

A close-up, high-angle photograph of a person's hands typing on a silver laptop keyboard. The laptop is open and sits on a dark, textured wooden desk. In the background, a pair of glasses and a small white object are visible on the desk. The lighting is soft and focused on the hands and keyboard. A small green horizontal bar is located in the top left corner of the image.

PERSONAL
STATEMENTS/APPLICATION
ESSAYS

PCCC Transfer Services

Basic Points to Add in an Application Essay

Brief life events that lead you to pursue higher education

How you benefited from community college

Why you want to go to your University of choice?

- Do they have a good ranking?
- Are they renowned for certain programs or majors?
- Do basic research on why this University is best suited for your needs and education- Integrate this into your Essay!

Any volunteer or internship experience

- Honor Societies too!

Include if you visited an open house or session at the University and share what you liked!

Keep it brief!

- Many Universities have a word limit for your Admissions Essay, some as few as 250 words!
- Don't add in too many high school or work experience, unless they had a significant impact in your University decision

Make it personal, try to avoid being overly formal

- Why are you pursuing higher education?
- Why are you choosing a certain University?
- Did you face any adversity in your college journey?

Add in anything that is not included in your Official Transcripts or Online Application

- Don't worry about adding in your GPA or courses, your Transcripts will cover that
- Use your Essay to explain anything you feel is a reflection about yourself
- DO add your experience in internships or volunteer work!

It's a reflection on yourself, and this could be a turning point in a University's decision to admit you

- Make sure you're confident in your essay!

Things to Remember

Things to Add about your School of Choice



What program are you applying for, and why the University is your choice to pursue a degree



Campus-Life aspects that you would enjoy



Any internship or research opportunities that the University may provide



What extracurriculars they offer that interest you



What makes YOU a good candidate for this University?

Formatting Your Essay

Most Universities do not require you to keep a certain format

Do not worry too much about keeping MLA or APA formatting

Read application directions, on the University's website, however, some Universities may want a certain format!



Make sure the Grammar and Spelling are correct!

Always have a friend or advisor proofread your work



Keep sentence flow consistent



Use correct punctuation!

Need Help
Revising
and/or
Proofreading
your Essay?



Contact: Heather Petracco



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