

## The Student's Guide for Writing A-B Tech Online Scholarship Personal (Essay) Statements

- The scholarship deadline is March 31(at 5 pm). You are encouraged to start now.
- Please use this guide to write successful personal statements for the scholarship application.
- Use complete sentences and proofread your work.
- Although you can work and continue to work on your personal statements in the application system, you are advised to start and save your work in Microsoft Word and then cut and paste your work into the system when it is ready for submission.
- Please visit the [A-B Tech Writing Center](#), if you need additional assistance.

### Meeting the Criteria of the Personal Statement Prompts

Below are two (2) questions listed in the online application system. **This is the most important part of the scholarship application (especially Question 1).** Carefully read the prompts and outline your ideas before writing your responses.

**Question 1** – What are your long-term **career goals**? (200 word minimum – [Two paragraphs]).

- Begin this paragraph with a topic sentence that explains why you are choosing your particular field of study or career path.
- Use this paragraph to tell the scholarship committee about your journey or story. They want to know about the events that have inspired you towards your field of study or career path.
- What has inspired you? Detail the events that are leading you to where you want to go.
- Offer specific examples to support your reasons, use dates if possible.
- Use your senses to visualize where you will be in five years.
  - For example:
    - Where will you be working, etc.?

**Question 2**– Describe any additional talents, volunteer activities, community service, and/or hobbies. (Please write in complete sentences.)

- Think about what may distinguish you from any other candidate?

#### Additional Tips:

- Read the specific instructions for each question.
- Be specific in your examples and goals by using dates.
- Be realistic in your goals by showing how you will be accountable for achieving them.
- Stay positive.
- Proofread your personal statements. These statements are a representation of you.