Scholarship Writing Tips

Before you begin to write your scholarship application, consider these points:

- THINK about all the questions you have to answer. Write down all the points you want to get across.
- Think about how to be persuasive, to convince readers that you really deserve the scholarship.
- Utilize the campus Writing Center to help craft a well written application essay.
- Once you have your application finished, proofread your application packet. Review your spelling especially! Ask your colleagues, instructors, and/or the Writing Center staff to proofread your application to ensure accuracy.
- If you don't have many honors or awards, or you haven't done extracurricular work, you need to be especially persuasive in writing an essay that describes why you decided to attend college and what your goals are.
- Remember the jobs that you've held or that you hold, as well as volunteer work, count for extracurricular activities.

The WCC Foundation Scholarship Review Committee takes the task of evaluating applications very seriously. The criteria used for ranking include the following:

- We pay close attention to the "criteria for selection" on the application form.
- We look carefully at transcripts and supporting letters. A review of your grades and the types of courses you have taken are important.
- Be sure that your support letters are from people who know you and can make a good case that you should be awarded for the scholarship.
- Applications that are incomplete – missing a letter or transcript – are not considered.

Some basic reminders to build a successful application include:

- Prepare a neat, legible and presentable application.
- Run spell check.
- Attach your application materials together in an orderly fashion.
- Read your application essay out loud to make sure it reads well and makes sense.
- Submit your application by the deadline or earlier. Be prepared for computer or printer failures to possibly happen at the last minute.
- Do not forget to sign and date your scholarship application.