

Scholarship Essay Questions

- a. Describe the education and career goals that you have established for yourself. What efforts have you taken to accomplish these goals? What motivates you to achieve these goals? How can Clackamas Community College help you achieve these goals? (100-500 words)
- b. Describe a significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to address this challenge. Include whether you turned to anyone in facing that challenge, the role that person played, and what you learned about yourself. This challenge can come from a variety of experiences. Possibilities include financial, social, ethical, familial, circumstantial life challenges and/or the like. (100-300 words)
- c. Explain what you have done to make your community a better place to live. Give examples of specific projects in which you have been involved over time. You define your "community". It could include your city, school, family, religious organization, or any other group that you are connected to. (100-300 words)

Scholarship Essay Rubric

1) Education and Career Goals

- d. 3 points: Goals and milestones are stated in clear and extensive detail. The applicant has an academic plan that lines up with their long-term goal. If undecided, the applicant has taken steps to finalize an academic plan and is actively working with college resources such as advisors and counselors. The student clearly understands how Clackamas Community College can aid them as they strive toward their goals. The applicant is strongly motivated to achieve this goal and has laid out their motivation.
- e. 2 points: A goal has been identified. The applicant has some idea about the milestones needed to reach that goal. If the student is undecided, they have identified a resource at Clackamas Community College that can aid them as they try to identify their long term plans. The motivation and inspiration to achieve this goal is mentioned but lacks extensive detail.
- f. 1 point: The applicant has a vague idea about a goal but no idea about the steps that they need to take to achieve that goal. Their motivation for achieving that goal is not clear to the reader.

2) Dealing with Adversity

- a. 3 points: Strong determination, flexibility, and perseverance in response to challenges, obvious self-confidence, knowledge of strengths and limits, presence of a strong support person, and strong self-development efforts
- b. 2 points: Some determination and perseverance in facing challenges, some self confidence but hesitant, some knowledge of strengths and limits but little evidence of self-development or turning to a support person
- c. 1 point: Minor or non-existent flexibility, perseverance or determination dealing with challenges, defensive attitude, no evidence of self-development

3) Community Service

- a. 3 points: Strong evidence of activity/identification with a community, significant contributions over time. The service is personal and meaningful to the student and they articulate it in their response. The student demonstrates enthusiasm for service to others
- b. 2 points: Some contacts, recent or short-term evidence of involvement with a community. The student states why it's important to them but lacks detail. Their answer expresses some enthusiasm and provides a glimpse of another side of the personally important applicant.
- c. 1 point: Little or no evidence, no concept of the importance of community service

***A score of 0 should only be assigned if a student does not address the question anywhere in the application (such as entering "N/A" as a response).**