

Preparing Your SFS Scholarship Applications

Competency Statements

- Describe your knowledge and ability in each of the six (6) competency areas
- Address each area identified
- Knowledge: what you have already learned *and* what you will be learning
- Ability: what you can *do* (skills and aptitude)
- *Knowledge/Skills learned outside of the classroom and job counts*

Competency A

- Knowledge of the techniques of the information security discipline, including encryption, access control, physical security, training, threat analysis, and authentication (*data communications courses, architecture, operating systems security*)

Competency B

- Knowledge of the human factors in information security, including human computer interaction, design, training, sabotage, human error prevention and identification, personal use policies, and monitoring (*security courses, program design*)

Competency C

- Ability to identify and analyze problems, distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information to make logical decisions, and provide solutions to individual and organizational problems (*problem solving skills learned in programming, senior projects*)

Competency D

- Ability to consider and respond appropriately to the needs, feelings, and capabilities of different people in different situations; is tactful, compassionate and sensitive, and treats others with respect (*interpersonal relations, small group communication, service work, job related experience*)

Competency E

- Ability to make clear and convincing oral presentations to individuals or groups; listens effectively and clarifies information as needed; facilitates an open exchange of

ideas and fosters an atmosphere of open communication (*small group communication, public speaking, group projects*)

Competency F

- Ability to express facts and ideas in writing in clear, convincing and organized manners appropriate to the audience and occasion (*English composition classes, technical writing, senior projects, coursework with significant writing components*)
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Recognitions, Honors, and Awards

- Can be school or job-related
- Scholarships, membership in any honorary societies because of academic accomplishment, significant leadership roles in academic groups, organizations, societies, or associations to which you were nominated or elected
- Include period or date of the accomplishment, the awarding institution or organization, and what you did to earn the recognition

Reminders for Letters of Reference

- Two required: one must be from a current faculty member [or a most current faculty member]; second letter may be from either a current or former faculty member, or a current or former employer
- Must contain the name, position or title, telephone number, email address, and institutional or organizational address of the referee
- Must be on letterhead
- Request that each referee refer to and address the following factors:
 - Relationship of the referee to you (state whether the information is based on an academic or employment relationship)
 - Length of the relationship (how long he or she has known you)
 - An assessment of your potential for academic success and fulfillment of degree requirements
 - An assessment of your knowledge and ability following the six (6) competency areas – must address all as best they can