



## 5 Steps to Write a Standout Scholarship Essay

### 1. Read the Instructions... and Follow Them

A good scholarship essay cannot simply be well-written - it must also have the proper formatting, follow the prompt and fit within the word count. It's critical to read the instructions and address the topic presented to you. You may need to research the topic or talk to friends and family for inspiration.

### 2. Create an Outline

A proper outline goes a long way when crafting an organized and thoughtful essay. Good outlines include your thesis statement, body paragraph statements, and supporting evidence that is written out clearly and with proper citation if needed.

### 3. Write with Enthusiasm

Try to channel yourself into what you write. Bring your personal experience with the topic to the forefront, and don't be afraid to share your feelings, history and successes with the audience. Your enthusiasm in the topic you are writing about will shine through.

### 4. Avoid Grammar and Spelling Errors

Make sure your grammar and spelling are impeccable. Try printing your essay out to get another perspective on how it reads. Typos that you skim by on the screen might pop out on paper. If you can, ask someone with strong editing skills to proofread your work.

### 5. Tap Your Creativity

Be sure to allow yourself plenty of time to complete the essay and application so you can really get into the topic and approach it in a way that is unique. Remember that this essay is celebrating you, your accomplishments and your future goals - and can win you real money for college tuition!