

4 AREAS TO HIGHLIGHT ON YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FROM A REVIEWER'S PERSPECTIVE



Sometimes filling out a scholarship application feels overwhelming, but really, there is nothing to it. And let's face it, spending an hour or two filling out an application well and receiving the money will be some of the easiest money you'll ever earn! In spite of this, as reviewers, we pour through numerous sub-standard applications, and students miss out on funding opportunities as a result. So what are some of the areas that send up red flags and disqualify applicants from earning scholarships? Let's have a look at these important areas and learn how to highlight them on your next scholarship application.

Make Your Financial Need Known.

Reviewers want to know why it is you need money for college. Be specific in your explanation, and bring your needs to life. Tell us about your financial hardships, giving SPECIFIC EXAMPLES and communicating your financial needs. This helps US help YOU. Not communicating this important detail well gives us the impression that you don't need the money and that it might benefit someone else more.

List Your Honors, Activities and Community Service.

We want to know about the honors you have received and what ways you are involved in your community. Make a BULLETED LIST of what you've done, accomplished, and how you have used your gifts to benefit those in your community. Don't forget to include the dates you served and the number of hours you dedicated to the service. This list should go back to your freshman year in High School. Having a list that is incomplete might convey that you are not willing to give back to your community or help others in need.

Write a Powerful, Unique Essay.

This is your opportunity to tell reviewers about your uniqueness, your merits, what makes you extraordinary. Sincerely communicate why you should be chosen for this honor over all other candidates, and do so concisely, in 200 words or less.

Include Letters of Recommendation.

Choose the right people to recommend you, people who know you well but are not friends or relatives. They should highlight your uniqueness, your academic abilities, interpersonal skills and work ethic. The people who serve as recommendations give a unique, unbiased perspective to your scholarship application.

By highlighting these four important areas on your scholarship application, you are sure to shine!

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