

## **Applying for the Educator's Professional Master's Program Scholarship**

With this essay, I would like to apply for the Educator's Professional Master's Program Scholarship. Having already acquired a preliminary B.A. in Education, I now aim to continue my studies and successfully achieve my career goal—becoming a university adviser and student counselor.

The choice to work in education was not random. Having joined the masses of college entrants four years ago, unlike most of my future colleagues at the University of Maine, I already knew what I wanted to study and who I wanted to become as a result. When I think of what influenced my choice of a future profession, I picture a particular person: my high school guidance counselor. This person transformed my life, with no exaggeration. When I was a high school freshman, my life seemed like a meaningless mess of obstacles. I realize that most teenagers probably face the same troubles at this particular stage in life. But my situation was made worse by the bitter event that completely shook my world—the death of my father. It was a terrible shock for the whole family. My mother seemed to have entered an endless phase of depression; my older sister left the family house to live with her boyfriend in another state; and I felt completely alone, abandoned, and helpless. Of course, my high school friends felt sorry and tried to support me at first. But as the weeks passed by, I remained numb to the world around me, so they are not to blame for having eventually given up on me as well.