

EFFECTIVE ESSAY WRITING

Need help writing your ACE Scholarship essays? Looking to improve your overall writing skills? Follow the steps below and in no time at all, you'll be able to submit impactful essays for the ACE Scholarship Application!

1. WATCH THE VIDEO



Click here to watch the recorded Q&A Discussion video and learn what ACE Scholarship committees look for when scoring applications!

FUN FACT! These tips and techniques are transferrable to all types of essay submissions such as school assignments, college applications, other scholarship applications!

2. REMEMBER — AN ESSAY HAS 3 ESSENTIAL PARTS

The basic structure of an essay includes the introduction, body, and conclusion. There are lots of different tools you can use to jot down your thoughts including outlines and graphic organizers!

A. Introduction

- i. One paragraph containing your thesis statement (a sentence or two which tells your reader what the rest of the essay is about). This statement helps to keep your message focused!

B. Body

- i. This is the longest part of the essay.
- ii. Each paragraph in the body touches on one topic – a new topic means a new paragraph.
- iii. In each paragraph, be sure to include details, examples, and personal reflections!

C. Conclusion

- i. One paragraph to summarize the message you delivered in the body of the essay.

3. WRITE AND IMPACTFUL ESSAY

Thinking about what you learned by watching the ACE Scholarship Committee discussion, choose one (or more) of the following ACE Scholarship Application prompts and write an essay:

- A. Which segment of the industry (architecture, engineering, construction, or related field) do you wish to enter and why? Were you planning a career in this field before starting the ACE program or did ACE help steer you in that direction? If so, how/why? (unlimited characters)
- B. Describe your experience with your ACE mentors. How will this experience help you as you transition from high school? What effect did this experience have on your college choice, or choice of study? What was the most valuable lesson you learned from your time with the ACE Mentor Program? (unlimited characters)
- C. Describe the impact the design and construction industries have on our society. Why are these professions so important? How do you see yourself contributing to these industries within your future ACE field of study? (unlimited characters)
- D. Describe your most meaningful achievements and how they relate to your future A/E/C field of study. How do you think this achievement will influence your future goals? (unlimited characters)
- E. Pick a personal experience from your own life and explain how it has influenced your development. What have you learned from this experience? (unlimited characters)

4. SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY

Having someone else read your essay and help you edit it ensures that the message you want to deliver is being delivered!

- A. Email us at atHome@acementor.org – Give your name and affiliate location.
- B. Someone from ACE will connect with you, provide feedback, and help you edit your essay! Be sure to let them know you are participating in the ACE @ Home Essay Writing session.

5. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- C. Visit <https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more>
 1. Under “College Admissions,” click on “Applying to College”, then Scroll to “Admissions Essays”
 2. Watch the videos on writing college essays
 3. Read the sample essays with admissions feedback
 4. Watch the student story videos
 5. Read through Tips and Techniques
- D. “How To Write An Essay” Internet Search
 1. There are thousands of videos on YouTube which provide instruction on essay writing
 2. Discover downloadable templates for outlines (“essay outline pdf”), brainstorming webs (“brainstorm pdf”), and other graphic organizers (“graphic organizer pdf”) to help you organize your thoughts.