



MSF Essay Writing Tip Sheet

1. Show who YOU are!

- Essays are your chance to show something unique about you that is not already represented on your application.
- Think about what you are passionate about and how to incorporate this passion into your essay.
- What do you want the scholarship organization to know about you?

2. Be Professional

- Scholarship essays are not long tweets or Facebook posts
- No lower case "i's", no OMGs
- Google yourself before your scholarship organization does-- keep your social media clean
- Use a professional sounding email address

3. Review Your Essay

Does my essay...

- Address all parts of the essay question?
- Sound vague, or general?
 - Use specifics. Tell a story, with a beginning, middle and end. No fillers, avoid summarizing at the end.
- Meander all over the place?
 - Start with a strong statement.
 - Connect what you have done to what you will do in the future.
- Sound familiar, like a cliché?
 - Tell the story only you can tell. Make it your own.

More Helpful Hints

- Write up essay in word processing software such as Microsoft Word and then copy into the student profile.
- Check for grammar and spelling.
- Save the essay for future use in another application.