# Scholarship application tips





Velimir Tasic
University of Warsaw
Faculty of Management





**Be organized.** Stay on top of deadlines, gather all pertinent documents, and make copies of everything you submit.

**Be honest.** Don't exaggerate your grades, memberships, skills, or qualifications. It is better to focus on the scholarships for which you might be eligible.

**Follow instructions carefully.** Scholarships require you to write motivation and recommendation letters.



# TO WINNING A SCHOLARSHIP

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• Tailor your application to the sponsor's goals.

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Before you start filling out your scholarship applications, you
need to spend some time thinking about how to write a
scholarship motivation and recommendation letters that will get
the results that you want.

• 1-2 > Repeat

• If you have difficulty writing motivation or recommendation letter, try recording yourself as you answer the question out loud, and transcribe the recording later. Most people can think and speak faster than they can write or type. Create an outline afterward to organize your thoughts.

 Personalize your motivation and recommendation letter, and be passionate. Write about something of interest to you. Make your application stand out from the crowd. Talk about your impact on other people. Give examples and be specific.

• Google your name and make sure you have a **professional online profile**. Use a professional email address, such as firstname.lastname@xyz.com. Clean up the content of your Facebook account, removing inappropriate and immature material.

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stay new goals focus on your dream positive generate new ideas Motivation are you really motivated?

#### **Motivation Letter**

#### Tips for getting ready to write a strong motivation letter:

- 1. Make a list of all your accomplishments.
- 2. Develop a list of your extracurricular activities.
- 3. Write down the three accomplishments of which you are the most proud.
- 4. Think of a problem that you have faced and write down how you were able to overcome it.
- 5. Put in writing your career goals, or your reason for wanting to attend college.
- 6. Pretend that you had to write a letter of recommendation for yourself. Write down the three most important things you would say.

**Example Scholarship Motivation Letter Questions** 

Describe one specific example of your leadership ability.

Describe why you wish to obtain a college education and why you are deserving of a scholarship.

Describe what influenced your decision to pursue Engineering as a career.

What personal information do you wish to share with the scholarship selection committees?

# POWERFUL WORDS TO USE IN A COVER LETTER

- 1. SOLVED
- 2. PROMOTED
- 3. OVERSAW
- 4. IMPROVED
- 5. ADAPTED
- 6. POSITIVITY
- 7. INITIATED
- 8. PLANNED
- 9. MANAGED
- 10. LEAD

- 11. INNOVATIVE
- 12. TRAINED
- 13. BUILT
- 14. INTRODUCED
- 15. STRENGTHENED
- 16. DIRECTED
- 17. PERSUADED
- 18. ORGANIZED
- 19. PROJECTED
- 20. ASSESSED

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#### Who to ask to write a letter of recommendation

Letters of recommendation are not popularity contests—they are an important part of the application process. Ask someone who knows you well and can write intelligently about you and your academic achievements. Professor, Counselors, advisors, coaches, etc. are all good sources for recommendations.

However, be sure that the person you ask has the ability to write a good letter, and give them enough time to get it completed by the deadline.



#### Content

There is plenty of content detailing directions of how to successfully apply for scholarships. Such content exists in resources like books, testimonials of scholarship winners and websites.

#### Commitment

Applying for scholarships is a numbers game. The more you apply to, the better your chances of winning.

#### Communicate

Let others around you know that you are looking for scholarship opportunities, as well as opportunities to gain experiences that scholarship providers will value.

Let your teachers, mentors, etc. know so that they can provide letters of recommendation to include within your scholarship applications.

#### **Cases**

Take opportunities to volunteer for cases you are passionate about. It looks great to scholarship providers and, if it is a case you are really passionate about, you will also likely stick with it longer.

If you are a student that cares about issues and are committed to making a difference in the world, scholarship providers are more likely to notice and value your contributions.

#### Create

If opportunities are not presenting themselves, create them. If you are interested in something and your school does not have a club for it already – create one. Taking initiative looks great and, if you are passionate enough to create the opportunity, you will likely enjoy participating in it.

#### Compliment

Your achievements are something to be proud of and something selection committee should absolutely be aware of.

#### Curriculum

Try to balance out your curriculum by taking a mix of more and less challenging courses. Remember, scholarships do take your grade point average into consideration!

Tips for full studies (Master and PhD) Ph.D. Master

Tips for full studies (Master and PhD)

Writing must be clear and concise. Remember that the selection committee members may not have a specialized knowledge of your particular area of research. You need to convey to the reviewers the answers to the following questions:

What issue will the research address?
Why is this issue important?
What is already known about the issue?
How is your approach innovative?
How will it advance knowledge in the field?
Why are you qualified to carry out the research?

Contact mentor earlier
Ask for research support recommendation

#### Mentor contacts and examples





prof. dr Witold ChmielarzUniversity of Warsaw

- Management Information Systems
- Project Management



dr Philippe J.S. De Brouwer
<a href="http://www.de-brouwer.com/">http://www.de-brouwer.com/</a>
University of Warsaw

- •Investment Management
- •Behavioral Finance

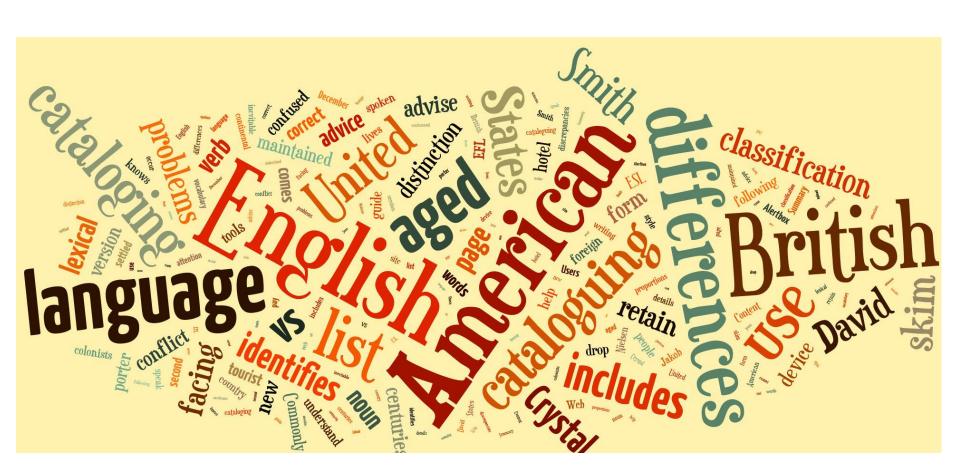


prof. dr Andrzej Kraslawski http://www.lut.fi/web/en Lappeenranta University of Technology

- •Knowledge Management
- •Sustainability Assessment
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## **English Language Tips**

7 C's of Winning Scholarships > Create < Project title:
Improving English Language Skills



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# MOOCs list: 8 of the best Massive Open Online Courses worldwide

By bookboon.com | December 10, 2013

Do you know what MOOCs are? Are you interested in developing yourself and online learning? Then take a look at this article and our list of 8 Massive Open Online Courses.

#### What are MOOCs?

A massive open online course (MOOC) is an online course aimed at unlimited participation and open access via the web. In addition to traditional course materials such as videos,



MOOCs list: 8 of the best Massive Open Online Courses worldwide

readings and problem sets, MOOCs provide interactive user forums that help build a community for the students, professors, and teaching assistants (TAs). MOOCs are a recent development in distance education.

http://bookboon.com/blog/2013/12/moocs-list-8-best-massive-open-online-courses-worldwide/

http://www.businessinsider.com/free-resources-that-will-make-you-smarter-2014-11





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# Remember - your scholarship application represents YOU!



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SIGMA *Agile* is an Erasmus Mundus Action 2 project within the European Commission scholarship programme Erasmus Mundus Action 2, Strand 1, Lot 2, Western Balkans - part of a wider programme that aims at promoting institutional cooperation and mobility between the EU and other parts of the world. Approximtely 150 fully funded scholarships are available. All fields, according to the offer of the partner universities.



Application deadline: February 10th 2015, 1 p.m. CET Instructions how to apply







### Scholarship application tips

www.sigma.uw.edu.pl

Questions <a href="mailto:sigma@uw.edu.pl">sigma@uw.edu.pl</a>

Velimir Tasic

velimir.tasic@student.uw.edu.pl

University of Warsaw

Faculty of Management



