



MIRACOSTA COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

www.MiraCosta.edu/Scholarships

PERSONAL STATEMENT OUTLINE

Use the Personal Statement Outline as a *template* to list your ideas when creating your scholarship essay. Think of your Personal Statement like a resume and use it to apply for many scholarships.

Many scholarship awards are based on financial need and/or merit, and your Personal Statement is an important part of the application process. Your essay provides key information the Scholarship Committee needs when nominating a student for an award.

For writing assistance, contact the MiraCosta Writing Center, www.MiraCosta.edu/WritingCenter (760) 795-6861, and bring the outline to the appointment. The Writing Center Consultants are good writers who have experience talking with students and will help incorporate your outline into a final scholarship statement. Questions? Contact the Scholarship office www.MiraCosta.edu/Scholarships.

1. What are your Education and Career Goals?

Write a brief statement outlining your education and career goals; if undecided, state what you hope to gain from the college experience.

2. Extracurricular Activities

List activities you are involved with both on and off campus; for example, clubs, organizations, volunteer service, and sports activities. If applicable, describe your employment experience and how many hours you work per week. Do your activities relate to your education or career objective?

3. Other Information you would like to share about yourself.

Share information about yourself; tell your story. For example, are you first in family to graduate and attend college, overcome a hardship, military service (deployed, injured), single parent, returning student, international student, etc. State your financial need, and how a scholarship will help you.



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CHECKLIST GUIDE TO BUILDING A WINNING PERSONAL STATEMENT

✓	WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER AND EDUCATION GOALS?
	Go into detail about your education goals at MiraCosta College.
	If you plan to transfer to a 4-year school, list the schools you plan to apply to, how far in education you want to go (Bachelors, Masters, Ph. D.) and why you chose this goal.
	What is your career goal? How will your education help you reach this goal, and what got you interested in choosing this career path?
	If you are undecided on your major or career path, mention your passions or interest in subjects you may want to explore during your educational journey. What is your dream job?
	Discuss the importance of education in your life.
✓	EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
	Create a resume to help keep track of your volunteer work, skills, clubs, leadership roles, work experience. (Career Center can help with a resume, Student Activities for Clubs on campus, and Service Learning for volunteer activities)
	Include any leadership or support role you have in an on-campus or off-campus clubs and/or organizations.
	Are you working? Include your current employment, where you work, how many hours per week or month, and your position. Does this relate to your education and career goal?
	Are you involved in an internship or plan to do one soon, if so, include the information.
✓	OTHER INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT YOURSELF.
	Create a brief timeline of significant events that happened in your life and update as necessary.
	Describe your experiences of being resilient and/or perseverant.
	Talk about a time when you overcame a hardship in your life.
	You can share your ethnicity, disability, veteran status, foster youth, first in family to go to college, International status, returning student (25+), or economically disadvantaged, etc. Discuss the significance of how this has molded you to develop the qualities of a student.
	Don't be afraid to talk about your accomplishments. You are your biggest cheerleader!
	Talk about who and what influenced you to get to where you are today?
	Express why you feel you are the best candidate for the scholarship and briefly describe how receiving the scholarship will help better your educational and career goals and allow you to succeed in academia.
	State your financial need. How will the scholarship help with your education, and how will you use the money?

The checklist was created with former MiraCosta scholarship recipients, Amani Mack and Ingrid Phillips.

"There's money out there for every field, and people are eager to help you get it." Ingrid Phillips