

HELPFUL TIPS WHEN YOU ARE APPLYING FOR UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Items to remember:

- Information on scholarships may be found at <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/scholarships/>
- Apply for scholarships by logging onto your secure UAOnline site at <https://uaonline.alaska.edu> and click on scholarships.
- The deadline date is February 15 – prior to the academic year in which you are seeking scholarships. Don't forget that some scholarships require supplemental information in addition to the UAOnline application. Although there is only one main scholarship application form, scholarship titles followed by an asterisk (*) require some form of supplemental, additional information.
- You may apply for multiple scholarships.
- Student must have applied for admissions in order to be eligible to apply for scholarships. First time UAA students must also submit a partial high school transcript in order to evaluate your GPA and determine whether you meet the GPA requirements for individual scholarships.
- The scholarship committee will notify you via your UAA e-mail account by June 1 if you are chosen as a scholarship recipient.
- Feel free to ask questions when applying. You can call (907) 786-1586 or e-mail uaa_scholarships@alaska.edu

Tips for writing your personal profile essay:

- The Scholarship Committee will evaluate the following: leadership, extracurricular involvement, your educational and career goals and plans, and any special circumstances that you feel the committee should know about you. Presentation, grammar, punctuation, etc., is also very important. Communicate about each of these criterions in your profile and go into as much detail as you can within the 3000 character (approximately 500 words) limit.
- Give insight about who you are. Don't write a resume (unless asked for). Describe activities you are involved in that relate to your educational plan or your future career. Write about a scholastic achievement you have made, and why it is important to you. Pick an experience from your own life and explain how it has influenced your development. Describe contributions you have made to your community/campus and explain how those experiences have contributed to your personal growth.
- When applying for a scholarship that requires supplemental information be sure to look at the preferences specified by the donors of the funds for the award as you prepare your essay.
- Don't try to write the essay all at once. Allow yourself time to draft and review.
- Use appropriate language for your audience.
- Don't let spelling and grammar mistakes prevent you from receiving a scholarship. You can find help at the UAA Learning Commons located on campus in the Sally Monserud Hall (SMH) – 907-786-6828. The center is available at no charge to all students and help is on a walk in first come, first served basis. Be sure to bring a draft of your scholarship essay.
- Have at least one-person review and edit your essay prior to submitting the scholarship application. They should check your grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. They may also be able to give you tips on how to improve your essay. Have a few individuals that know you well read the essay.
- It is strongly recommended that you compose your essay in a word processing program such as Microsoft Word, and then copy and paste into the box provided by UA Online.
- Keep a copy for your records for future applications.
- Review the UAA Scholarship Essay Scoring Rubric (back side) document in order to help you understand the standard used to measure the clarity of essay content.

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ESSAY						
Goals and Plans	Student clearly articulates alignment between educational and career goals including reasonable timeframe for accomplishing them	Student discusses both academic and career goals, provides some details regarding timeframe	Student mentions either academic or career goals, and provides some detail regarding timeframe for meeting goals	Student mentions either academic or career goals, without any detail, timeframe, or explanation	Student fails to mention goals and shows no consideration for future plans	
Extracurricular Involvement	Student notes high involvement and compelling evidence that extracurricular activities (work, sports, volunteer, family, etc.) have shaped their character and academic development	Student notes high to moderate involvement and/or provides adequate description that extracurricular activities have shaped their character or academic development	Student notes some involvement in extracurricular activities and briefly describes impact on character or academic development	Student notes little involvement in extracurricular activities and/or inadequately describes impact on character or academic development	Student notes no involvement in extracurricular activities	
Other Considerations/Special Circumstances	Student constructs a clear and exceptional case, includes appropriate examples for deserving or needing a scholarship, and describes the impact that a scholarship would have on goals	Student constructs an adequate case, includes sufficient supporting examples to confirm he/she has earned or has need for a scholarship	Student mentions need for a scholarship with some supporting examples, but constructs an inadequate case and/or includes insufficient supporting examples	Student mentions need for a scholarship, but fails to provide any supporting examples related to merit or to financial need	Essay left blank or student does not refer to or document any examples related to merit or to financial need	
Presentation (Grammar, Spelling, Etc.)	* Essay is mostly free of significant grammar, spelling, and usage errors * Reflects application of critical thinking skills * Is thoughtful and articulated with clear command of syntax and vocabulary	* Essay contains some significant grammar, spelling, and/or usage errors. * Reflects some critical thinking, but more self-expression * Above average display of syntactic variety and facility in the use of vocabulary	* Essay contains several grammar, spelling, and/or usage errors. * Reflects mostly self-expression with little critical thinking * Adequate control of syntax and vocabulary	* Essay contains numerous grammar, spelling, and/or usage errors * Reflects all self-expression, no critical thinking * Inadequate control of syntax and vocabulary	Essay(s) left blank or indicates fundamental and severe deficiencies in writing skills or significantly deviates from requested profile questions	
Comments:	OVERALL:					