

The AAA Student Lending Program

Your Trusted Resource

Personal Assessment Worksheet

A personal assessment is a summary of your accomplishments, strengths, and interests that can be used every time you apply for a scholarship. Creating a personal assessment will help you to organize your thoughts so you can tell scholarship evaluators why you're the best candidate for their scholarship. This worksheet will take you through the steps of creating your personal assessment.

Step 1. Your Activities

Start by creating a list of the activities you've been involved in over the past several years, such as:

- Advanced classes
- Hobbies
- Sports
- Do you have any responsibilities outside of school, such as assisting your grandparents or caring for your siblings on a regular basis after school?
- Volunteer and community service activities
- Other extracurricular activities

After you've created your list of activities, write about why you became involved in each of them, and what you've learned about yourself and about working with others.

Step 2. Your Accomplishments

Write about any leadership positions, special roles, and awards you've earned, for example:

- Are you captain of your basketball team?
- Have you volunteered for the same youth center for several years?
- Were you ever named Employee of the Month at an after-school or summer job?
- What did you learn about yourself from the leadership roles you've held?
- What did you do to earn the awards you won and what do you feel you've learned?
- What challenges have you overcome in school or during activities?

Step 3. Your Future

In this section, write about your goals and ambitions, including things such as:

- Do you want to attend a small or large school? Do you prefer one that is close to home or far away?
- What do you want to study? What kind of job or career do you want to have after you graduate?
- What do you see yourself doing in 10 years?

Step 4. Your Inspirations

Now think about what you wrote in Step 3 and add information about:

- Why is attending college so important to you?
- What is it about that career you find so interesting?
- Has there been a teacher, relative, or friend who encouraged you in this direction?

Step 5. Your Character

For this last step, describe your character: what makes you YOU! Start with thinking about:

- What three words would your friends and family use to describe you?
- What are your character traits (honesty, responsibility, loyalty, etc.)? Which makes you proud?
- What are your three greatest accomplishments? Why were they significant to you?

Remember to Update!

You're ready for applications! If a scholarship application asks you to be more specific about these topics, or to write a new one entirely, be sure to save any new information so you can use it again later.

Step 1:

Step 2:

Step 3:

Step 4:

Step 5:
