

Writing Your Transfer Essay

Transfer essays are an important part of your college application. A transfer essay is your opportunity to demonstrate to college admissions what makes you unique and why you are a great fit for their school. Some essay topics are general, while other schools may have a specific prompt. Regardless of the topic, you want your essay to **answer the question** asked in the prompt and **let your personality shine**.

Tips on writing a compelling essay

- Be honest and authentic and choose a topic you're passionate about
- Use vivid details to tell your story
- Be reflective when describing hardships or things you've overcome in pursuit of your goals
- Use specific examples that demonstrate your commitment to your field of study or career interests
- Articulate what you will do with your education and how you want to make a difference
- Have multiple people (friends, professors, tutors, etc.) proofread your essay
- Be aware of and stick to any essay word-count restrictions

Things to avoid in your essay

- Complaining or blaming (i.e. My professor gave me a C when I deserved an A)
- Vague statements (i.e. I want to study at your college because it will help me have a great career)
- Grammatical or syntax errors

How to get help on campus

- Make an appointment at the Tutoring and Academic Support Center in E-174 for assistance with essay writing.
- Meet with a transfer counselor in LifeMap E-235 or email transferservices@bhcc.mass.edu

Use online resources

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays>

<https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/college-essay>

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/how-to-write-a-college-essay>