

Application Scoring Rubric - 2020

Please refer to this when scoring applications.

Academic Rigor

Review the student's transcript to evaluate the difficulty of the course work. Points are to be awarded **only** if the student has pursued more challenging classes, such as Advance Placement, honors course, college courses, etc.

Points	Academic Rigor
0	Average (or below average) course rigor
1	1-2 examples of challenging courses (like AP, honors, advanced courses, etc. or dual enrollment with college)
2	3 or more examples of challenging courses AND/OR participation in IB (international baccalaureate)

Extra Academic Point

Students can earn an extra point for academics when there are examples of good grades, but they might not be consistent due to special hardships such as having to take care of an ill parent or constant moving from school district to school district. Must be verified by letter of recommendation, award, or some other indicator. **This is to be used only in rare occasions.**

Points	Extra Academic Points
0	No evidence of academic performance better than reflected in grades
1	Evidence of academic ability that is not fully reflected in grades/scores that might be due to special hardships

Activities: Quantity of Participation

Points are awarded for quantity of involvement in extra-curricular activities.

Points	Activities: Quantity of Participation
0	No participation in extra-curricular activities
1	Participation in up to 1 activity per year
2	Participation in 2 or more activities per year

Activities: Diversity of Participation

Students can earn extra points for showing commitment to and being involved in a diversity of activities.

Points	Activities: Diversity of Participation
0	No evidence of diversity in activities
1	Evidence of some diversity (for example, being involved in sports and the arts)
2	Evidence of notable diversity (for example, being involved in more than 2 areas of athletics, academics, student government, clubs, etc.)

Community Service Experience

Students who participate in community service **outside of what is expected from their school** may receive up to 4 points. Look for number of hours, variety of experience, and the value of the service to the community.

Points	Community Service Experience
0	No service
1	Some community service; typical examples include one-time events and/or doing service because it was part of something else (project for a class, part of being on wrestling team, etc.)
2	Moderate community service. A few, long-term commitments, for example; typically within one's "comfort zone" (e.g., volunteering at one's school or church)
3	Above average amount of community services. Some long-term experiences, but now outside of one's "comfort zone" and/or that have more challenging roles (coordinating other volunteers, for example)
4	Significant community service. Multiple years for multiple organizations, initiating fundraisers, volunteering outside of one's comfort zone, leadership roles as volunteer, etc.

Work Experience

Students who maintain a job demonstrate skills to be successful in college. Points can be awarded for length of commitment, rigor of job, and for working during the school year.

Points	Work Experience
0	No jobs
1	Limited work experience (e.g., only one summer or 1-2 short term jobs)
2	Moderate work experience (e.g., two summers or regular hours during 1 school year at job that requires a few skill sets)
3	Significant work experience (in duration and/or how demanding/challenging the work is)

Leadership Skills

Look for characteristics of leadership throughout the student's application. Good places to look are the extra-curricular section and the letter of recommendation. Did the student serve as team captain? Part of a leadership committee? Did they initiate a fund drive? Serve as a mentor? Examples of leadership could be found both in and out of school.

Points	Leadership Skills
0	No examples of leadership
1	1-2 examples of leadership
2	3-4 examples of leadership
3	5+ examples of leadership

Motivation

Has the student demonstrated a strong motivation to succeed in college? Of particular consideration would be the student's essay and how they answered the questions about achieving their goals. Consider any awards/accomplishments achieved.

Points	Motivation
0	No demonstration of motivation
1	Basic demonstration of motivation
2	Significant demonstration motivation to succeed in college (clearly articulated goals; evidence of past success and accomplishments, etc.)

Extenuating Circumstances

Students can earn extra points by demonstrating **financial need that may not be taken into account in their Student Aid Report (SAR)**. For example, being in a single parent household is something that is factored into the EFC, but a parent passing away since the SAR was generated or growing up in a non-English speaking household are examples of hardships with financial implications.

Points	Extenuating Circumstances
0	No evidence
1	Some evidence of financial hardship
2	Significant evidence of financial hardship