

# 2026 Essay Topics

Essays often focus on personal growth, overcoming obstacles, and a clear vision for the future, rather than just listing achievements. These sets of topics demonstrate strategic, actionable guidelines tailored to display students' best qualities.

Listed are three scholarship topics with guidelines. Scholars will choose one of the three topics to expound on while using grammatical English.

## Set 1: Leadership & Community Impact

1. "Define a time you demonstrated leadership without having an official title."
  - (Focus on the time you took initiative) What specific problem(s) did you identify? How did you motivate others? What was the result?
  - **Winning Tip:** Use the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to clearly demonstrate your impact.

## Set 2: "How have you contributed to your community, and how will you continue doing so while attending college?"

- Focus on the "why" and "how" of your service, not just hours logged but incorporate them.
- What was your most meaningful volunteer experience, why, and how did you grow from it?
- What is your long-term vision for giving back?
- **Winning Tip:** (Connect your volunteer experience directly to your intended field of study if possible.)

## Set 3: "Describe a moment of sportsmanship or collaboration that taught you a life lesson by demonstrating you are a team player who can handle pressure."

- What challenge did your team face? How did you, as a teammate, help overcome it? What skills did you learn that will apply to your future career?
- **Winning Tip:** Emphasize resilience over winning.