

A note to students:

These are sample essays to provide examples of what a student may include in order to address all parts of each essay question. These are not real student essay responses and were created by the OC Foundation staff team based on a compilation of student responses received in the past. However, the resources and programs referenced in these essays are real degree programs at Olympic College and resources available to students of OC.

Academic and Career Goals Essay

1. Please tell us about your academic and professional goals. 2. What are your plans for achieving them? 3. What has your journey been like so far? 4. What are your next steps? 5. How and why did you choose these goals/this career path? If you haven't yet decided, you may write about the possibilities that currently appeal to you and what you hope to gain from your experience at Olympic College in your journey to discovering your goals.

I'm a high school senior graduating this June. I am still unsure of what specific path I want to follow. I've always enjoyed school. I am very passionate about art, specifically filmmaking, but am also thinking of a more tangible career such as business that might provide me with more stable income. I love filming, and capturing the beauty of life, so I thought starting at a community college would help me figure out which path is right for me.

My parents were a big inspiration for me in determining my options for a career path. My father is a photographer, he sold a lot of his pictures at pike's place and other art stands in the area. He now has a lot of health issues and can't be out taking photos as much, but I loved going with him on his photography adventures. My mother is a paralegal for business owners, so I got to hear a lot about how people should run their business in a successful way. I got the passion from my dad and the knowledge from my mom, and I think both careers have potential.

My mom always stressed the importance of going to college. Ultimately, I hope to gain a bachelor's degree in the future. That might be a Bachelor's in Filmmaking at Olympic College, or a Bachelor's in Business at a four-year school. I hope OC can help me decide what is right for me in the long run with my career.

Financial Need Essay

1. Tell us about how you have funded your education thus far (if applicable) and how you plan to fund your education moving forward. 2. What information would you like the

scholarship selection committee to know about your financial circumstances? 3. What impact would a scholarship from Olympic College Foundation have on your ability to achieve your educational goals?

I'm attending Bremerton high school so my parents didn't have to fund my education so far. My dad has a lot of health issues and can't work much anymore, so my mom is the main provider in our home but she is gone a lot of the times for work. Things have been really tough on our family financially. My parents don't like to stress me out with money, but I know that they struggle to pay the bills each month. We always shop second-hand and I work after school so I can have spending money for things like supplies for school or equipment for my camera. I have filed my FAFSA for next school year and will be receiving some funds to help with part of my tuition, but it won't be enough to help with all of my school expenses. My mom said they can't afford to help me with costs for school, so scholarships are my only option to be able to attend college. I plan to continue working part-time while I'm in school to help with the expenses but any financial support I can receive through scholarships would be a huge help.

My mom says I need to pick a path and stick with it so I don't take unnecessary classes that will cost more money. I really want to help my mom with take care of our family and do something with my life, and going to school can help me get a good job with a degree that will pay well. If I got a scholarship, I would be able to attend college without creating a burden for my family. I would love to go to school to become a great filmmaker, just like my dad is great with his photography. This opportunity would help me figure out what my dream is, and would really help my family financially.

Community Engagement Essay

1. Please tell us about your involvement within your community. 2. What has your community given to you? 3. How do you like to give back to your community? 4. How has this involvement impacted you? Your community can include your family, friends, school, neighborhood, church, service organizations, clubs, businesses, nonprofits, government organizations, and more. Your involvement can include work experience, volunteer experience, participation in community activities, etc.

I haven't volunteered much, but I have been involved in community in a few different ways. I always hang out with my friends in town and we like to go out with our cameras and to take videos. In my junior year, I established a film club at my school. We like going downtown to the water or even taking the ferry to seattle to get some good shots. If one of us ends up editing a really cool video we like doing a watch party at my place. We give each other tips on how to cut shots together, or ways that a song in the

background could make a scene more powerful. It's fun to see how we've all grown over the past two years.

When both my dad and mom are gone for work, I need to stay and watch my little brother who is 5, so we go to parks sometimes. It's special to me to be able to have quality time with him and help be a part of raising him into a strong, compassionate and generous person. It's a privilege to be able to help out my parents who do much to support me. Family is about supporting each other and knowing that you can lean on each other when you need to.

When my mom is home and can stay with my brother, my dad lets me go with him to sell his pictures. I get a lot of cool and interesting interactions when we get to talk to all of the other artists and people who want to ask about his art. The art community is so close-knit, it seems like everybody knows each other. They support each other by promoting each other's businesses, telling them about other events they can sell at, and watching each other's stalls while they step away to get food or use the bathroom. They've become like a second family to my dad and I think that's a beautiful showcase of the power of community and has had an impact on why I am interested in pursuing a film degree.