

Top Ten Tips for AE Memorial Scholarship Applicants

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- 1. Plan ahead! Know the requirements of what you are applying for.** For example, if you want to earn Commercial ticket, you need 250 cross country hours. If you only have seventy-five and the deadline is a month out, you may want to rethink your timing. Remember, the AE scholarship does not pay for building time.
- 2. Ensure your goals are realistic.** If you need to have 40 additional cross country hours before the mandatory update deadline, is that a realistic goal? As we know, weather and plane maintenance don't always cooperate with our preferred timing.
- 3. Volunteer in Aviation Related Activities.** Demonstrate that you are dedicated to sharing your enthusiasm for aviation with others and that you support your chapter's success.
- 4. Confirm you have the correct medical for the rating you are applying for.** One of the common issues we see is the applicant's medical is not the correct class required to exercise the privileges of the certificate or rating sought.
- 5. Read the directions carefully.** Yes, there are a lot of items to complete on the application. Read and re-read to make sure you have complied with all the requirements and you have exactly what is asked for. No more-no less. For example, if they want one recommendation letter, don't send two.
- 6. Write an Awesome Essay.** Start early! Remember your essay is a window into your passion. Express it well! Answer the question, "Why should they choose ME?" Have several people read it and be honest with you. Is it a "winning" essay? Be willing to rewrite and fine-tune.
- 7. Ensure your application is neat, tidy, and complete.** Typing is a great way to ensure the judges can read your application. And don't leave blank spaces -use 'NA' so the judges know that you have acknowledged the question. Take time to make quality, clear and readable copies of required documents. It seems obvious, but we sometimes receive copies which are skewed on the page which can signal to the judges you were in a rush. Also, make sure to put your name on copied pages (and every page of the application for that matter). Remember to keep your logbook neat, complete and each full page signed. Total your hours and ensure your addition is correct. Oh yes, and flag your currency date so the judges don't have to search for that information.
- 8. Get an outstanding recommendation letter.** Make sure you choose an individual who can speak to your character and articulate this information effectively.
- 9. Get to know your Chapter AE Chairperson.** Remember, she will also be writing a recommendation letter for you and you want her to know your intention to apply, what you have already accomplished and what you intend to achieve in the future.
- 10. Remember the mandatory updates.** If you have completed more training, flew more hours towards your goal or finished a pre-requisite rating, let the Trustees know by the deadline. This can really help your application move up the ladder of consideration!