

**The 2020-2021 HoPe Databases  
are NOW AVAILABLE on the  
education webpage.**

## SENIORS:

### How to plan or draft your essay?

- **Break your prompt into sections** when drafting your essay. This will ensure that you are answering all the portions of the questions completely.
- **Do a brain dump!** This is the time to show colleges who you are so do not hold back on any detail. Imagine yourself telling the admission's counselor why they need you at their institution.
- **Tell your story.** Admissions are searching for students who can reflect on their experiences and how that has shaped who they are. They want to see growth and want students who will thrive in the school and contribute to their community.
- To keep you on the right track take pauses and **read your essay multiple times.** If you are passionate about what you write, the reader will feel that and will remain captivated throughout your essay. They want to remember your application.
- **Look at previous year's [Common App prompts!](#)**

### What is a college admissions essay?

The essay is **an opportunity to impress an admissions team** that may be on the fence regarding your application. While much of the application review process is automated, the essay is an opportunity for students to be evaluated on their creativity and personal experiences.

### 4 Do's and Don't's of college essay writing:

- **Do NOT procrastinate;** you will need to focus on revisions and improving your drafts.
- **DO work smarter and not harder.** A strong essay can be used for other scholarship and college applications, with relevant prompts.
- **Do NOT add unnecessary words** to meet a word count; instead, make sure every word is intentional. This ensures that your essay is easy to read and that you are communicating clearly to the reader.
- **DO keep it straightforward.** If a detail or sentence does not help your story, or deviates from the prompt then remove it.

### How to revise your essay?

- Find a mentor to look over your essay and give honest feedback.
- Having the prompt when rereading your essay can ensure that you are touching base on all questions.
- Read your essay out loud and REALLY listen. Can you hear your personality and can the reader feel your emotions.



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*Our HoPe is that many benefit from this resource. We encourage you to share it but please always credit the Education Team of HoPe Inc.*



## JUNIORS:

- **Preparing for Spring Semester.**
  - [LEDA Scholars program](#) application due by December 2020. Available to Juniors.
  - [MITES and MOSTEC](#) (selective STEM programs through MIT) applications open up this month.
  - Register for SAT and ACTs.
  - Look into [Questbridge's College Prep Scholar program](#).
  - Look into the [Posse Scholarship](#) for Senior year. School Counselors and community organizations tend to nominate students by mid to end of Spring semester.



## FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORES:

- **Start thinking about leadership opportunities. With leadership positions for clubs opening up soon, reflect what type of leader you see yourself being.**
  - Is there a specific club that has stood out to you so far? How can you **take your involvement to the next level?**
  - Interested in running for student council/government? Reach out to the appropriate administrators to see when you can **launch your campaign**.
  - Is there a niche interest you have but **there isn't a club for it? Start one!**
  - Colleges love to have leaders on their campus and the sooner you **start securing these positions**, the better!
- **Keep on keeping on!** The semester is almost over and so just keep on pushing a bit more. Before you know it Thanksgiving Break will be here, and soon after Winter Break! Power through these next couple weeks like the formidable force you are!
  - Remember: your GPA is something that is so easy to bring down but so **hard to bring back up**
  - Ask for extensions, reach out for extra help, set up virtual study hangouts. So much is going on in the world right now so don't be afraid to **make changes where necessary** in order to secure your academic success.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT A TOPIC? LET US KNOW!

[WWW.HOPESTRONG.ORG/CONTACT](http://WWW.HOPESTRONG.ORG/CONTACT)

# NOVEMBERS'S EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- **NACAC:**
  - [Virtual College Fair.](#)
    - Nov 8. 2 PM – 10 PM.
- **Coalition for College:**
  - [Event: First Things First: – Navigating Success.](#)
    - Nov 11. 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM.
  - [Panel: College as a First-Generation Student.](#)
    - Nov 19. 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM.
- **GaFutures:**
  - [Apply to College Month.](#)
    - All of November.
  - [GSFC Financial Aid Events.](#)
    - Throughout November.
  - [GaFutures Overview Webinar.](#)
    - Nov 17. 5 PM.
  - [GSFC HOPE Programs Webinar.](#)
    - Dec 8. 5 PM.

November 30th – [Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. Scholarship for Young Hispanic Leaders.](#)

November 30th – [Rumba Meats Scholarship.](#)

November 30th – [Emery Reddy's Legal Studies Scholarship.](#)

November 30th – [Emery Reddy's Workers' Rights Advocacy Scholarship.](#)

November 30th – [Kopfler and Hermann Overcoming Adversity Scholarship.](#)

December 31st – [MPOWER Global Citizen Scholarship.](#)

December 31st – [Women in STEM Scholarship.](#)

December 31st – [Because College is Expensive Scholarship.](#)

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#FinancialAid**

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