

## Top 5 Tips to Consider When Writing Your Awards Essay

### 1. Be sure to read the essay question carefully and answer only the question that is posed.

Sometimes it is easy to get off track! Make sure you focus all of your ideas on responding only to the question that is being asked.

### 2. Organization is important.

A good essay or paragraph will start WITH an introduction, have a body with supporting evidence, and a strong closing. Usually, in an award essay, you will be asked to describe something related to your experiences or future goals, so the evidence will generally be found in your own life.

### 3. Be sure to use proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

It is very difficult to read an essay that has numerous grammatical errors. If your grammar or spelling is incorrect you could be misunderstood, or your message may not be well-communicated if the reader is distracted by errors.

### 4. Proofread your work.

Before submitting your essay, be sure to read it over to make sure that your ideas are clear, and your grammar is on point. It could be helpful to write the essay first and do a proofread a day or so later to get a fresh look at your writing.

### 5. Be authentic.

Our awards panel wants to know more about you and your goals. Our panel is not looking to award funds to the “perfect” student with plans to change the entire world the moment that they graduate. Our panel is looking for students who are motivated to succeed and your goals can be gigantic, small, or anywhere in between. If you are able to transmit your voice through your writing, our panel is sure to remember you. Just be yourself!