



New Mexico Simon Scholars

2022 Application Essays

As we consider your Simon Scholars application, we value your reflections on your strengths and struggles, perspectives and experiences. Please respond to the following essay questions. **Your responses should be approximately 300 - 500 words each and in essay format, not bullet points.** You will want to compose and save your essay responses so that you can copy and paste them into the online application.

Choose **one** of the following essay prompts to answer:

1. Describe a facet of your identity, background, or story that essential to who you are.
2. Briefly share with us a personal challenge, setback, or failure you have faced and the ways in which you worked through it. How did it affect you? What did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or grateful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
4. Describe a meaningful interest that fascinates you. It could be a hobby, cause, belief, project, or activity. It should not be a casual activity that you use simply to pass the time. Why is it important? Why does it intrigue you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?

All applicants **must** also answer this essay prompt:

What are your goals and aspirations for the future and how would a college education help you reach those goals?