



## SOPHIA Application Form

Thank you for your interest in the SOPHIA Program at Assumption College. The application process consists of writing short essays in response to selected questions. You will also need to request a letter of reference from a faculty member who can speak about both your academic performance/potential and your personal character. All applicants may be asked to schedule a 15-minute individual interview with the selection committee to discuss their answers to the essays and their reasons for applying to the Program. These interviews may be scheduled after the application deadline, TBA.

To apply, please follow these easy steps:

1. Prepare two short essays (2-3 pages each) in response to two different questions --one question from Part A, another question from Part B (see the questions below). Address a Word or PDF document with your two essays to Prof. Esteban Loustaunau, director of the SOPHIA Program, and send it in one single electronic file to Mrs. Brenda Torres (btorres@assumption.edu), in The Office of Student Affairs. **The deadline for all electronic submissions is TBA.**
2. Request a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who can speak about your academic skills and/or intellectual, spiritual, and/or personal interests. Have the faculty member address the letter to Prof. Esteban Loustaunau, director of the SOPHIA Program. The recommender will need to send an electronic file of the letter to Mrs. Brenda Torres (btorres@assumption.edu), in The Office of Student Affairs. **The deadline for all electronic submissions is TBA.**

Application Essay Questions:

Part A: All student applicants must answer **one** question from Part A.

1. Rachel Naomi Remen states that helping, fixing and serving are three different ways of understanding life: "When you help, you see life as weak. When you fix, you see life as broken. When you serve, you see life as whole. Fixing and helping may be the work of the ego, and service the work of the soul." In detail, write about a time when you experienced the "work of the soul."
2. Cardinal Newman writes: "God has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons." How do you see yourself using your gifts to enrich the human family?
3. Parker J. Palmer defines vocation through a couple of short questions. He explains: "The deepest vocational question is not 'What ought I to do with my life?' It is more elemental and demanding 'Who am I? What is my nature?'" So far, who do you think you are and what is your nature?

Part B: All student applicants must answer **one** question from Part B.

4. What book has been most influential in your present understanding of what's most important for "a life well lived"?
5. Write about a day in your life that filled you with either pride or regret. Present the events of that day clearly, and include all the factors that contributed to your actions on that day.
6. What is the one thing or activity you do that brings you the most joy? Why? What does this say about

you and about your relationships to other people?

For any questions regarding this application form or for any additional information, please contact Prof. Esteban Loustaunau, director of the SOPHIA Program | Tsotsis 228 | eloustaunau@assumption.edu | x7589

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