

# Guide to High School Application Essays

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## Gonzaga

In your own handwriting, write an essay introducing yourself to the Admissions Committee. Describe how your strengths and talents will benefit the Gonzaga community. Then, tell the community, in your opinion, how a Gonzaga education will benefit you. The essay should be signed by both the applicant and the parent/guardian.

## Dematha

In order to give us some insight into who you are, please complete the following essays:

- A. The DeMatha Science Department has granted you permission to use their newly created time machine. To what point in history would you travel and why?
- B. What three adjectives would those who know you best use to describe you? Why would they use these words to describe you?

## St. John's

Please submit a typed or handwritten essay describing yourself to the Admissions Committee. Indicate why you wish to attend St. John's College High School.

## Our Lady of Good Counsel

Our Lady of Good Counsel's philosophy states: "In today's world, the loving good person, even alone, can make a difference." In 250 words or less, describe how you plan to make a difference in the Good Counsel community.

## Don Bosco Cristo Rey

Attach a 1 page double spaced, typed essay to your application. The font should be Times New Roman, size 12.

Topic: Talk about the choices you had for high school and why you ultimately chose Don Bosco Cristo Rey.

What aspects of your personality and factors in your life make you a good fit for the school and work program?

<http://www.donboscocristorey.org/HowToApply.html>

## Archbishop Carroll

What do you hope to accomplish at Archbishop Carroll high school?

## Georgetown Visitation

Please choose **one** essay question to answer, not to exceed 500 words.

1. St. Francis de Sales, co-founder of the Visitation order, said, "The opportunity of doing great things does not come very often, but at every moment, we can do little acts with great love." As members of the Visitation Salesian community we are called to live this advice through the "Little Virtues": patience, simplicity, humility, gentleness, hospitality, and thoughtful concern for others. Using examples from your own life, how do you exemplify one of these "Little Virtues"?
2. Georgetown Visitation is a vibrant community of people with a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. How would you benefit from and contribute to such an environment? Consider variables such as your talents, travels, leadership activities, volunteer services, and cultural experiences.
3. Georgetown Visitation encourages students to think creatively. Suppose you are stranded on a deserted island. Thankfully, your basic survival needs (water, food and shelter) are provided. Name and describe three items that you would like to have with you, and elaborate on the importance of each item.

## Elizabeth Seton

You will be asked to answer three questions with at least 5 sentences for each. Submit online.

1. Who is your role model? What specifically makes them your role model?
2. Imagine you were chosen to raise money for a charity. What charity would you pick and how would you raise the money? Use specific details and examples.
3. Our slogan is "Stronger through Sisterhood." What about this appeals to you and what do you think you would add to Elizabeth Seton's sisterhood?

## Georgetown Prep

You will be asked to complete 2 essays online. Each should be between 250-500 words.

1. Imagine there is only one spot left at Prep for next year. In order to convince the Admissions committee that you possess enough exemplary qualities for acceptance to Prep, describe yourself using a metaphor.
2. "Unceasing excellence" is inscribed on the Hamilton Medal awarded to the best example of a Hoya in each graduating class. How would you pursue unceasing excellence in the mission of Georgetown Prep to be a man of "competence, conscience, courage, and compassion. A man of faith, a man for others?" (Please be sure to cite specific examples that show you have done research into our school)

## St. Anselm's Abbey

Choose **two** topics from the following list and handwrite your responses. Your responses must be written on the actual application document that you can access here:

[http://www.saintanselms.org/data/files/gallery/AdmissionFiles/Personal\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.saintanselms.org/data/files/gallery/AdmissionFiles/Personal_Statement.pdf)

1. Describe a particularly challenging situation or moment in your life.
2. What is your favorite subject in school, and why?
3. What do you aspire to do when you are older?
4. Describe an outdoor experience that you particularly enjoyed, and why.
5. What did you find most, or least, appealing about a character in a book you recently read?
6. Give us your opinion about a current event from this week's news.
7. Describe a memorable day at school: a specific event, an important lesson learned, etc.
8. Finish this sentence with a description of yourself, and explain your choice: "Of all my friends, I am the most \_\_\_\_\_."

## Bishop McNamara

The student is required to write a **two section** response. In the first section, describe the contributions you wish to make to the Bishop McNamara community using your gifts, talents and abilities. In the second section, describe how a Bishop McNamara education will benefit you. Please limit your response to no more than 500 words. Submit online.

## Holy Cross

You will be asked to write **two** short essays, no more than 250 words each.

1. The Academy of the Holy Cross has been educating women of courage, compassion, and scholarship since 1868. Describe a time when you demonstrated courage or compassion. What did you learn from this experience?
2. AHC offers opportunities for students to pursue their passions both inside and outside of the classroom. Describe something new, academic or otherwise, you look forward to trying at AHC.

## Woodrow Wilson

Wilson only accepts DC applicants who live within their boundaries. To see if you are eligible to apply, go to this site and enter in your home address:

<http://dcatlas.dcgis.dc.gov/schools/>

## Duke Ellington

No essay required, but they will ask you to audition for their school in person to highlight your special talent.