

## **Tips for Creating a Scholarship Application Video**

### **1. Understand the Prompt and Guidelines**

- Carefully read the scholarship requirements:
  - Is there a specific question you need to answer?
  - What is the maximum video length?
  - Are there any format, resolution, or platform requirements?
- Note whether the video should be:
  - Uploaded (e.g., MP4, MOV)
  - Linked (e.g., YouTube, Google Drive, Vimeo)
  - Named a specific way (e.g., "FirstName\_LastName\_Scholarship2025")

### **2. Content Planning**

- Brainstorm key messages:
  - Who are you?
  - What are your academic and career goals?
  - Why are you passionate about your field?
  - Why are you applying for this scholarship?
  - What impact will this support have?
- Write a short script or bulleted outline. Practice aloud to ensure a natural flow.

### **3. Video Structure**

Here's a strong structure to follow:

Section	Time	What to Include
Intro	15–30 sec	Name, location, school, program, and the scholarship you're applying for.
Body	1–2 min	Personal story, challenges, goals, and your passion. Connect it to the scholarship's mission.
Conclusion	15–30 sec	Thank the reviewers, summarize your intent, and express gratitude.

### **4. Logistics & Execution Tips**

#### Recording Setup

- Device: Use a phone, laptop, or camera with HD video (720p or higher).
- Lighting: Use natural light facing you. Avoid backlighting.
- Background: Keep it clean, uncluttered, and quiet.
- Camera angle: Eye-level for a natural look.
- Clothing: Dress neatly—business casual or clean and appropriate attire.

#### Sound

- Use a microphone if possible (headphones often have decent mics).
- Record in a quiet room, close windows and silence devices.
- Do a test recording to check audio clarity and volume.

### Filming Tips

- Record horizontally (landscape) unless vertical video is specified.
- Use a tripod or stable surface—no handheld shaking.
- Record multiple takes and choose the best one.
- Smile and breathe before speaking. Pause slightly between sentences.

### 5. Editing Tips

- Use simple, free editing tools like:
  - iMovie (Mac), Windows Clipchamp, CapCut, Canva Video, or Adobe Express.
- Trim awkward pauses or mistakes.
- Add:
  - Subtitles or captions (optional, but useful)
  - Your name and title on screen briefly (if allowed)
  - A fade-in/out or simple transition to start and end smoothly

### 6. File Preparation & Submission

- Save in a common format: MP4 or MOV.
- Double-check:
  - File naming
  - Submission deadline

### 7. Final Checklist

- ⇒ I answered the prompt clearly and completely
- ⇒ My video is within the time limit
- ⇒ The video and audio quality are clear
- ⇒ I spoke confidently and authentically
- ⇒ I followed all formatting and submission guidelines
- ⇒ I saved a backup copy
- ⇒ I asked for feedback from a teacher or mentor