SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

Paragraph 1:  **Introduction**
- Grab the reader’s attention.
  - I am the first in my family to go to college.
- Introduce yourself to the committee/provide basic background information about yourself.
  - My family moved to the United States from Mexico when I was 4 years old.

Paragraph 2:  **Challenges/Obstacles OR Meaningful Volunteer, Leadership, Work Experience**
- Share examples of obstacles you have overcome or a challenge you are currently facing.
- Provide specific information (for example):
  - In addition to being enrolled as a full time student, I also work 20 hours a week.
  - I struggled in high school and didn’t do well academically because…
- What did you learn from those experiences?
- How have those experiences affected or changed your life?
- If you prefer, you can write about any volunteer, leadership, or work experience that has been significant in your life.

Paragraph 3:  **Career Goals**
- What is your career goal?
  - I want to be a high school History teacher.
- Include detailed information about what you want to do (and why).
- If you are debating between 2 careers, let them know which ones and the reasons why you are undecided (why do you like each one?).
- Did any volunteer, leadership, or work experiences help you discover your interest in this career?
- If you don’t know what career you want to pursue, skip to paragraph 4.

Paragraph 4:  **Educational Goals**
- What is your educational goal?
  - I want to earn a bachelor’s degree in communications and then obtain a master’s degree in social work.
- Include detailed information about what you want to do (and why).
- Include what schools you are considering transferring to in the future.
- Did any volunteer, leadership, or work experiences help you discover your interest in this major?
- If you find it’s more convenient, you can combine your career and educational goals into one paragraph.

Paragraph 5:  **Conclusion**
- Summarize the main points of your essay.
- Why are you such a great candidate for this scholarship?
- Remind them why it’s so important for you to go to college.
- Why do you feel it is so important for you to get a degree?
- How will you give back to the community?
- Explain why you need the money.
- How would this scholarship help you?
Paragraph 1: **Introduction**

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Paragraph 2: **Challenges/Obstacles OR Meaningful Volunteer, Leadership, Work Experience**

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Paragraph 3: **Career Goals**

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Paragraph 4: **Educational Goals**

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Paragraph 5: **Conclusion**

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