

WHAT is a Great Scholarship Essay?

- ✓ An opportunity to personalize your application.
- ✓ A reviewer's chance to learn about your academic, professional, and personal goals.
- ✓ A place to discuss your unique background and identity.

WHY Do I Need a Great Scholarship Essay?

- ✓ Stand out in the crowd!
- ✓ Help reviewers understand the impact of scholarship on your goals.
- ✓ Get to know YOU!

HOW Do I Write a Great Scholarship Essay?

✓ Research

Learn about your program's unique components such as field research, internships, volunteer opportunities, etc. Review the background, goals, and focus of the particular scholarship organization.

✓ Reflect

Why do you want to study or intern abroad? What are you hoping to accomplish? How did you choose this specific country or program? How will your time abroad help achieve your professional or career goals?

- Talk about why you want to learn or practice a language.
- Explain why you are interested in a specific subject.
- Include your academic interest in a particular program.
- Point out any research projects you may need for graduate school.
- Discuss any need for a language in your perspective field.

✓ Represent

What challenges have you faced in your journey to study abroad? How have you worked to overcome them? What impact will they have on your time abroad?

- High financial need
- Studying in non-traditional countries
- Being a non-traditional student
- Studying a field that is difficult to incorporate into study abroad (i.e. STEM majors)
- Being a parent
- Diverse or underrepresented groups
- Having a learning or physical disability

General Tips

- Proofread! Triple check spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- Ask someone to read your essay for HONEST feedback. Friend, roommate, advisors, etc.
- Avoid topics like drinking, leisure activities, and excessive travel plans.
- Read out loud.
- Focus on STUDYING abroad.

Still Need Help?

- Refer to scholarship websites for additional details and the most up-to-date information.
- UCSC Study Abroad Advisors are willing to review and provide scholarship feedback on scholarship essays. Please allow one week for review.

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