



# Scholarship Application Scoring Rubric & Instructions

**Purpose:** This rubric ensures consistent, fair, and transparent scoring of all applications.

**How to Score:** Score each category **independently** on a **1–10 scale**.

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## Scoring Categories (1–10 Scale)

### 1. Academics (1–10)

Includes GPA, course rigor, test scores, academic awards, honors/AP/dual credit classes, and overall achievement relative to opportunities available to the student.

*Note: Consider all 4.0 and above GPAs equal (some schools don't offer weighted GPAs)*

- **10** – Exceptional performance; rigorous coursework; honors or top achievement.
- **8–9** – Strong performance; above average with challenging courses.
- **6–7** – Solid, consistent academic work.
- **4–5** – Average or inconsistent performance; limited rigor.
- **1–3** – Weak performance or little evidence of effort.

### 2. Activities (1–10)

Includes extracurriculars, leadership, service, and work experience.

*Note: Review the criteria for requirements or preferences and consider the school.*

- **10** – Outstanding involvement; major leadership; strong impact.
- **8–9** – Active participation; some leadership; meaningful contributions.
- **6–7** – Consistent participation with moderate impact.
- **4–5** – Limited involvement or minimal leadership.
- **1–3** – Little to no involvement.

### 3. Financial Need (1–10)

Includes income, expenses, family circumstances, and FAFSA report based on how clearly and significantly the need is demonstrated. *Note: lower numbers = higher need)*

- **10** – Extreme, clearly demonstrated financial hardship.
- **8–9** – High need with strong justification.
- **6–7** – Moderate need supported with details.
- **4–5** – Some need, but less compelling.
- **1–3** – Minimal or no demonstrated need.

### 4. Preference / Fit for Criteria (1–10)

Alignment with scholarship eligibility and preference criteria.

- **10** – Excellent fit; meets all priorities.
  - **8–9** – Strong fit; meets most criteria.
  - **6–7** – Adequate fit; meets basic eligibility.
  - **4–5** – Partial alignment.
  - **1–3** – Weak or no alignment.
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**Total Score: / 40 Points**