

What To Bring To The College-Scholarship Fair

You are not required to bring documents to the fair, but if you want the best results, we recommend students (especially seniors) bring multiple copies of the documents listed below. You can bring unofficial copies of documents for the fair. Most colleges will eventually require you to send official copies at a later date if you decide to consider their school. **Remember to also Dress for Success.**

- Unofficial High School Transcripts
- ACT/SAT Scores
- Essay About Why You Want to Attend College
- Two Letters of Recommendations (if available)
- Resume

Essay Guidelines

Your essay should be only one page (single space) with the purpose to give the college representative a quick overview of your college goals. Write a paragraph or two about your interests and what you think you would like to study in college as well as your career goals. If you are undecided, that is fine. But tell them about your interests.

If needed, write an additional paragraph about any personal information that you think you should share with the college representative. For example, if your grades were low your freshman and sophomore year, tell them why. If you were not able to participate in extracurricular activities because you had to take care of younger siblings or work of job, share that information. If you overcame any challenges like many moves or health problems, you can share that information too.

Letters of Recommendation (if available)

Colleges will generally require to have letters of recommendations submitted directly to their school from the person writing it for you. Most high schools do not permit teachers and counselors to give letters directly to students so don't worry if they say they cannot give you one to bring to the fair. However, if you have letters from coaches, employers, ministers, or volunteer supervisors, bring copies to share.

Resume Your resume should include your contact information as well as:

- Academic Achievements and Honors – list classes where you received your highest grades, include making the honor roll, earning a high class rank, passing advanced courses, etc.
- School Activities and Honors – examples include joining school clubs, participating in varsity sports, joining clubs that help your local community, writing for the school newspaper or yearbook, participating in academic competitions.
- Leadership Positions – were you a class officer, club leader, yearbook editor, school newspaper editor, or sports team captain?
- Community and Church Activities (volunteer work) – examples include tutoring elementary school students, helping senior citizens, neighborhood cleaning projects, helping at events, etc.
- Extracurricular Activities and Job Experiences – examples include contests, sports, music lessons, working at a job, helping a neighbor, working at an internship, etc.
- Summer Experiences and Talents – examples include participating in camps, guitar or singing lessons, taking a community college course, etc.

See a sample resume on the next page.

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Anna M. Johnson

Student Resume

Washington High School – Anytown, Massachusetts
Current Grade: 12 Expected Graduation: May 2021

Academic Achievements

- **Grade Point Average of 3.51 (grades 9-12)**
- **ACT Composite Score: 28**
- **Top 25% of Class. Class of 2011 Rank: 92 of 368**

- Member of the 2020-2021 & 2021-2022 Honor Roll
- Excelled in the following courses with grade of A
 - Science (Biology, and Chemistry)
 - Mathematics (Algebra 2, and Geometry)
 - English (all four years)
 - Foreign language (3 years of Spanish)

School Activities and Honors

- Varsity Track Team (3 years)
- Team Captain, Varsity Track- 2012
- Yearbook (2 years). Contributor to Student Life section

Additional Extracurricular Activities

- Annual Speech Contest, 3rd Place (April 2011); Rotary Club of Auburn.
- Music Lessons (2009-2012). Received and practiced acoustic guitar lessons.
- Part-time Employment (2010-2011). Grocery bagger at Peterson's Grocery Outlet.

Summer Experiences

- Assistant Coach (2010). Special Olympics track program.
- Summer Volunteer/Tutor (2010-2011). Student Volunteer at Good Faith Church.
- Summer Arts (2008-2011); printmaking and painting classes.