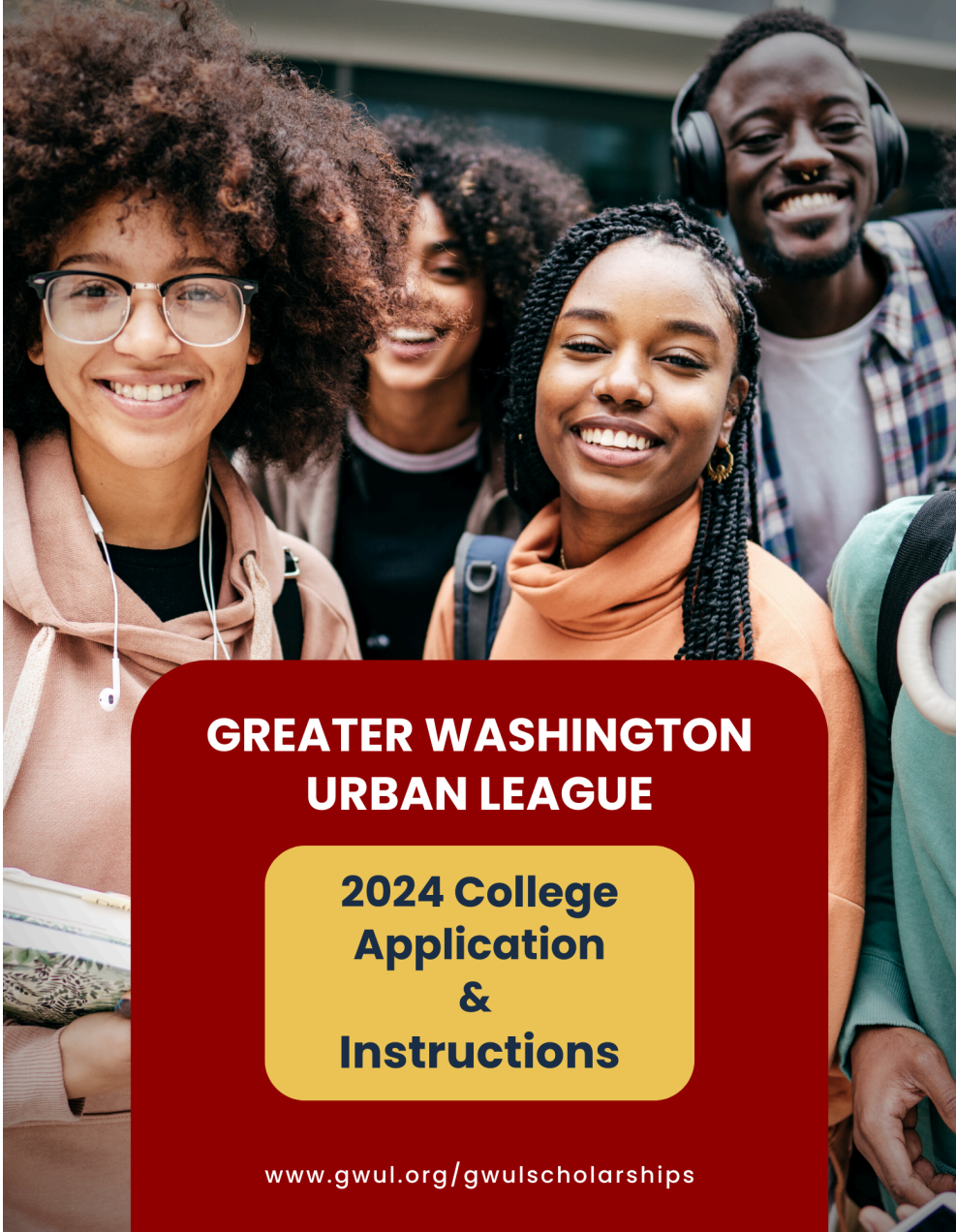




**Greater Washington
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*



INTRODUCTION

The Greater Washington Urban League (GWUL or the League) is on a mission to increase the economic and political empowerment of historically vulnerable and diverse populations. For 85 years, the League has stood on society's frontlines as well as in the trenches serving as a safety net and facilitator of opportunity in Washington, DC and Montgomery County and Prince George's County, Maryland. As one of the District's oldest civil rights organizations, the League continues to carve a distinctive path towards justice and fair play by putting families first and catering to the needs of children and the elderly, and everyone in between. Since 1938, GWUL has guided individuals on the road to self-sufficiency, impacting over three million lives.

As an important and long-standing manifestation of its mission, the Greater Washington Urban League and its young professionals' auxiliary, Thursday Network (TN) are committed to awarding educational opportunities through scholarships for college-bound and currently enrolled college students. In conjunction with numerous corporate sponsors, GWUL has facilitated the distribution of more than \$2 million in scholarships to more than 336 young adults to financially support their freshman through senior years at any accredited four-year college or university in the United States. Scholarship recipients have matriculated to a diverse and elite range of higher education institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, local colleges, Ivy League, and other colleges/universities, as well as the Job Corps and other special post-secondary education and trade establishments.

For the 2024-2025 school year, the Greater Washington Urban League will award several scholarships to deserving high school seniors and current undergraduate students, ranging from \$1,000 to \$8,000. **All scholarship disbursements are for tuition and will be delivered directly to the bursar's or student accounts office of the student's school for the Fall 2024 term.**

ABOUT GWUL'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS' AUXILIARY, THURSDAY NETWORK:

Thursday Network is the young professionals' auxiliary of the Greater Washington Urban League (GWUL) and supports community service and civic engagement efforts in the Washington Metropolitan area. Thursday Network's vision is to be a catalyst for change in the Greater Washington community by serving as a training ground for our members to improve community and self. For the 2023-2024 term, Thursday Network's pillars reflect the most urgent needs of the community. The pillars are **Social Determinants of Health, Economic Security, Youth Empowerment, Community Engagement, and Political Advocacy**. Through the leadership of the Community Service Committee, Thursday Network has developed several outreach efforts that benefit children, youth, the elderly, and the environment.

2024 GWUL SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

Monumental Sports



Thursday Network



Charlotte Elizabeth Yancey Eights Trust

Charlotte Elizabeth Yancey Eights

2023 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Alana Cole

Monumental Sports Scholarship
(\$8,000)

LaMiyah Baker

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$2,000)

Eariel Revels

Monumental Sports Scholarship
(\$4,000)

Tyrell Littman

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$1,000)

Aliea Mansaray

Monumental Sports Scholarship
(\$4,000)

Jaylah Jennings

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$1,000)

Amari Childs

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$2,000)

Antonio Roberson

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$1,000)

Qur'an Abdul-Rahim

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$2,000)

Simone Thom

Thursday Network "I EMPOWER"
Scholarship (\$1,000)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In order to be eligible to receive a Greater Washington Urban League Scholarship, one must:

- Have a **minimum, cumulative** grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 based on a 4.0 scale;
- **Attend or be enrolled** in a four-year college or university in the Fall of 2024;
- Demonstrate a commitment to community service;
- Demonstrate financial need
- **Adjusted gross family income** must follow provided guidelines;
- Be Black/African American, African, Afro-Caribbean, and/or Afro-Latino;
- Be a **permanent resident and/or attend college** in the District of Columbia, Montgomery County (MD), or Prince George's County (MD); and
- Complete and submit all application materials online **no later than February 2, 2024.**

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Your application will not be considered complete unless it includes **each** of the following documents and is **submitted by February 2, 2024.**

- Application
- Proof of Financial Need via a full copy of Student Aid Report (SAR) or first two pages of Federal Tax Return
- Written Essay Response
- Video Essay Response
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Official College Transcript

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SESSIONS

Thursday Network will host two information sessions designed to walk through the application and answer questions. More details on how to join these events will be available on the GWUL and Thursday Network websites.

Due to the large number of applicants, we will not accept applications after **February 2, 2024**, no exceptions. Questions about the application process may be sent to scholarship@thursdaynetwork.org.

- **Virtual Session:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 7:00-8:30 PM EST via Zoom
- **In-Person Session:** Monday, January 15, 2024 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST at Coolidge High School during [Thursday Network's MLK Day of Service](#).

SUBMISSION RESOURCES

- FAFSA Application- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/afsa>
- Scholarship Essay Writing- <https://www.owens.edu/writing/scholarship.html>

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To submit to the online portal, the application and all required documents must be submitted **at one time. Do not submit your application online until you have all materials ready to upload. Incomplete applications do not save online and will not be accepted.**

All documents except the essays should be submitted as PDF files; your written essay should be submitted as a Word document. The video essay should be submitted as an MP4 file. Visit the GWUL scholarship website for best practices for filming your video submission. The official college transcript and faculty recommendation letter must be submitted on the school's letterhead; the community service recommendation letter must be submitted on the organization's letterhead.

Complete all sections of the online application as instructed within the fillable boxes. **It is recommended to download the application to your computer to review all sections before completing the online application.** You are responsible for making sure all application materials are submitted no later than **February 2, 2024.**

Submit all completed application materials online at: www.gwul.org/gwulscholarships

2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER REQUIREMENTS

2024 scholarship recipients will be notified by **February 16, 2024**. All scholarship recipients are expected to:

- Attend the 2024 award recipient in person video filming at the GWUL headquarters in the Columbia Heights neighborhood of DC. (Confirmed Date TBD but will occur in late February/ Early March)
- Attend the Greater Washington Urban League's [Whitney M. Young Gala](#) on March 15, 2024. (Complementary registration will be provided)
- Write a thank you letter to their scholarship funder and;
- Participate in a financial education course offered by the Greater Washington Urban League and Thursday Network

Thank you for applying to the 2024 Greater Washington Urban League Scholarship!

Disclaimer: The Greater Washington Urban League and Thursday Network may use my likeness in a video, along with my first name, in any and all of its advertisements and other publications, including website entries, without payment or any other consideration. Once videos are submitted with the scholarship application, they will become the property of the Greater Washington Urban League and Thursday Network and will not be returned.

Applicant's Signature: _____

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION I: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
 Last First Middle

Date of Birth: ___ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___

Gender: _____

Race/Ethnicity (select all that apply): ___ African American ___ African ___ Afro-Caribbean ___ Afro-Latino

Permanent Address:

Street

Apt.

City

State

Zip

Current Address: *(Only if different from above)*

Street

Apt.

City

State

Zip

Permanent Telephone Number: ___ ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___

Email Address: _____

Applicant's Last Name: _____

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION II: EDUCATION

Name of College/University: _____

Year in school*: ___ Rising Sophomore ___ Rising Junior ___ Rising Senior

****Please select your undergraduate classification as of the Fall 2024 Semester***

Degree and Major in progress: _____

Minor in progress (if applicable): _____

Cumulative College/University GPA (Please use a 4.0 scale): .

Applicant's Last Name: _____

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION III: AWARDS, HONORS, & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

List all academic honors, awards, and extracurricular activities from the past 3 years.

Name of Honor/Award/Activity	Short Description	Year(s) of Honor/Award/Activity

SECTION IV: WORK EXPERIENCE

List all work (including after-school/summer jobs, volunteer positions, internships) from the past 3 years.

Title	Employer Name	Dates of Employment	Approx. Hours per Week

Applicant's Last Name: _____

2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION V: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Total number of community service hours over the past 3 years: _____

List at least four community service projects or programs from the past 3 years.

Name of Community Service Activity/Program	Short Description	Hours of Service

SECTION VI: LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Provide **two letters of recommendation**. One of those letters must come from a faculty member and one from anyone who has had oversight or a supervisory role in your community service activities. Parents, guardians, or other family members **may not** submit a letter on your behalf. In the spaces below, please indicate your recommenders.

Recommender Name	Affiliation/Organization
Faculty:	
Community Service:	

Applicant's Last Name: _____

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION VII: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following information. All information received will be kept confidential and will be used only for the purpose of assessing your financial need.

*You may submit a typed statement describing any major changes in your family’s financial situation. This is optional and **does not replace** submitting one of the financial documents outlined below.*

A.) List all grants/scholarships you currently receive and will have for the 2024-2025 school year

Grant/Scholarship Name	Award Amount
	\$
	\$
	\$

B.) Your most recent Student Aid Report (SAR) or 2022 or 2023 Federal Tax Return*

**Black out any sensitive information, such as social security number (please refer to the attached samples).*

For the SAR: include the **entire SAR, not just the first page with the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Question 85. “Parent’s Adjusted Gross Income” must have a numerical value; if it is blank or says “Transferred from the IRS,” you **cannot** submit the SAR and must submit the Federal Tax Return.*

For Federal Tax Return: include **only pages one and two of Federal Tax Return Form 1040.*

Maximum Adjusted Gross Income	
Household Size	
1	\$73,125
2	\$83,571
3	\$94,018
4	\$104,464
5	\$110,993
6	\$117,522
7	\$124,051
8	\$130,580

Applicant’s Last Name: _____

Sample Federal Tax Return

Form **1040** Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service (99) **2018** U.S. Individual Income Tax Return OMB No. 1545-0074 IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.

Filing status: Single Married filing jointly Married filing separately Head of household Qualifying widow(er)

Your first name and initial _____ Last name _____ Your social security number _____

Your standard deduction: Someone can claim you as a dependent You were born before January 2, 1954 You are blind

If joint return, spouse's first name and initial _____ Last name _____ Spouse's social security number _____

Spouse standard deduction: Someone can claim your spouse as a dependent Spouse was born before January 2, 1954 Full-year health care coverage or exempt (see inst.)

Spouse is blind Spouse itemizes on a separate return or you were dual-status alien

Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions. _____ Apt. no. _____ Presidential Election Campaign (see inst.) You Spouse

City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, attach Schedule 6. _____ If more than four dependents, see inst. and ✓ here

Dependents (see instructions):		(2) Social security number	(3) Relationship to you	(4) ✓ if qualifies for (see inst.):	
(1) First name	Last name			Child tax credit	Credit for other dependents
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sign Here Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return and accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Joint return? See instructions. Keep a copy for your records.

Your signature _____ Date _____ Your occupation _____ If the IRS sent you an Identity Protection PIN, enter it here (see inst.)

Spouse's signature. If a joint return, both must sign. _____ Date _____ Spouse's occupation _____ If the IRS sent you an Identity Protection PIN, enter it here (see inst.)

Paid Preparer Use Only

Preparer's name _____ Preparer's signature _____ PTIN _____ Firm's EIN _____ Check if: 3rd Party Designee Self-employed

Firm's name ▶ _____ Phone no. _____

Firm's address ▶ _____

For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions. Cat. No. 11320B Form **1040** (2018)

Form 1040 (2018) Page **2**

1	Wages, salaries, tips, etc. Attach Form(s) W-2	1	
2a	Tax-exempt interest	2a	
2b	Taxable interest	2b	
3a	Qualified dividends	3a	
3b	Ordinary dividends	3b	
4a	IRAs, pensions, and annuities	4a	
4b	Taxable amount	4b	
5a	Social security benefits	5a	
5b	Taxable amount	5b	
6	Total income. Add lines 1 through 5. Add any amount from Schedule 1, line 22	6	
7	Adjusted gross income. If you have no adjustments to income, enter the amount from line 6; otherwise, subtract Schedule 1, line 36, from line 6	7	
8	Standard deduction or itemized deductions (from Schedule A)	8	
9	Qualified business income deduction (see instructions)	9	
10	Taxable income. Subtract lines 8 and 9 from line 7. If zero or less, enter -0-	10	
11	a Tax (see inst.) _____ (check if any from: 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Form(s) 8814 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Form 4972 3 <input type="checkbox"/> _____)	11	
11	b Add any amount from Schedule 2 and check here <input type="checkbox"/>	11	
12	a Child tax credit/credit for other dependents _____ b Add any amount from Schedule 3 and check here <input type="checkbox"/>	12	
13	Subtract line 12 from line 11. If zero or less, enter -0-	13	
14	Other taxes. Attach Schedule 4	14	
15	Total tax. Add lines 13 and 14	15	
16	Federal income tax withheld from Forms W-2 and 1099	16	
17	Refundable credits: a EIC (see inst.) _____ b Sch. 8812 _____ c Form 8863 _____	17	
17	Add any amount from Schedule 5	17	
18	Add lines 16 and 17. These are your total payments	18	
19	If line 18 is more than line 15, subtract line 15 from line 18. This is the amount you overpaid	19	
20a	Amount of line 19 you want refunded to you. If Form 8888 is attached, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	20a	
20b	Routing number _____ c Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Checking <input type="checkbox"/> Savings		
20d	Account number _____		
21	Amount of line 19 you want applied to your 2019 estimated tax	21	
22	Amount you owe. Subtract line 18 from line 15. For details on how to pay, see instructions	22	
23	Estimated tax penalty (see instructions)	23	

Go to www.irs.gov/Form1040 for instructions and the latest information. Form **1040** (2018)

Sample Student Aid Report (include the full report)

Processed Information

Federal Student Aid **FAFSA**SM

Form Approved
OMB No. 1845-0001
App. Exp. 12/31/2012

2012-2013 Electronic Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Application Receipt Date:	01/11/2012	JO 01
Processed Date:	01/11/2012	EFC: 7256 DRN: 4557

Comments About Your Information

Based on the information we have on record for you, your EFC is 7256. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid. Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work study, and possible funding from your state and school.

WHAT YOU MUST DO NOW (Use the checklist below to make sure that all of your issues are resolved.)

If you have now completed your 2011 tax return, you should correct your information to reflect the income and tax information reported on your tax return. Click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page to make the correction. You may be able to retrieve your tax return information directly from the IRS. If you have not yet completed your tax return, you must correct this SAR to reflect the income and tax information reported on your tax return once it is filed.

If you need to make corrections to your information, click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page. You must use your Federal Student Aid PIN to access your record online. If you need additional help with your SAR, contact your school's financial aid office or the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). If your mailing address or e-mail address changes, you can make the correction online or call 1-800-4-FED-AID and ask a customer service representative to make the change for you.

FAFSA Data

Assumed fields, based on the data you entered, are marked with an "*" (asterisk) sign.

1. Student's Last Name:	JOHNSON
2. Student's First Name:	ANNA
3. Student's Middle Initial:	M
4. Student's Permanent Mailing Address:	123 HOMETOWN STREET
5. Student's Permanent City:	ANYTOWN
6. Student's Permanent State:	MA
7. Student's Permanent ZIP Code:	02115
8. Student's Social Security Number:	██████████
9. Student's Date of Birth:	03/04/1994

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION VIII: WRITTEN AND VIDEO ESSAY

The National Urban League (NUL) has a history of providing direct services to communities in need. In honor of this commitment, the Greater Washington Urban League Scholarship Applicant must describe how he/she would assist a community in need and how he/she has served his/her community by submitting one written essay **AND** one video essay addressing one of the following questions:

Essay #1 (Written Essay)

Reflect on a personal experience or observation that you believe highlights barriers to education access that exist in your community. If given the opportunity to speak to an education policy leader, what suggestions would you make for improving the access and quality of education in your community?

OR

Essay #2 (Written Essay)

Identify a specific issue in your community that you are passionate about and why. Share examples of the impact you have had, through community service, in creating change on this topic.

Written Essay Instructions:

- The essay response should be submitted as a Word document, saved as a **2024 GWUL Scholarship Application Essay - Your Initials**. For an example, if your name is John Doe you would save your essay as the **2024 GWUL Scholarship Application Essay - JD**.
- No longer than 1,000 words.
- Font should be 12 point, Times New Roman
- Double spaced with normal margins (1-inch top/bottom and left/right).
- ***Do not write your name or any personal identifier within your essay documents.***

Your written essay will be evaluated for clarity of expression, use of proper grammar, and punctuation, and the extent to which you address each of the items in the questions above.

The Greater Washington Urban League and Thursday Network define plagiarism as “a direct violation of intellectual and academic honesty.” Although it exists in many forms, all plagiarism refers to the same act: representing somebody else’s words or ideas as one’s own. This can take the form of taking material from other sources, including the Internet, and deliberately failing to give credit in your essay to the original source. Therefore, it is very important that you properly document sources in your essay responses with verifiable citations. You may include citations in the footnotes of the Word document or on a separate “References” page. **Citations do not count towards the 1,000-word limit.**

Essay #1 (Video Essay)

Reflect on your personal motivations for pursuing higher education. In what ways do you believe that obtaining a college degree can serve as a catalyst for addressing societal issues?

You may also use this opportunity to bring attention to any information not disclosed elsewhere that you feel will add to our understanding of your application.

Video Essay Instructions:

- Video essays are expected to be your original work
- Recommended length of video is maximum of 120 seconds
- Upon request, winning submissions must be accompanied by a Microsoft Word document to accommodate closed captioning
- Applicants should upload their video to a shareable drive (e.g., Google Drive) and provide the corresponding video link when prompted in the application. Videos do not need to be viewable to the public, only sharable for the review process. Video should be saved in an MP4 file format
- Video resolution should be 1920x1080 (1080 HD at 60 fps or higher)
- Videos should have good audio sound quality
- We strongly encourage you to record your video using a smartphone or high-quality digital camera
- For video filming best practices visit www.gwul.org/scholarships and view our “Video Filming Guide”
- We suggest practicing your answers before recording

Guidelines for video essay eligibility:

- Professional (paid) assistance at any stage of the process is prohibited; using professional assistance is grounds for disqualification of your application
- Video essays should only contain your original work
- Videos may not contain material that infringes another’s copyright or licensing rights or otherwise infringes another’s rights, including but not limited to privacy, publicity, or other intellectual property rights
- Videos essays should only include the applicant

Video essays will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Providing an answer(s) to the prompt
- Clarity of message or theme
- Originality of work
- *Creativity is encouraged but not necessary*
- Applicants can provide their responses in the forms of spoken word, lyrics, monologue, and/or a voiceover. If an applicant chooses to do a voice over it **must** be of an original piece said from their own voice.

Section Scores for Applicant	
Section	Total Possible Points
Education	10
Community Service	10
Financial Need	20
Total Essay Score	30
Total Video Essay Score	30

Total Possible Application Score: 100