

## Personal Statement Questions

**Directions:** Respond to the following three questions within a **maximum of two pages** of text, using one inch margins and a font of not less than 12 points. Please number your responses and use the words given in bold below as headings. Rationales accompany the questions to help you understand each question's intent. The first question is the only one that offers different expectations for freshman and continuing college/re-entry applicants, although the rationale is the same.

**In addition, if you are a graduating Petaluma High School senior and would like to be considered for the Ron Rudolph Petaluma High School Athletic Scholarship, please respond, in one page or less, to question 4A below.**

**If you wish to be considered for the Sonoma County Medical Association & Alliance Health Careers Scholarship, please respond, in one page or less, to question 4B below.**

### **Question 1: Academic Preparation -**

- **Freshman applicants:** How have you learned the discipline needed to succeed academically?
- **Continuing College Applicants:** What is your intended major? Discuss how your interest in the field developed and describe any experience you have had in the field -- such as volunteer work, internships and employment, participation in student organizations and activities -- and what you have gained from your involvement.

*Rationale: The Community Foundation seeks to award scholarships to students who take initiative in pursuing their education (for example, developing a special interest in science, language or the performing arts; or becoming involved in special programs including summer enrichment programs, research or academic development programs). Your responses to this question will help us understand your motivation and dedication to learning.*

### **Question 2: Potential to Contribute -**

- Tell us about a contribution you have made to your community or how the education you are pursuing will allow you to contribute to your community. What about this contribution makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are?

*Rationale: This question seeks to determine an applicant's academic or creative interests and potential to contribute to the vitality of their community.*

### **Question 3: Insights Gained -**

- Elaborate on important insights that have changed and/or strengthened your values and have helped define who you are.

*Rationale: Responses to this question will provide us with information about your response to life challenges, personal circumstances, family experiences and opportunities that were or were not available at your school or college. If you have been out of school for a sustained period of time, be sure to mention the significance of your life experiences as they relate to your admission.*

**Question 4A: What athletic experiences have shaped you?**

Share important aspects of how athletics have enriched your life and what lessons you have learned that will translate off the field.

Elaborate on a coach or experience that has influenced your outlook, activities, and goals.

**Question 4B: What or who has influenced you to choose the medical/allied health field?**

Discuss reasons and motivations.

Relate experience in the field through volunteer work, shadowing, or employment.