



GEAR UP UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

PROFILE

Legal name (as it appears on official documents): _____

Email address: _____ SSN: _____

Permanent address: _____

Language proficiency

Language: _____ Speak Read Write First Language Speak at home

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If you are American Indian or Alaskan Native, what is your tribal enrollment number? _____

FAMILY

Provide information about both parents even if one or more is deceased or no longer has legal responsibilities toward you.

Parent 1

Legal Name: _____

Occupation: _____ College (if any): _____

Degree earned: _____ year: _____

Parent 2

Legal Name: _____

Occupation: _____ College (if any): _____

Degree earned: _____ year: _____

Parent's divorce date, if applicable (mm/yyyy): _____

Legal Guardian (if other than parent)

Legal Name: _____

Occupation: _____ College (if any): _____

Degree earned: _____ year: _____

EDUCATION

Most recent high school attended: _____

Entry date (mm/yyyy): _____ Graduation/expected graduation date (mm/yyyy): _____

School type: public charter independent religious home school

Class rank: _____ Class size: _____ Weighted? yes no

GPA: _____ Scale: _____ Weighted? yes no

Academic Honors (*distinctions or honors received since the 9th grade*):

High School Courses (*list all the courses you are taking this academic year*):

Course Title: _____ Credit Value: _____

Concurrent Enrollment Courses:

College: _____

From date (mm/yyyy) _____ To date (mm/yyyy) _____

ACT score: _____

Extracurricular, volunteer & work activities:

WRITING

Write one essay between 250 and 650 words. You must stay within that word count. You will be asked to write a response to your choice of one of the five prompts listed below. This essay is designed to demonstrate your ability to write clearly and concisely and help you set your application apart.

1. Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
4. Describe a place or environment where you are perfectly content. What do you do or experience there, and why is it meaningful to you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

The Score that Inspired Me (Question 2)

When I was a sophomore in high school, I elected to take the ACT a year early to see where I was needing to improve. As the minutes of each section ticked by, I made my way through row after row of little A-D bubbles with my No. 2 pencil, confident I was doing well. When my mom picked me up and asked me how it went I answered "I think I did pretty well, it wasn't as hard as I expected."

A few weeks later the results came back and when I opened the envelope I was horrified: I'd scored an 18. Don't get me wrong, I hadn't expected to do amazingly well or even be too close to where I needed to be when I took the test for real. After all, I was still a sophomore and hadn't actually learned everything on the ACT yet. But a 18 was way below what I expected. I cried when I showed the score to my mom, who of course told me everything would be fine. I had no idea where to start...should it be my math score? My science score? Even my best subject, English was weaker than I thought!

I took my ACT results to my wonderful counselor, Mrs. Odell, to ask for help. She told me the best strategy would be to focus on the one subject in which I stood to improve the most and spend extra time studying it and just continue my studies as usual with everything else. When Junior year rolled around I asked my math teacher for tutoring and he was happy to help.

Working out scheduling conflicts between tutoring and all my extracurricular activities (Pom Squad, church volunteering, etc.) was a challenge but I did not want to redo the experience of opening that envelope to some bad news. I knew I had to work hard for the goal that meant a lot to me.

I met with my math teacher three times a week for 45 minute sessions in which I'd point out problems that I'd struggled with in my ACT booklet and we'd talk about how to solve them. He did a great job of pointing out the parts of my textbook that explained certain concepts so that I could really understand the rules behind each problem and be a step ahead in class and on the test.

When the day finally came for my next ACT attempt I was a little nervous but knew I'd worked hard to be prepared. I worked my way carefully through each section again, this time paying careful attention to math. After the test I felt like I'd run a marathon but I was relieved.

This time, my score was a 24. Coming away from this experience taught me so many valuable lessons but especially that hard work and perseverance really do pay off. Ever since this experience I've set goals very carefully and learned to approach hard work with the right mindset. Every time I write down "24" as my ACT score on applications, I feel a little proud knowing I earned it.