**Common Scholarship Criteria**

**Academics**: GPA, test scores, field of study

**Involvement:** Student clubs, participation in special events, community involvement

**Leadership:** Leadership role in a student or community organization, committee, start a new student organization, etc.

**Service:** Community service or volunteer work that you have done.

**Achievements/Awards:** From participation in organization, special events, recipient of any other scholarships, graduated with honors, etc.

**Special criteria:**

* Demographic characteristics: Ex. women, racial or ethnic minority, etc.
* Hometown or high school attended: Ex. Graduates of a Black Hawk County high school, etc.
* Program of study: Ex. pursuing a degree in nursing, etc.
* Employer or family employer
* See personal statement outline for additional examples

**External scholarship links**

* Hawkeye Community College: https://www.hawkeyecollege.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/grants-scholarships/hawkeye-scholarships
* Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa: <https://www.cfneia.org/scholarships/index>
* Iowa College Aid: <https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/>
* Fastweb: https://www.fastweb.com/

**Next Steps**

* Use your personal statement outline to write your personal statement for Hawkeye scholarships. This outline can also help with other scholarship essays.
* Review for spelling, punctuation, and grammar.
* Seek feedback from a writing tutor, student success specialist, or Smarthinking
* Revise your personal statement based on feedback
* Submit the Hawkeye scholarship application by March 1 for fall awards, or October 1 for spring awards.
* Make a plan to increase the number of scholarships that you are eligible for:
	+ Join or start a new student club
	+ Help to organize or participate in a special event
	+ Volunteer in the community
	+ Get to know the faculty in your program (recommendation letters)
	+ Use campus resources including professional tutors, student success specialists, and academic advisors to increase your GPA.
	+ Research scholarships (your hometown, school you are transferring to, your or your parents’ employer, etc).
* Search scholarships that you can apply for in the future
* Add scholarship deadlines to your calendar