TCU is a selective university, and our Admission and Scholarship Committees review thousands of applications each year. The essay tells us a great deal about our candidates and allows for expression of writing skills, organizational skills, creativity and imagination. The essay should be 300-500 words in length and legible. Feel free to be serious, humorous or somewhere in between. Compose your essay on one of the following topics.

A At TCU, our mission statement is very important to us. “To educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community.” This is integrated into all aspects of the TCU experience. If you were to write a mission statement about your life, what would it be and how does this mission direct your life and goals?

B Tell us about the most significant person, experience, or circumstance which has shaped your life thus far. How has he, she, or it influenced your character? How might you use what you have learned to achieve your goals?

C Those we call great will usually point to some failure in their lives as a pivotal moment leading them to their successful path. Tell us about a time in your life in which failure propelled you toward success.

D In her best-selling novel *The Secret Life of Bees*, TCU alumna Sue Monk Kidd wrote, “The hardest thing on earth is choosing what matters.” What matters to you?

TCU will evaluate your application using a broad range of criteria. A suggested format for your leadership and membership résumé is listed below. Please include your name, date of birth, current school, city and state.

- **Academic Honors** – Include year in school and subjects or organizations involved (if applicable)
- **Extracurricular Activities (school and other)** – Include years of participation, leadership positions held and your plans for participation in college
- **Community / Volunteer or Religious Activities** – Include years of participation, leadership positions held and your plans for participation in college
- **Work Experience** – Include employment responsibilities, number of hours per week and time of employment (school year and/or summer)
- **Educational Travel** – Include location and brief description of the experience

**{ OPTIONAL }**

TCU values individuality and believes that students are more than just a GPA and test score. To help us get to know you even better, consider this opportunity to further express yourself. The only limitations are the boundaries of your imagination. Please submit an essay, poem, work of art or a URL that showcases another side of you.

**{ DON’T MISS }**

the evaluations on pages 7-10 and your required signature on page 4!