



NextGen Annual Scholarship Essay Evaluation Guide

SCC Scholarship Office

NextGen Annual Scholarship Essay Evaluation Guide

When committee members review an essay on a scholarship application, they will be reviewing the care and depth in which the candidate responds to the essay prompt. In this evaluation, committee members will consider the originality of thought, clarity of writing, organization, evidence and elaboration of the essay. Committee members can use the guides below to help with the reviewing process.

If you are participating on a committee that has custom essays and/or a different evaluation process, the rubric may be slightly different. The general guidance can still assist in reviewing these essays.

Definitions/Guidance:

- **Outstanding** – Ideas are well developed, response to prompt is clearly identified, clarity of response is exhibited throughout essay, critical and careful thought evident, detailed elaborations or examples are provided.
- **Strong** – Ideas are developed, response to prompt is clearly identified, clarity of response is generally evident, good examples of careful thought, some elaborations or examples are provided.
- **Effective** – Some ideas are developed, response to prompt is generally identified, clarity of response may be vague or unclear in certain aspects, some examples of careful thought, few to no elaborations or examples provided.
- **Developing** – Ideas are too broad or vague, response to prompt is minimal, clarity of response is unclear, few to no examples of careful thought, few to no elaborations or examples provided.
- **Inadequate or Did Not Respond to Prompt** – Ideas are difficult to follow, prompt is not addressed, clarity of response is incomplete, little evidence of careful thought, no examples or elaborations provided.