Suggestions for Writing a Scholarship Application:
Your Personal Statement

Remember; do not include personally identifying information in your statement.

In order for the selection committee to better understand your strengths and your needs, you may consider the following items for your personal statement:

- An introduction that reflects your request for consideration
- A statement containing your overall academic and life goals
- A list of specific academic objectives
- A description of your career goals
- Personal reasons reflecting need for financial assistance
- Academic history, including both challenges and achievements
- Work history, leadership roles, and recognition
- Cultural factors
- Travel and relocations as related to life goals
- Volunteer, leadership and/or community service experiences
- High school history and achievements
- Awards, recognition and previous scholarships received
- What type of personal adversity have you overcome? What steps did you take to overcome adversity?
- Challenges regarding health and wellness issues, learning disabilities, etc.
- Special considerations in terms of rural locations, commute issues, etc.
- Family considerations
- Summary statement that contains specific or general requests
- A memorable accomplishment in your life

Format suggestions:

- Write your statement in a word processing program first. Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar and punctuation (spell check doesn't get everything)
- Have another person read your work for clarity and errors
- Use complete sentences
- Begin with an introductory paragraph and end with a summary statement
- Length should be between 250-500 words
- Use a new paragraph for each topic area

**MAKE SURE TO COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS ON THE APPLICATION **