

Example A

Scholarship Eligibility: I am eligible for many of the scholarships. I am a Connecticut resident. My mother is a single mother who did not go to college, and I had to overcome socioeconomic obstacles to become a first generation college student. I have to work at least 30 hours per week and have managed to maintain a 3.7 GPA at UConn. I am really interested in social justice because of my background. I am a history and WGSS double major and hope to become [future career goals relating to social justice and/or women].

Scholarship Importance: A scholarship would very much enable my academic pursuits at UConn. Getting a scholarship would mean that I can work fewer hours and more easily transfer from [regional campus], where there are only a limited number of history and WGSS classes, to the Storrs campus, where there are many more. I could have time to participate in more on-campus clubs and activities and pursue my interests in social justice and women's issues. I also wouldn't have to worry about finances so much and be able to focus on my studies.

Example B

Scholarship Eligibility: I am eligible for many of the scholarships. I am a Connecticut resident and a first generation college student who has overcome socioeconomic obstacles. My mother came to the United States as an immigrant and is a single mother. She never went to college and was only able to find low-paying jobs in this country. Throughout my childhood, she worked multiple jobs, and we often had a hard time making ends meet. We had to move whenever our landlord raised the rent, and the frequent moves forced me to change schools and face repeated disruptions in my education. But I worked hard throughout high school, pursued the most challenging courses available, and graduated with a 3.9. Since starting at UConn, I have managed to maintain a 3.7 overall GPA and 3.9 GPA in my majors despite working at least 30 hours per week. Last semester, my professor wrote on my term paper on [topic relating to women's history] that it was one of the best undergraduate papers he has ever read.

Watching the difficulties my mother faced made me interested in social justice and women's issues. I volunteered in [social justice organization] when I was in high school and have been a member of [organization relating to women's issues on campus] since coming to UConn. [Examples of activities that applicant carried out as part of these organizations]. My interest in social justice and women's issues led me to double in History and WGSS. When I... [examples of research project about social justice that the applicant conducted or a topic about women's issues that applicant learned about in class], I decided that I want to become [future career goals relating to social justice and/or women].

Scholarship Importance: A scholarship would very much enable my academic pursuits at UConn. I am currently at [regional campus] and must transfer to Storrs to complete my double major. But my mother recently lost one of her jobs and can no longer provide any assistance for my academic expenses, and I already work so many hours per week that it cuts into my time for studying. Getting a scholarship would enable me to transfer to Storrs and take the required upper division courses in both majors. Moreover, there is a wider selection of courses at Storrs, which means I would be able to take more classes specifically related to my interest in social justice. A scholarship would also mean that I don't have to work as many hours and can pursue a challenging research project on [social justice issue] as well as participate more actively in [organization relating to women's issues on campus]. Ultimately, a scholarship would help me achieve my long term goal of [future career goals relating to social justice and/or women], and I would be able to help [single mothers/immigrants/low-income families] with experiences similar to my own.