

Scholarship Application Scoring Guidelines

Each scholarship has been tailored to meet the charitable intent of the donor establishing the fund. These are general guidelines only. Please review the Specific Scholarship Criteria to assist in placing higher emphasis where it is warranted. Example: Donor specified participation in community service so pay particular attention to that section of the application.

ACADEMICS (1-5)

Does student's GPA meet or exceed expectations based upon ACT/standardized testing score(s)? Consider the challenge of courses taken such as Advanced Placement which may affect GPA. Other considerations: Has the student experienced health issues or family-related issues that may have adversely affected GPA? If grades were an issue, is there a trend toward improvement?

CAREER CHOICE (1-5)

Do student's skills, abilities, and interests seem to match his/her anticipated career choice? Example: Student who wishes to be an astronaut would be expected to have solid science grades.

ACTIVITIES and EMPLOYMENT (1-5)

Review student's extracurricular activities, community service, and employment. Please use a scale of 1-5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest. Questions to consider may include: Do service opportunities and employment demonstrate a commitment to an area of interest or that the student is well-rounded? Do the activities indicate an ability to prioritize multiple demands of school, family, and work? You may also wish to consider information provided by the student in the next section regarding challenges they are facing. Example: Student who must work to help his/her family may not have as much extracurricular activity or community service as someone who does not face that challenge.

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES/EDUCATION PLAN (Yes or No)

Is student dealing with significant extenuating circumstances? Did student address the question regarding his/her plan for obtaining higher education?

LETTERS of RECOMMENDATION (1-3)

Rate the student's letters of recommendation. Please use a scale of 1-3, where 1 is the lowest and 3 is the highest. Questions to consider may include: Did the student choose appropriate sources? Did the writer provide information that could add to your understanding of the student's accomplishments, qualities, or need? Did the writer express confidence in the future success of the applicant?

ESSAY (1-5)

Review student's essay. Please use a scale of 1-5, where 1 is the lowest and 5 is the highest. Questions to consider may include: Did the applicant address the essay topic? Do you get the impression the student is passionate or committed to what he/she is writing about? Do errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar detract from the readability and authority of the essay?

OVERALL (1-10)

Rate how well the student meets the criteria specified by the donor. Please use a scale of 1-10, where 1 is the lowest and 10 is the highest.

Addition of total scores completed by School Administrator and Guidance Counselor. Pending a tie, the teachers will utilize the comments to make the final decision.