

Making It Work Engineering & Manufacturing Fair **2018-2019 Scholarship FAQ**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. *What if I'm not sure which college/university I am attending or my exact major because I have not been accepted yet, I am on a wait list, or I haven't decided which college/university to attend?*

A. All of the Making It Work program scholarships (including company-named scholarships) are awarded contingent on the student meeting the eligibility requirements as listed on page 2 of the scholarship information packet. Students will be required to provide proof of enrollment and STEM major or certificate/diploma program prior to issuing any scholarship funds. If a student does not provide this proof, the scholarship will not be awarded to him/her.

For the purposes of the scholarship application, if you are considering multiple majors/programs and/or colleges/universities and have not reached a decision at the time of application, please provide each college/university and major/program under consideration in Section 2 - "College/University Information". If due to space constraints on the application form you cannot fit your college/university and major/program options, please attach an additional page with this information. Please ensure the major you have listed on your application corresponds with the name of the major as listed for that college/university.

Q. *Am I eligible to receive a scholarship if I plan to enroll in a diploma or certificate program at a college/university?*

A. **YES.** New with this year's program, diploma and certificate programs that have a STEM focus will be eligible for the scholarships. The diploma or certificate program will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee to ensure it meets the requirements for a focus in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM).

Q. *The application asks for my unweighted GPA. What does that mean?*

A. In order to fairly compare each application submitted against the eligibility requirements (i.e. minimum of 2.75 out of 4.0 GPA), the Scholarship Committee is asking for you to report your unweighted GPA on the scholarship application form. This provides the committee with your unweighted GPA and any AP, honors, or advanced classes you have completed is taken into consideration during the scholarship evaluation process.

Q. *Are there required attachments that must accompany my scholarship application form?*

A. **YES.** Please refer to the scholarship information packet on pages 3-4 for the additional attachments required with the application form. The scholarship information packet can be found on the following webpage:
<http://www.ccsbea.org/making-it-work>

Q. *Is there a specific format I should use for my Statement of Community Involvement, Extracurricular Activities and Work Experience?*

A. While you may choose any format in order to relay this information to the Scholarship Committee, please see the following information for pointers on completing these sections of the scholarship application.

Student Resume/Activity List

A resume or list of extracurricular activities can go a long way with an admissions or scholarship committee. Taking the time to add extra components to the application shows conscientious effort on the student's part to create the best possible impression. It is also impressive because it shows that a student is genuinely interested in the school or scholarship. However, **be sure to fill out the application entirely** – use the resume to give a deeper picture of where your interests lie.

Most students simply create chronological lists of their extracurricular accomplishments. Big mistake! This is a section where you can really set yourself apart from other applicants by employing a little strategy. Anyone can be a member of

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the Key Club, but not anyone can start an adult literacy program or become the assistant manager at Wayne's Weenie World.

The key to making your extracurricular activities stand out within the limited space of the application form is to **focus on leadership**.

But before you can do this, you first need to **make a list** of all your extracurricular activities, summer activities, and jobs. List everything big and small. Significant and insignificant. Don't forget that extracurricular activities include experiences like teaching all those hyper kids at Sunday School, whacking the ball around on the ping pong team, playing the triangle in band, leading a sit-in against animal fur, or volunteering as a candy striper at the hospital.

For every activity, job, and sport you should try to list as much of the following as possible:

- Name of the organization, program, or business.
- A short one to two sentence description of the group, program, or business.
- Any leadership positions you held and your responsibilities.
- Any special projects that you initiated or oversaw. These could be either long-term or one-time projects.
- Dates you participated or worked.
- Number of hours per week you spent on the activity or job.

If you're having trouble remembering everything, make use of other people's memories. Show your list to your parents, teachers, siblings, friends, advisors, or anyone else who may recall something you did. Once you have your list, you need to prioritize. Two criteria are important in deciding what to include and in what order: **passion and leadership**.

Your Passion Makes You Unique. Let that which truly interests you help to represent you on your applications.

Why Leadership Is Better Than Membership

Let's have some fun and put on the shoes of an admissions officer for the next few paragraphs. Imagine that you are looking at your 551st and 552nd application for today. Whew, time to call it a day! But, before you go home, you need to make a decision about these last two. Here are some things that each mentioned in their list of activities.

Applicant A	Applicant B
Reporter for school newspaper	Editor-in-chief of school newspaper
Speech team member	Organizer of citywide speech contest for 1,000 children
Teen Voter Club Member	Director of Teen Voter Registration Day for Democrat Club

Who would you admit? Of course Applicant B! The activities in which you have leadership roles or responsibility are the most memorable and impressive. When describing your roles, do not be afraid to brag a little. Highlight the importance of your contributions and responsibilities. If you organize and prioritize your activities by what you are passionate about and the degree of leadership you demonstrated, you will create a strong impression on the admissions officers or scholarship committee.

When making your list, consider these categories:

- **Arts:** theater, music, dance, painting, photography, creative writing, performance events
- **Church Activities:** community outreach, helping the elderly, event planning, music programs, teaching summer camps and/or church school
- **High School Electives:** Yearbook, student-led courses
- **Community Activities:** theater, event organizing, festival staff, police league, school board representative
- **Governance:** Student representatives, class officers, committee membership/chair

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- **Hobbies:** Is your passion detailing your car? Breeding guppies? Collecting vintage glass? Cleaning up the local river? Quilting or knitting?
- **Summer Activities:** What have you been doing?
- **Sports:** School or community-based
- **Volunteer Work:** What have you done and what has been most important to you?
- **Employment**

Source: openhscounseling.weebly.com

Have additional questions not covered in this FAQ? You can contact the Scholarship Committee by email at miwscholarships@gmail.com with your questions. Please allow for a reasonable time to respond (minimum 1-2 days).