

Candidate Essay Question Guidance

The purpose of the essay (in about one page – approximately 500 words) is to evoke information from the candidate in whichever of the following areas (or combination of them) he or she thinks answers the basic question: “Why me? Why should I be selected to receive a SNA Scholarship?”

The topics below are just suggestions. You can write whatever you desire to answer the question “why me?.” We want to provide you an opportunity to communicate with the scholarship selection committee and provide us with information you think the selection committee should have to give you our fullest consideration.

We look forward to receiving your application by March 1.

Who you are?

- What is important to you?
- How did/does having your father, mother or spouse in the Navy affect your life?
- Was your father or mother deployed a significant portion of your life? Explain how this has impacted/influenced your life.
- If spouse is the sponsor, what are the pluses and minuses for you?
- Do both your parents work? What do they do?
- How did/do family finances affect your life?
- Did you have to work to earn money for your expenses or to help your family?
- How many high schools did you attend? Did changing high schools affect your participation in certain academic classes or extracurricular activities, including clubs or sports?
- Number of siblings? What number child are you in your family?
- Do you have other brothers or sisters currently attending college?
- What is your motivation to go to college
- Are you a “First Generation” college bound? What does this mean to your family?

Where you are going?

- What educational program/major do you hope to pursue in college? Why?
- Why do you want a college education?
- What do you want to do after you graduate?
- In what kind of career are you interested?
- Where do you think you will be ten years after graduation?

What you have done to get where you are?

- Academic successes (i.e.: Academic honors)
- Personal interests - extracurricular activities, clubs, sports, positions held, awards/recognition received
- Employment. Please list and explain what you did; hours per week.
- Volunteer & Community Service at home and work

These are only suggestions for you to consider when you think about providing the committee with your essay. You may want to address a number of them, or none at all. It’s your choice.

In any case, thank you for your hard work in school, in helping others, and in your family. We know that people who know you are proud of you. We’re sure that we would be too if we knew you just a little better. We hope your essay will help us do just that, know you a little better.