### **Minnesota School Application Questions**

The following information was pulled from <https://www.collegeessayorganizer.com/> in September of 2017. You may want to check the college’s website to ensure the information is accurate before you begin writing.

Obviously, there are students who will choose to write an application for a school outside of Minnesota. You might choose to search the school’s website or use the web address above if you want to explore several schools in one quick search. The website does offer a paid subscription, but this information is free once you have made an account. Just click on “My Essay Questions” near the top of the page.

### **COMMON APPLICATION ESSAY QUESTIONS**

**Question**

The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay using the prompt to inspire and structure your response.  
  
A) Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.  
  
B) The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?  
  
C) Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?  
  
D) Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma-anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.  
  
E) Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.

**Length:** 250-650 words

### \***ALEXANDRIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE | Alexandria, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **AUGSBURG COLLEGE | MN**

**Question**

Please select ONE of the following essay topics:

A) Nina Simone said, ''An artist's duty... is to reflect the times.'' What song, movie, book, poem, etc. do you feel best reflects the time in which we live and why?

B) Every book has a “Dedication Page” where the author recognizes those individuals who helped the writer along the way. Who would be on your “Dedication Page”? Write out the dedication and tell us why you picked that person or group of people. (Please note: Parent(s) will be a popular answer).

C) Can you remember who you were before the world told you who you should be? (Danielle LaPorte)

D) Describe what the following quote means to you: “It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a though without accepting it.” – Aristotle

E) You are stranded on an island with little hope of rescue. Amongst your supplies, you have a bottle, pen, and paper to send a message across the ocean with the hope that it would someday be found. What would your message say?

**Length:** 800 words maximum

### **BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY | Bemidji, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **BETHEL UNIVERSITY | St. Paul, MN**

Describe:

A) your relationship with Jesus Christ, sharing experiences and/or influences that have contributed to your spiritual development;

B) why you want to attend Bethel University. Both the content of your essay and the way you articulate your thoughts are important.

**Length:** 300-500 words

### **CARLETON COLLEGE | Northfield, MN**

Carleton is powered by wind turbines. What empowers you?

**Length:** 250 words maximum

### **COLLEGE OF SAINT BENEDICT | Collegeville, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **CONCORDIA COLLEGE | Moorhead, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE | St. Peter, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **HAMLINE UNIVERSITY | St. Paul, MN**

Why Hamline?

**Length:** 500 words maximum

### **MACALESTER COLLEGE | St. Paul, MN**

Macalester is a community that includes people from many different backgrounds. Please write an essay about how your background, experiences or outlook might add to the Mac community, academically and personally.

**Length:** 250-500 words

### **\*SAINT JOHN'S UNIVERSITY | Collegeville, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | Winona, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **ST. CATHERINE UNIVERSITY | St. Paul, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **ST. OLAF COLLEGE | Northfield, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **\*UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-DULUTH | Duluth, MN**

Tell us about your academic interests

**Length:** 250 words

### **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES | Minneapolis, MN**

#1 Please include an explanation of why you would like to study the major(s) you have selected.

**Length:** 250 words.

#2 The University values diversity, broadly defined to include diversity of experiences, perspectives, backgrounds, and talents. Enrolling a diverse community of scholars interested in learning with and from each other fosters discussion and discovery inside and outside of the classroom. Please share briefly how you feel you might contribute to, or benefit from our community of scholars.

**Length:** 250 words.

### **UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS | St. Paul, MN**

--Common Application Question

### **WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY | Winona, MN**

--Common Application Question