

Hi! We want to insure your success!
Here are some tips on how to make your application better and perhaps more successful!

Application Success

Tips for Students!



What are the judges looking for to rate each student? A lot of students look at the scholarship histories, but these actually have nothing to do with what a judge will look for when judging your application. The scholarship history will only tell you about who set up the endowment. **TIP #1: Instead – look at the judging criteria.** The Foundation has set up 6 criteria for judging based upon a score of 100 points. You are judged on 5 basic values: Character, Leadership, Service, Financial need, and Scholastic Ability.

EXAMPLE:

F1 Charles Foy Jr. Scholarship Fund
Any State/ Any Major/ Any School

1@500
[D]

Judging
Criteria

The weighted Criteria for judging are found at the bottom of the list of endowments that are available in your state. In this case, criteria D means that the Foy scholarship gives 25 points for character, 25 points for leadership, 20 points for Service, 15 points for Financial need, and 15 points for Scholastic Ability. Use this information to format your letter to the Scholarship Committee by emphasizing these qualities you have. Student leaders and active volunteers are good candidates for this scholarship.

Criteria	A	B	C	D	E	F
Character	10	10	10	25	20	10
Leadership	20	10	10	25	20	10
Service	10	5	5	20	20	35
Financial Need	30	50	25	15	20	35
Scholastic Ability	30	25	50	15	20	10



TIP #2: Obviously – if your financial situation shows that you have a lot of \$ available and the scholarship give 50 points for Financial need – you will score very low in that category. You might want to select a different scholarship to apply for.

Remember each point or fraction thereof you get will count toward your selection as a winner. Competition is keen and often it comes down to the fraction of a point weighed in your favor.

Typically, the only complaint we have from our judges is that it is so difficult to select from so many EXCELLENT applicants!! So enter your application(S) with the intent to compete with the BEST by putting the best image of yourself in the application!



Tip #3: Did you know that your scholarship processing fee is tax deductible? The ESA Foundation is a 501 C 3 charitable foundation and any donations or support for its programs can be included in your charitable giving.

In actual fact, we would welcome you as a member of the ESA Foundation to support our many programs to assist others (especially students). The membership fee is \$25 with yearly dues of \$15 thereafter. These are considered donations to the ESA Foundation and tax deductible as well. But even if you don't join us - if you ever list projects you support - remember to include the ESA Foundation in any list of charitable contributions that you made for the year.



Tip #4: If you are the High School Counselor and helping your student selecting from the scholarship list - remember the following points.

1. If your students apply for the same scholarship they are competing against each other for that scholarship. Encourage a wide selection from the list.
2. The scholarships with the highest amounts given are always going to have more competition for them. Encourage your students to apply for some of the lesser scholarships where their chances might be greater to win.
3. Scholarships that have criteria with limitations typically will have fewer applications for them. Encourage the student that qualifies to look at them.
4. If you have some "B" average students that typically get left out when applying for scholarship money – we have several scholarships explicitly designed for these students. MAKE sure they fall within the correct grade range however. i.e.: (3.00-3.50 or 80%-89% range) Often we have students with the lower grade averages not even apply for one of these and that means they are competing with student that have higher GPAs.



Tip#5: If you apply for more than one scholarship you must send a complete application set for each scholarship.

Why? Each scholarship is sent to a different judge. The judges may even be located in a different state.



Tip#6: Send only your most recent transcript and make absolutely certain it is an OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT. If you apply for more than one scholarship every transcript sent MUST be an official transcript.

Unfortunately, students will often just copy transcripts to send with their application. This is an automatic disqualification. The Foundation can accept nothing but an "official transcript" for judging. Transcript can be sent separately by the school to the State Counselor.



Tip #7: If you have materials sent separately to the State Counselor make absolutely certain the school or person knows about the scholarship deadline of February 1.

If any materials sent separately from your application are postmarked later than February 1 – your application is disqualified. No exceptions on this – sorry. We have determined through years of experience that it is best to hold firm with our February 1 deadline and make no exceptions due to the very large volume of work that we process. We have deadlines of our own to meet in order to complete the judging by May so this has become a very necessary part of the successful completion of the distribution of our scholarship money.



Tip #8: Check the scholarship criteria closely to make sure you are a fit for that scholarship. Many have grade point average requirements that often will disqualify students if they are not a fit.

Not many students have difficulty understanding that if a scholarship asks for a certain major that doesn't match theirs that they should not apply for that scholarship, but for some reason the same does not apply for grade point requirements.

It is not untypical for students to apply for these types of scholarships with a grade point that is too high. Any GPA that is 3.51 or above will be disqualified for this

P1	Jeanne Parker Honorarium Endowment Any State/ Any Major / Any school GPA 3.00 – 3.50 on 4.00 scale	1 @ 800
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GPA Sensitive!

scholarship. Many schools will have grades computed in percentages – so any grade percentage that does not fall within 80% to 89% will be disqualified. These scholarships are specifically designed to be awarded to the “B” average student.



Tip # 9: Make your checks or money orders payable to the ESA Foundation not the State Counselor.

Jane Doe	ESA Foundation	6778
Pay to: <u>ESA FOUNDATION</u>		\$: 5.00
<u>Five Dollars and no/100-----Dollars</u>		
<i>Jane Doe</i>		

You can make out one check for all the applications you apply for.



TIP #10: Follow the simple instructions. Fill out the application completely – sign and date it. If you apply for 3 scholarships the same applies for all three applications.

It is unfortunate that often an application will be disqualified because this simple process is not followed. Perhaps it is because the student is rushed or just doesn't take the time, however; the State Counselor will do all within their power to make sure an application makes it through to the next round. Often extra recommendations, awards certificates or additional resumes will be thrown out as the application is set up in its proper order to be mailed to the next round of judging. We set up each application so the judge will look at the same information in the same order for each student. It levels the judging field and makes it easier to judge the applications.



Tip #11: Contact your State Counselor if you have questions. State Counselors are there to help the student with any question they may have to make a successful application for one of our scholarships.



ESA Foundation

“Serving the World Community ... Because We Care!”