

# How to Write a Successful College Scholarship Essay— Presented by Scholar Smarts!



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## Session 1: Understanding the Scholarship Essay (Teacher 1)

Objective: In this session, participants will gain an understanding of what a scholarship essay is and learn key strategies for effective essay writing.

Duration: 60 minutes

Agenda:

1. Introduction (5 minutes)
  - a. Welcome and brief introduction of the workshop's purpose and goals.
  - b. Icebreaker activity to get to know the participants.
2. What is a Scholarship Essay? (10 minutes)
  - a. Explanation of the purpose and importance of a scholarship essay.
  - b. Discussing how scholarship essays differ from other types of writing.
  - c. Sharing real-life examples of successful scholarship essays.
3. Identifying Scholarship Essay Requirements (15 minutes)
  - a. Highlighting the common essay prompts and themes found in scholarship applications.
  - b. Discussing the importance of following guidelines and meeting the essay requirements.

c. Providing tips for interpreting and understanding essay prompts effectively.

4. Brainstorming and Selecting a Topic (15 minutes)

- a. Exploring effective brainstorming techniques to generate essay ideas.
- b. Encouraging participants to reflect on their experiences, accomplishments, and goals.
- c. Assisting participants in selecting a compelling topic that aligns with their experiences and the scholarship requirements.

5. Crafting a Strong Introduction (15 minutes)

- a. Discussing the significance of a captivating introduction in hooking the reader's attention.
- b. Introducing different techniques for writing an engaging opening paragraph.
- c. Sharing examples and analyzing their effectiveness.

6. Q&A and Wrap-up (10 minutes)

- a. Addressing participants' questions and concerns.
- b. Summarizing the key takeaways from the session.
- c. Providing a brief overview of the next session's content.

**Session 2: Structuring and Writing the Essay (Teacher 2)**

Objective: In this session, participants will learn how to structure their scholarship essays effectively and develop their writing skills. Have students select one of the pre-selected Essays that are currently open for submittals.

Duration: 60 minutes

Agenda:

1. Recap and Introduction (5 minutes)

- a. Briefly recapping the key points covered in the previous session.
- b. Introducing the focus of the current session and its objectives.

## 2. Creating an Essay Outline (10 minutes)

- a. Explaining the importance of an outline in organizing thoughts and ideas.
- b. Presenting different methods for creating an effective essay outline.
- c. Assisting participants in developing an outline for their own scholarship essay.

## 3. Crafting a Compelling Body (20 minutes)

- a. Discussing the importance of providing evidence, examples, and personal anecdotes to support the main points.
- b. Presenting strategies for developing a logical and coherent flow in the essay body.
- c. Providing guidelines for effectively incorporating research and relevant information, if applicable.

## 4. Writing a Memorable Conclusion (15 minutes)

- a. Emphasizing the significance of a strong conclusion in leaving a lasting impression.
- b. Demonstrating techniques for summarizing key points and reinforcing the main message.
- c. Analyzing and discussing examples of impactful essay conclusions.

## 5. Editing and Revising the Essay (10 minutes)

- a. Highlighting the importance of editing and proofreading for clarity and coherence.
- b. Introducing strategies for self-editing and seeking feedback from others.
- c. Providing tips for identifying and correcting common grammar and punctuation errors.

## 6. Q&A and Wrap-up (10 minutes)

- a. Addressing participants' questions and concerns.
- b. Summarizing the key takeaways from the session.

c. Previewing the final session and its focus.

**Session 3: Refining and Polishing the Essay (Teacher 1)**

Scholar Smarts! Certificates of Completion – Distribute to completers of all sessions.

SURVEYS/assessments



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