

TIPS FOR BECOMING A STRONG SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT

GET TO KNOW PEOPLE

Making strong staff, faculty, and community member connections can help you to accumulate research experience, get connected with work and internship opportunities, and develop your skills and interests. When the time comes, these mentors can be great recommendation writers.

BECOME INVOLVED

Get involved in interesting extracurricular activities that are meaningful to you. There are no formulaic "best" activities. What you do with them is more important. Get work, internship and volunteer experience in your field. It's never too early to start looking for such experiences.

PURSUE EXCELLENCE IN CHALLENGING CLASSES

Good grades are important for scholarship success, but the best students seek more than the grade. Train yourself towards intellectual curiosity. Take challenging and diverse courses outside your major.

SEEK OUT LEADERSHIP

This does not necessarily mean holding office in five different clubs. It means becoming an active player and contributor. Make things happen! Start your own organization if you see an unfilled need.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

Spend time researching the scholarship's mission, goals, scholar profile, selection criteria, and application components. Talk with a previous scholar if you can. The best candidates are those whose values, skills, and goals align with those of the scholarship foundation.

REFLECT UPON THE COMMON THREAD

Start assessing and reflecting upon your experiences, skills, and goals. What topic or theme keeps showing up? What problem do you want to solve? This will help you clarify your direction in life and reveal what steps you should follow to reach those goals.

START APPLYING EARLY

Applying with plenty of time to spare will help you to create a stronger application, avoid unnecessary stress, and help you to get the most out of the application process.

SHARE YOUR STORY

When starting your application, you'll need to decide which details to share in order to coherently and concisely convey your core truth to the readers. What do you want them to know? What themes do you want to highlight?



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