TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Undergraduate Admissions

College Admissions Essay Tips

Texas Tech University does not require that you submit an essay, however, it is highly recommended that you submit at least one. There are three essay topics that you may choose from on the ApplyTexas application.

Topic A: What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighbor hood, or community, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.

Topic B: Most students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. Tell us about yourself.

Topic C: You've got a ticket in your hand – Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?

Things to include:

1. Exceptional hardships, setbacks or personal experiences that have shaped your abilities or academic credentials (illness, disability, death, finance, etc.)
2. Personal responsibilities (i.e. children, employment, caring for ill or aging parent/guardian, etc.)
3. Exceptional achievements - academic or special talents (such as National Honor Society, poetry, music, art, bilingual proficiency, etc.)
4. Educational goals and choice of major.
5. Leadership experiences (Student Council, R.O.T.C., and other school, community and religious clubs or organizations)
6. Learning disabilities (i.e. dyslexia, etc.) *
7. Ways you have associated with the university (i.e. family members or close friends who've attended the university, visits to the campus, etc.)
8. Work history (specify hours and times)
9. Community service involvement (specify hours and times)

* *Be sure to include documentation and references to contact for verification, if appropriate.*

Things to remember:

1. Be sure to submit your essay with your application. If it isn't submitted with the application, be sure to include your name and date of birth on each page that you submit.
2. Your essay should be typewritten. Do not submit handwritten essays.
3. Do not exceed 500 words. Be concise.
4. Use proper grammar and spelling (use spell check and have your essay proof-read)
5. Do not list any other universities that you're applying to in your essay. It should be customized for the university to which you are applying.
6. Do not include information that will not provide insight as to why you will excel in college.
7. Do not include inaccurate or false information.

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