**Essay Writing tips/Scholarships/Profiles**

**From Scholarships Canada**

**Writing About Your Achievements**

This is the most common topic for scholarship essays, but it can still trip you up! Writing in a boastful (but humble!) manner is no easy thing. You may have to select a specific accomplishment to feature in your essay. you’re having trouble deciding, refer back to the essay question. You may want to focus on achievements that have helped other people, like a volunteering experience, or something that’s long-lasting, like an annual fundraiser you helped set up. Scholarship admins like to see that your efforts have had durable, positive effect on your community. Be straightforward in your presentation. Try to avoid superlatives like “incredible” or “fantastic,” and just lay out the facts. Explain your accomplishment, how it came to happen, and—this is important!—what you learned from the experience. The lessons you take away are as important as the achievement itself, so think carefully! Once you’ve made your case for a specific achievement, try not to return to the topic too much. Instead, use your space to write on other aspects of your personality, or sharpen your storytelling and lessons learned.

**Writing About Your Goals**

Telling a compelling story about your dreams and ambitions can be difficult. Many people want to make world “a better place.” Explaining how you’ll do so is tough! First, you’ll want to identify your goals for yourself. This is a good thought exercise even if you’re not writing a scholarship application. Consider time scales of 5, 10, even 20 years. What do you imagine you’ll be doing? How will you get there? What do you hope to accomplish, and learn along the way? The next big question is why. Why do you want to pursue your specific goal Can you make a link between your past experiences, or an influential person your life? Why does this goal matter to you? You’ve probably got more than one goal in mind. When thinking about what to write about for your essay, well, trust your instincts. If a particular goal really sticks out to you—it’s your big dream, or it fits really well with t criteria of the award—then go for it! If you’re feeling stuck, though, consider how your ambitions will affect your community and the people around you. How will you leave a lasting impact on your world?