



VENTURA COLLEGE FOUNDATION  
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## VCF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION SCORING RUBRICS

Applications are graded on a 3800 point scale. The rubrics below are designed as guidelines and do not address all possible aspects of essay and recommendation characteristics.

MAX POINTS		MAX POINTS	DESCRIPTION
1000	Essay #1 - Educational and Career Goals	700	Content
		300	Mechanics (Spelling, Grammar, etc.)
1000	Essay #2 - Community Service and/or Family Responsibilities	700	Content
		300	Mechanics (Spelling, Grammar, etc.)
500	Letter of Recommendation #1 - Academic	500	
500	Letter of Recommendation #2 - Academic or Other	500	
400	Last Semester's GPA	400	Multiplied by 100
400	Cumulative GPA	400	Multiplied by 100
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	
<b>3800</b>		<b>3800</b>	Without Phoenix

Scored separately are the Phoenix essays worth up to 1000 points max. Point scale breakdown is below.

MAX POINTS		MAX POINTS	DESCRIPTION
1000	Phoenix Essay (Optional)	700	Content
		300	Mechanics (Spelling, Grammar, etc.)

**1000 POINTS: ESSAY #1 - EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER GOALS**

**700 POINTS: ESSAY #1 CONTENT – NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

**Prompt:** What area of study are you excited/passionate about and why? How long have you been interested in it? What career goals do you have that align with this interest? Please elaborate on your plans to achieve your career goals, how an education plays a role in your journey, how a scholarship can help you, and what activities you’re doing now (through work or otherwise) to support those goals.

<b>700 Outstanding</b>	Addresses prompt in <b>clear &amp; concise</b> manner.	Provides relevant information.	Describes <b>clear goals &amp; strategies for achieving them.</b> Detailed plan of how scholarship can help in pursuit of goals.	Demonstrates <b>excitement/passion</b> in their area of study and career of interest. <b>Details relevant experience/activities.</b> Transcripts reflect <b>strong work ethic</b> and curriculum is in alignment with stated educational/career goals.	Demonstrates <b>strong</b> motivation to succeed.	Great example to the community of a <b>“model” VC student</b> (work ethic, campus involvement...)
<b>500 Strong</b>	Addresses prompt in <b>clear &amp; relatively concise</b> manner.	Provides relevant information.	Describes goals & <b>how to achieve them.</b> Addresses how scholarship can help.	Demonstrates excitement in their area of study and career of interest. Some relevant experience/activities. Transcripts in alignment with stated educational/career goals.	Demonstrates motivation to succeed.	
<b>300 Good</b>	Addresses prompt in clear manner.	Provides relevant information.	Describes goals & <b>some idea of a plan to achieve.</b> Vague idea of how scholarship can help.	Demonstrates generalized interest in their area of study and career of interest. Little relevant experience/activities shared. <b>Transcripts do not align</b> with stated educational/career goals.		
<b>100 So-so</b>	Clear narrative. <b>Addresses prompt.</b>	Provides <b>some relevant information.</b>	Describes goals but <b>not clear on how</b> they plan to accomplish them.	<b>Unclear</b> about area of study and career of interest. <b>No relevant experience/activities</b> shared.		
<b>50 Poor</b>	<b>Unclear narrative. Does not address prompt.</b>	<b>Does not provide sufficient relevant information.</b>	<b>Unable to assess</b> the applicant's goals, progress, mitigation of obstacles, or commitment.	<b>Does not identify</b> area of study nor career of interest.		

300 POINTS: **ESSAY #1** MECHANICS – GRAMMAR, SPELLING ETC.

300:	Perfect
200:	Minor errors
100:	Many errors

**1000 POINTS: **ESSAY #2** - COMMUNITY SERVICE AND/OR FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES**

**700 POINTS: **ESSAY #2** CONTENT – NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

**Prompt:** Share a particular interest, talent, volunteer experience, and/or other contribution of yours that allows you to make a difference in the community and/or lives of others including family, friends, etc. How does this contribution affect you? If applicable, share how this interest/talent/volunteer experience aligns with your career goals.

<b>700 Outstanding</b>	Addresses prompt in <b>clear &amp; concise</b> manner.	Provides relevant information.	Deeply understands one’s own ability to positively impact the lives of others. Describes <b>extensive participation</b> in efforts that contribute to well-being of their community and/or lives of others.	Deeply understands the impact of their contributions on themselves.  Interest/talent/efforts and experience <b>align</b> with educational and career goals.
<b>500 Strong</b>	Addresses prompt in <b>clear &amp; relatively concise</b> manner.	Provides relevant information.	Aware of one’s own ability to impact the lives of others. Describes extensive participation in efforts that contribute to well-being of their community and/or lives of others.	
<b>300 Good</b>	Addresses prompt in clear manner.	Provides relevant information.	Unsure of one’s own ability to impact the lives of others. Describes participation in efforts that contribute to the well-being of their community and/or lives of others.	
<b>100 So-so</b>	Clear narrative. <b>Addresses prompt.</b>	Provides <b>some relevant information.</b>	Describes <b>minimal community involvement.</b>	
<b>50 Poor</b>	<b>Unclear narrative. Does not address prompt.</b>	<b>Does not provide sufficient relevant information.</b>	<b>Unable to assess the applicant’s involvement in the community.</b>	

300 POINTS: **ESSAY #2 MECHANICS - GRAMMAR, SPELLING ETC.**

300:	Perfect
200:	Minor errors
100:	Many errors

UP TO 400 POINTS: **LAST SEMESTER'S GPA MULTIPLIED BY 100** (Ex: 2.8 GPA = 280 Points)

UP TO 400 POINTS: **CUMULATIVE GPA MULTIPLIED BY 100** (Ex: 2.8 GPA = 280 Points)

**500 POINTS: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1 - ACADEMIC**

<b>500 Outstanding</b>	<b>Enthusiastic. Demonstrates in-depth knowledge</b> of applicant	Observes <b>excellence</b> in academic commitment and performance	Verifies obstacles overcome (if relevant)	<b>Very highly recommends</b> applicant
<b>400 Strong</b>	Demonstrates <b>knowledge</b> of applicant	Verifies applicant's <b>strong</b> academic commitment and performance		<b>Highly recommends</b> applicant
<b>300 Good</b>	Demonstrates some knowledge of the applicant	Verifies applicant's academic participation	<b>Notes performance improvements</b> made by applicant	<b>Recommends</b> applicant for scholarship
<b>200 Weak</b>	Provides little information or unenthusiastic responses	Does not verify their academic performance, work ethic, their goals, or their progress towards meeting them, regardless of the checkbox recommendation made.		
<b>100 Not supportive</b>				The recommendation does not support the student

**500 POINTS: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #2 - ACADEMIC OR OTHER**

<b>500 Outstanding</b>	<b>Enthusiastic.</b> Demonstrates <b>in-depth knowledge</b> of applicant	Observes <b>excellence</b> in academic or work commitment and performance. Supports the goals of applicant.	Verifies obstacles overcome (if relevant)	<b>Very highly recommends</b> applicant
<b>400 Strong</b>	Demonstrates <b>knowledge</b> of applicant	Verifies applicant's <b>strong</b> academic or work commitment and performance. Supports the goals of applicant.		<b>Highly recommends</b> applicant
<b>300 Good</b>	Demonstrates some knowledge of the applicant	Verifies applicant's academic or work participation	<b>Notes performance improvements</b> made by applicant	<b>Recommends</b> applicant for scholarship
<b>200 Weak</b>	Provides little information or unenthusiastic responses	Does not verify their academic performance, work ethic, their goals, or their progress towards meeting them, regardless of the checkbox recommendation made.		
<b>100 Not supportive</b>				The recommendation does not support the student

## 1000 POINTS: PHOENIX ESSAY

### 700 POINTS: PHOENIX ESSAY CONTENT – NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

**Prompt:** Tell us about your educational journey as a re-entry student, especially any hardships or extenuating circumstances, which resulted in the pause in your education. Please also elaborate why you have decided to complete your education and how your education will support your career goals.

<b>700 Outstanding</b>	Addresses prompt in <b>clear &amp; concise</b> manner.	Provides relevant information.	Student clearly describes how he/she has made their return to school and the circumstances that took them away. Compellingly describes strategies in place to succeed.	Keen understanding of education's role in their career goals. Demonstrates strong motivation to succeed by showing commitment to and strategies for completing a certificate or degree within a 6 year time frame.
<b>500 Strong</b>	Addresses prompt in <b>clear &amp; relatively concise</b> manner.	Provides relevant information.	Student describes how he/she has made their return to school and the circumstances that took them away. Describes comprehensive strategies in place to succeed.	Understands education's role in their career goals. Demonstrates motivation to succeed by showing commitment to and strategies for completing a certificate or degree within a 6 year time frame.
<b>300 Good</b>	Addresses prompt in clear manner.	Provides relevant information.	Student describes the circumstances that took them away from school and reasonable approaches for how he/she is prepared to succeed.	
<b>100 So-so</b>	Clear narrative. <b>Addresses prompt.</b>	Provides <b>some relevant information.</b>	Student does not address the circumstances that took them away from school or does so but is unclear on how he/she is prepared to succeed.	
<b>50 Poor</b>	<b>Unclear narrative. Does not address prompt.</b>	<b>Does not provide sufficient relevant information.</b>	Student either does not address the circumstances that took them away from school or does so but is unconvincing regarding how he/she is prepared to succeed.	

### 300 POINTS: PHOENIX ESSAY MECHANICS – GRAMMAR, SPELLING ETC.

<b>300:</b>	Perfect
<b>200:</b>	Minor errors
<b>100:</b>	Many errors