ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

College Essay Writing Tips

Writing your college essay can seem like a daunting task. This is your opportunity to tell the colleges and universities what makes you unique. No pressure, right?

The first step to writing a stellar essay is to **start early**.

If the colleges that you are looking at accept the Common Application, your essay topics will be available August 1. If you need to use a college-specific application, check each college's website or call the Office of Admissions to obtain your essay topics.

Examine your essay topics and begin brainstorming ideas. Remember, the essay is about you. Stay true to yourself and don't just write something you think colleges want to read. Once you have narrowed down your list of ideas to a few that you really like, start to draft your essay. You may even want to draft a few different topics. Write your essay and let it sit. Go back to it a few days later to edit.

Once you feel your essay(s) are ready, show them to a trusted teacher or guidance counselor. This person/people will help to give you an objective review of your essay and make sure you are sticking to the assigned topic.

When you are ready to attach your essay to your application, review it once more to check for formatting issues. Sometimes when you paste your essay from Microsoft Word into a text box online, funny characters appear and you lose your line spacing. Make sure any of these issues have been corrected before you hit submit.