

Essay Application Question

- **Please write and title a 500-700-word essay on ONE of the following prompts**
- The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
- Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?

Scoring Note:

- If you are **stuck** between two levels, such as Level 2 or 3, give the **higher** of the two levels. In this case, give the student the Level 3.

Level	Descriptors
4	Essay demonstrates most or all of the following attributes. • Establishes a clear main idea to convey to the reader. • All ideas are strongly related to the main idea and are focused on the prompt. • Consistently easy to follow and understand. • Details and examples are specific and well chosen. • Essay is insightful and engaging. • Includes an engaging title and appropriately uses paragraphs. • Minor errors in grammar, usage and spelling may be present but are not distracting.
3	Essay demonstrates most or all of the following attributes. • Establishes a main idea to convey to the reader. • Most ideas are related to the main idea and are focused on the prompt. • Generally easy to follow and understand. • Details and examples are specific and appropriate. • Essay is insightful and engaging. • Includes a title and appropriately uses paragraphs. • Some errors in grammar, usage and spelling may be present but are not distracting.
2	Essay demonstrates most or all of the following attributes. • Main idea may be weak or unclear. • The lack of a clear main idea interferes with the focus of the essay. There is an attempt to address the prompt. • Sometimes difficult to follow and understand. • Details and examples may not be appropriate or are not fully explained. • Essay demonstrates some insight or engagement. • Lacks a title or paragraphing. • Some distracting errors in grammar, usage and spelling may be present
1	Essay demonstrates most or all of the following attributes. • Main idea is missing, unclear or illogical. • The writer may fail to maintain focus on the topic or may not address the prompt. • Unclear or difficult to follow. • Details and examples are inappropriate, vague, or insufficient. • Essay reflects little insight or is not engaging. • Lacks a title and paragraphing. • Persistent errors in grammar, usage and spelling
0	Essay was not included with the application

Financial Information Application Descriptors

- How many people are in your household?
- How many are dependents?
- How many dependents are currently enrolled in higher education institutions or programs?
- Are there any special financial circumstances that impact your family's ability to contribute to your education expenses (e.g. medical expenses, caring for elderly relatives, etc.)?
- Have you applied for other scholarships or financial aid programs? If so, what aid have you received or been awarded?

Level	Financial Information Descriptors
4	Applicant meets <u>all four</u> of the following financial factors • Family unit has additional dependents • Family unit has other dependents enrolled in higher education institutions or programs • Family unit demonstrates special financial circumstances • Student has received limited monies through other scholarships or financial programs
3	Applicant meets <u>three</u> of the following financial factors • Family unit has additional dependents • Family unit has other dependents enrolled in higher education institutions or programs • Family unit demonstrates special financial circumstances • Student has received limited monies through other scholarships or financial programs
2	Applicant <u>meets two</u> of the following financial factors • Family unit has additional dependents • Family unit has other dependents enrolled in higher education institutions or programs • Family unit demonstrates special financial circumstances • Student has received limited monies through other scholarships or financial programs
1	Applicant <u>meets one</u> of the following financial factors • Family unit has additional dependents • Family unit has other dependents enrolled in higher education institutions or programs • Family unit demonstrates special financial circumstances • Student has received limited monies through other scholarships or financial programs
0	Applicant <u>does not meet any</u> of the following financial factors • Family unit has additional dependents • Family unit has other dependents enrolled in higher education institutions or programs • Family unit demonstrates special financial circumstances • Student has received limited monies through other scholarships or financial programs

Honors and Recognitions Question

- Please list any school and/or community related honors or recognitions you have received during high school

Scoring Note:

- There are a wide variety of honors and recognitions that students may receive from the district, school and/or community. There are no required types of honors or recognitions the students must demonstrate.

Level	Honors and Recognitions Descriptor
3	• Student has received several (2 or more) honors and/or recognitions that demonstrate a high level of achievement and commitment to both the school and community.
2	• Student has received several (2 or more) honors and/or recognitions that demonstrate a high level of achievement and commitment to the school and/or community.
1	• Student has received at least one honor and/or recognition that demonstrates a high level of achievement and commitment to the school and/or community.
0	• Student has not received any honors and/or recognitions that demonstrate a high level of achievement and commitment to the school and/or community.

Academic and Career Goals Application Question

- What are your personal academic and career goals? Provide details on how you developed these goals and what action steps you will need to take in order to reach them.

Level	Academic and Career Goals Descriptors
4	• Has established focused academic and career goals and provides clear and specific details about the goals • Provides detailed and insightful action steps for achieving these goals
3	• Has established clear academic and career goals and provides specific details about the goals • Provides specific action steps for achieving these goals
2	• Has established academic and career goals and provides some details about the goals • Provides general action steps for achieving these goals
1	• Has established general academic and/or career goals and provides a few details about the goals • Provides limited action steps for achieving these goals
0	• Student did not provide an explanation of career goals and/or action steps for achieving these goals

Academic Achievement: ACT/SAT Application Question

- Please provide your composite score for the ACT and/or SAT

Scoring Note:

- Most Missouri students take the ACT; however, some students take the SAT especially if they are wanting to attend out-of-state schools.
- The highest composite ACT score is a 36; the national average ACT score is a 21.
- The SAT composite scores listed in the rubric are in alignment with the noted ACT scores.
- The University of Missouri usually requires a 23 or 24 ACT score.

Level	ACT/SAT Scores Descriptor
5	• ACT composite score is between 36-31 OR SAT composite score is 1300 or higher
4	• ACT composite score is between 30-27 OR SAT composite score is 1100 or higher
3	• ACT composite score is between 26-21 OR SAT composite score is 940 or higher
2	• ACT composite score is between 20-16 OR SAT composite score is 930 or higher
1	• ACT composite score is 15 or below OR SAT composite score is 900 or higher
0	• Results of the ACT or SAT are not provided.

Activities/Involvement Application Questions

- Please list your involvement in high school level extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.
- Please list any out-of-school organizations/activities in which you participate including community service
- Please list any leadership roles or recognitions you have received while participating in your school and/or community related activities.

Level	Involvement in School and Community Descriptors
5	• Involved in 2 or more extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities • Involved in 2 or more community-based activities • Held at least 1 leadership role or received recognition while participating in the school and/or community activities
4	• Involved in 2 or more in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities • Involved in 2 or more community-based activities
3	• Involved in at least 1 extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities • Involved in at least 1 community-based activities • Held at least 1 leadership role or received recognition while participating in the school and/or community activities
2	• Involved in at least 1 extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities • Involved in at least 1 community-based activities
1	• Involved in at least 1 extra-curricular and/or co-curricular activity ▪ OR • Involved in at least 1 community-based activities
0	• Student not involved in extra-curricular, co-curricular, or community

Advanced Courses Application Questions

- Does your school offer the following types of course offerings and, if so, what grade levels are eligible to enroll in the courses?
 - Honors Level Courses
 - Advanced Placement Courses
 - International Baccalaureate Course
 - Dual Credit or Dual Enrollment Courses
- List any honors level, advanced placement, international baccalaureate courses or dual credit/enrollment courses you have completed and your final course grades and/or assessment scores.

Scoring Note:

- Colleges and universities provide credit to students who earn a "B" or higher in dual credit or dual enrollment courses.
- Colleges and universities provide credit to students who earn a "3" or above on the exams for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses. Students who enroll in these courses are not required to take these exams, but they should earn a "B" or higher in the course to demonstrate achievement.

Level	Advanced Courses Descriptor
5	• If available, student has taken at least two honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate or dual credit/enrollment course. In at least once course has earned a grade of "A" or higher or earned a "3" or higher on the appropriate exam
4	• If available, student has taken at least two honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate or dual credit/enrollment course. In at least once course has earned a grade of "B" or higher or earned a "3" or higher on the appropriate exam
3	• If available, student has taken at least one honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate or dual credit/enrollment course and earned a grade of "B" or higher or earned a "3" or higher on the appropriate exam
2	• If available, student has taken at least one honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate or dual credit/enrollment course and earned a grade of "C" or higher or earned a "2" or higher on the appropriate exam
1	• Even though they are available, the student has not taken an honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate or dual credit/enrollment course
0	• Unable to evaluate since transcript is not included in the application
Not Scorable	• Honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate or dual credit/enrollment courses are not available



Rubric for Scoring Applications

GPA Application Questions

- What is the GPA Scale used by your school district?
- If your district uses an unweighted GPA Scale, what was your overall unweighted GPA at the end of your junior year?
- If your school district uses a weighted GPS, what was your overall weighted GPA at the end of your junior year?

Scoring Note:

- A weighted GPA scale gives more “weight” to higher level courses. The highest GPA is usually a 5.0.
- An unweighted GPA scale gives all courses, including the higher level courses the same weight. The highest GPA is a 4.0.

Level	<u>WEIGHTED</u> GPA Descriptors
6	• Weighted GPA is between 5.0 -4.75
5	• Weighted GPA is between 4.74 -4.50
4	• Weighted GPA is between 4.49 -4.0
3	• Weighted GPA is between 3.9 -3.5
2	• Weighted GPA is between 3.4 -3.0
1	• Weighted GPA is 2.9 or below
0	• Transcript is not provided and/or does not support GPA entered by applicant

Level	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u> GPA Descriptor
6	• Unweighted GPA is between 4.0 -3.75
5	• Unweighted GPA is between 3.74 -3.50
4	• Unweighted GPA is between 3.49 -3.0
3	• Unweighted GPA is between 2.9 -2.5
2	• Unweighted GPA is between 2.4 -2.0
1	• Unweighted GPA is 1.9 or below
0	• Transcript is not provided and/or does not support GPA entered by applicant