Your Guide to Submitting an Award-Winning Scholarship Application

GRAND VALLEY POWER

Empowering Lives with Hometown Service

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Scholarship Application Checklist

Each year, Grand Valley Power awards over $20,000 in scholarship funds to students aspiring to continue their education. The checklist below will help keep you organized while preparing your scholarship application for GVP'S Hometown Scholarship Program.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR APPLYING TO GVP'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Academic Information

- [ ] Current School Info - name of high school or previous college attended.

- [ ] Official transcripts from the last high school or college attended.

- [ ] (2) Letters of Recommendation from non-relatives.

- [ ] List of institution(s) applied for or planning to attend.

- [ ] Intended degree or certificate sought or area of study.

- [ ] Academic information - GPA, AP and honors courses.

Financial Information

- [ ] Estimated Cost of Attendance (COA) for the upcoming school year.

- [ ] List of all scholarships, grants, or loans applied for and/or received.

- [ ] Expected Family Contribution (EFC) to student's educational costs (as calculated on FAFSA application).

- [ ] Personal contribution to educational costs.

- [ ] Financial need (Cost of Attendance - Expected Family and personal contributions = Financial Need).

Background Information

- [ ] Personal Information - name, date of birth, GVP service address, mailing address & phone number.

- [ ] Email Address (one that you check regularly).

- [ ] A current photo of the applicant is to be included with the application.

Miscellaneous Information

- [ ] A written essay (500-word min.) that describes:

  - why the applicant should be awarded the scholarship,
  - academic achievements,
  - community/school involvement,
  - volunteer experience,
  - leadership and work opportunities,
  - financial need, and
  - future plans and career goals.
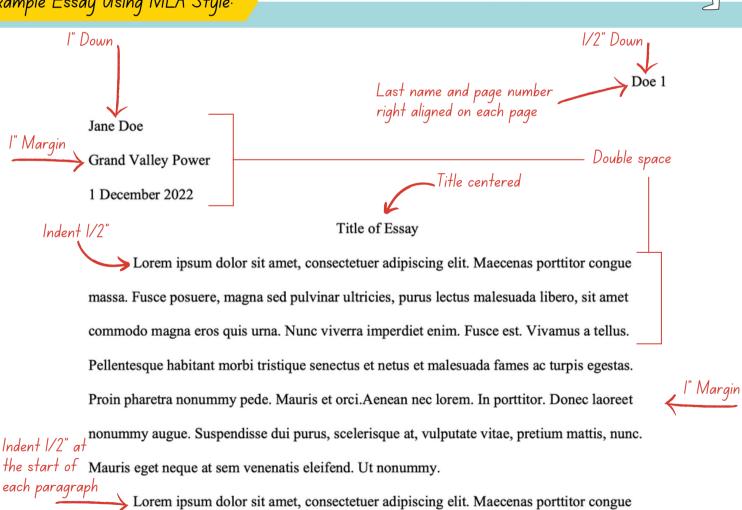
How to write an award-winning essay

When writing your application essay, it's essential to answer the prompts thoroughly and present your content in a professional manner. We encourage you to use the example below as a guide for writing and formatting your essay. Students may structure their application essay based on MLA or APA style.

To begin, use the following formatting rules:

- Font: Times New Roman (12 pt. font size)
- Double-Spaced
- Page numbers in the top right margin (last name #)
- 1" margin and 1/2" indent
- Minimum word count: 500 words

Example Essay Using MLA Style:

1" Down

1/2" Down

Last name and page number right aligned on each page

Doe 1

1" Margin

Jane Doe

Grand Valley Power

Double space

Title centered

1 December 2022

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Title of Essay

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5 Steps to Successfully Submit Your Application

STEP 01

December 1

Grand Valley Power's scholarship application period opens. Begin your application online and fill out important information like your GVP account number, service address and colleges or programs applied for.

STEP 02

Mid-December

Before leaving for Christmas break, it's best to contact your teachers or advisors for a letter of recommendation. **Grand Valley Power requires two letters of recommendation from non-relatives.**

STEP 03

Beginning of January

Request official transcripts from the last high school or college attended.

Official transcripts may be dropped off (sealed), mailed, faxed to (970) 242-0612, or emailed to scholarships@gvp.org and MUST be an official record. **If applying for multiple scholarships, only one transcript is needed.**

STEP 04

End of January

Plan your essay. Describe why you should be awarded a Grand Valley Power Scholarship. Additionally, you should describe your chosen career path and why. Include items like school and community involvement, volunteer experience, leadership and work opportunities and financial need. **A minimum of 500 words is required.**

STEP 05

End of February

By this time you should have completed all application requirements and submitted all final materials to Grand Valley Power in person or online at gvp.org/scholarship-program.

**Please note that if you choose to mail your completed scholarship application, it must arrive prior to the application deadline.

March 1 at 5:00 p.m.
Grand Valley Power's scholarship application period closes.