

Scholarship Essay Grading Rubric

Criteria	0 - 2 points	3 -5 points	6-7 points	8-9 points	10 points
Academic Goals	Does not identify any short term or long-term academic goals	Identifies as least one short term or long term academic goal	Identifies and explains short term and long term academic goals	Identifies adequate examples of the skills, strengths, and/or personal qualities needed to achieve academic goals	Demonstrates an understanding of academic goals and provides specific examples of skills, strengths, and/or personal qualities needed to achieve goals
Barriers to Persistence	Does not identify a barrier to persistence	Provides minimal connections regarding barriers to persistence	Provides occasional details regarding barriers to persistence	Provides good connections regarding barriers to persistence	Consistently provides specific details to barriers to persistence and how it impacts their education
Organization	Essay is disorganized and confusing or only has one sentence	Essay lacks clear organization and appropriate transitions	Essay shows good organization but may lack appropriate transitions	Essay shows clear organization with appropriate transitions	Essay is well organized with progression of ideas, linking ideas to supporting points from start to finish
Demonstration of Financial Need	Rubric Points: 0 – 5 Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has no expenses or circumstances that create a financial need • Has no family responsibilities • Did not provide enough information to determine a score 		Rubric Points: 6 – 9 Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has some expenses or circumstances that create a financial need • Has some family responsibilities and provided an explanation of those responsibilities 		Rubric Points: 10 Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has many expenses or circumstances that create financial need • Has many family responsibilities and provided an explanation of those responsibilities