

Personal Essay for Mt Oaks Scholarships

Write an essay about yourself, your interests, expectations and goals.

You need not restrict yourself to educational interests.

You are encouraged to write about what is important to you (your boyfriend or girlfriend does not count).

Most scholarship committees are interested in consistent community service completed during your high school years

You may want to first introduce yourself by writing something about your family.

Goals: Write specific objectives that you plan to undertake to reach your goals such as:

1. Obtaining training – indicate the field of training you have chosen
2. Attending college – indicate a field of study or major, degree plans, advanced degrees or professional school plans including the trades (auto, carpentry etc)
3. Career Plans – occupational goals
4. Other goals

Interests: Stress Academics; however realize that donors are looking for well-rounded applicants.

1. **ACADEMICS:** Major field of study, academic clubs. Stress interests in a variety of courses and any awards you have won. (Your GPA and class rank is already listed on the cover sheet and/or transcripts).
2. **SOCIAL:** Adults who have influenced you. Club memberships – school and community
3. **LEADERSHIP:** Offices held
4. **RELIGION:** Youth groups, community service. Please remember that people who read your essay may have different religious beliefs than you (or none in particular).
5. **POLITICS & CURRENT AFFAIRS:** Class or student body offices held. Club or political service.
6. **TRAVEL:** Domestic or foreign. AFS or other exchange programs
7. **SPECIAL INTERESTS:** Music, foreign language, sports, reading, hiking, etc
8. **WORK EXPERIENCE:** Volunteer or paid.
9. **UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** If there are any unusual financial circumstances, you should attach a separate statement. The statement will be confidential. Examples would be an unemployed parent, family member requiring long term medical care, elderly adult recently taken into your family's home, foster care, etc. You do not need to go into great detail about this (i.e. not too much personal information).

Expectations: The last paragraph should tie the essay together. Describe how the college experience will help you achieve your goals.

The essay should be typed and one page in length.

Ask your mentor teacher to proof your essay and make suggestions to improve it.

Revised 10/4/11