Application Scoring Rubric

	Essay Scoring		
	Content	Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation	
Excellent (100%)	 Excellent mastery of the essay question. Effectively and insightfully answers all aspects of the essay question Outstanding critical thinking skills; uses clear, appropriate examples, reasons and other supporting points Well organized and clearly focused Clear and smooth progression of ideas 	Skillful use of language; accurate and appropriate vocabulary, meaningful sentence structure • Mastery of complex grammatical structures • No spelling errors; no or only minor punctuation errors	
Good (80%)	 Good mastery of the essay question. Effectively answers all parts of the essay question Strong critical thinking skills; generally uses appropriate examples, reasons and other supporting points Well organized and focused Good progression of ideas 	Very good use of language; appropriate vocabulary, good and varied sentence structure Near mastery of complex grammatical structures Minor spelling or punctuation errors	
Satisfactory (60%)	Satisfactory mastery of the essay question. • Answers the essay question in its entirety • Good critical thinking skills; uses appropriate examples, reasons and other supporting points • Organized and focused • Cohesive progression of ideas	Solid use of language; appropriate vocabulary and good sentence structure • Minor errors in grammatical structures that are somewhat distracting but does not interfere with comprehension • Moderate errors in spelling and punctuation	
Fair (40%)	Fair mastery of the essay question. Answers portions of question Some critical thinking skills; but inconsistently or with inadequate examples and supporting points Limited in organization and focus Lapses in progression of ideas	Adequate but inconsistent use of language; weak or inappropriate vocabulary and limited sentence structure • Some major grammatical errors distracting the reader and impeding comprehension • Major errors in spelling and punctuation	
Poor (20%)	Poor mastery of the essay question. Does not properly answer question Weak critical thinking skills; insufficient examples and other supporting points Poorly organized and unfocused Serious problems with and/or lack of progression of ideas	Poor use of language; limited or incorrect vocabulary and poor sentence structure • Major errors in basic grammatical structure impeding comprehension or making the text incomprehensible • Major errors in spelling and punctuation that cause comprehension problems	
No Score (0)	BLANK Essay	BLANK Essay	

Tips for Reading Essays

- Read the entire essay for a quick impression.
- On scratch paper record an initial score.
- Confirm your initial score with a supportive reading. Look for what the student has done well. Double check that he or she has answered all parts of the question.
- Enter the final content score on the scorecard.

Tips for Reviewing Grammar, Spelling, etc.

- Take your time.
- Proofread for only one kind of error at a time (i.e. grammar, then spelling, then punctuation)
- Reading out loud or reading backward will help reveal errors.
- Keep a dictionary handy to double check spelling of complex vocabulary.
- Feel free to mark errors on the essay, pencil is best.

	Activities Chart				
	Extra-Curricular	Community Service	Employment	Leadership	Other
Excellent (100%)	Demonstrates exceptional involvement in multiple activities with focused and intentional use of time.	Frequently volunteers. Demonstrates social awareness and long term and in-depth commitment to at least one service area.	Full time or part time job of substantial hours (15-20hrs). Increased work responsibility at long-term employer.	Demonstrates exceptional, increased leadership in a variety of activities, over several years. Has received recognition through awards and positions.	Exceptional obligations (such as family roles) that demonstrate commitment and responsibility but does not fit within the other stated categories.
Good (80%)					
Satisfactory (60%)	Demonstrates long term commitment and involvement with a couple activities.	Actively volunteers but without discernible focus or commitment to particular "causes".	Regular part-time employment or frequent temporary employment, may not demonstrate increased responsibilities.	Actively participates in multiple activities, demonstrates limited leadership.	Significant additional uncategorized obligations or responsibilities. Includes school enrollment.
Fair (40%)					
Poor (20%)	Limited participation with weak demonstration of commitment and/or persistence.	Limited service; one time or short term commitment of limited hours and responsibilities.	Limited temporary employment.	Limited or nominal leadership roles	Limited uncategorized obligations and responsibilities
(0)	No extra-curricular activities	No volunteer history	No employment history	No demonstrated leadership	No additional obligations
Tips	Military service should count as full time employment for active duty and part time for reservists. Consider any classification above Private as demonstration of leadership.				

	Short Essay		
Excellent (100%)	Insightful mastery of the question Outstanding critical thinking skills; well organized, appropriate supporting points Skillful use of language; accurate, appropriate vocabulary & sentence structure No or limited spelling or punctuation errors		
Good (80%)	Good mastery of the question Strong critical thinking skills; well organized, appropriate supporting points Good use of language; appropriate vocabulary and varied sentence structure		
Satisfactory (60%)	Satisfactory mastery of the question Good critical thinking skills; organized, supporting points Solid use of language; appropriate vocabulary and good sentence structure Some errors in spelling and punctuation		
Fair (40%)	 Fair mastery of the question Some critical thinking skills; limited organization, inconsistent or inadequate supporting points Adequate but inconsistent use of language; weak or inappropriate vocabulary and limited sentence structure 		
Poor (20%)	Poor mastery of the question Weak critical thinking skills; poorly organized, insufficient supporting points Poor use of language; limited or incorrect vocabulary and poor sentence structure Major errors in spelling and punctuation		
(0)	No response		