and classes taken support plan.
7 - 8	Above Average: Informative, several details are given about their career goals and educational plan to achieve them, well organized and thought out. Transcripts and classes taken support their plan.
9 - 10	Excellent: Strong, persuasive essay, very detailed, obvious care was taken in completing their career aspirations and educational plan.

2. What have you done for your family or community that you care about most and why? (300 word max)

**Score Key**

1 - 2	Poor: Very little information, no detail, obvious oversights or mistakes
3 - 4	Fair: Some information is present and there is very little detail.
5 - 6	Average: Most information is given, not a lot of detail, but you learned something new about the applicant
7 - 8	Above Average: Informative, several details are given about their event and you learned how the applicant responded to event and what they learned.
9 - 10	Excellent: Strong, persuasive essay, very detailed, obvious care was taken in describing the event and the lesson learned.

3. Describe a personal accomplishment and the strengths and skills used to achieve it. (300 word max)

**Score Key**

1 - 2	Poor: Very little information, no detail, obvious oversights or mistakes
3 - 4	Fair: Some information is present and there is very little detail.
5 - 6	Average: Most information is given, not a lot of detail, but you learned something new about the applicant
7 - 8	Above Average: Informative, several details are given about their activity and you learned how it makes them a better student.
9 - 10	Excellent: Strong, persuasive essay, very detailed, obvious care was taken in describing the activity and how they are a better student for it.

4. Describe a significant change or experience that has occurred in your life. How did you respond and what did you learn about yourself? (300 word max)

Score Key	
1 - 2	Poor: Very little information, no detail, obvious oversights or mistakes
3 - 4	Fair: Some information is present and there is very little detail.
5 - 6	Average: Most information is given, not a lot of detail, but you learned something new about the applicant
7 - 8	Above Average: Informative, several details are given about their activity and you learned how it makes them a better student.
9 - 10	Excellent: Strong, persuasive essay, very detailed, obvious care was taken in describing the activity and how they are a better student for it.

Spelling/Punctuation/Grammar: Score the applicant on a scale of 1 to 3 for their use of grammar, spelling and punctuation in their four essay questions.

Score Key	
1	Writing contains numerous and/or significant spelling/grammar errors which interfere with comprehension and distract from the message.
2	Writing contains some insignificant spelling and/or grammar errors that don't interfere with comprehension or distract from the message.
3	Writing is nearly error free.

### **Letters of Recommendation**

Score Key	
0	Unable to judge/No information or completed by a friend or family member
1	Poor: Evaluator did not give a good recommendation or was hesitant about the student
2	Standard letter of recommendation. Gives some detail, but not much.
3	Excellent letter of recommendation. Unique and persuasive, gives details about the student.

### **Intuitive Score**

This is your opportunity to look at the applicant as a whole, including their transcripts, letter(s) of recommendation, essay responses, GPA, courses taken, or any other information from the application.

Score Key	
1	Poor: Very little information, no detail, obvious oversights or mistakes in application. Student should not be considered for a scholarship.
2	Fair: Some information is present, but there are still gaps in application, obvious oversights or mistakes. Student would not make the best scholarship candidate.
3	Average: Most information is given, not a lot of detail, but some effort is shown. Student is an okay candidate for scholarships.
4	Above Average: Well organized, lots of detail, Student will make a good scholarship candidate
5	Superior: Very strong application, very detailed, obvious care was taken in completing the application. This student is an excellent scholarship candidate.

Over-all score will be converted to a percentage and awards generally made to those with higher percentages.

