**If you are not awarded a Lester B. Pearson International Scholarship, what are your plans for the next four years? (100-word maximum)**

Getting this scholarship would be my way of giving a gift to my parents. However, even if I am not suitable to be a recipient of this scholarship, I plan to keep pursuing my studies to strive for self-improvement, fulfill my purpose of serving others and find other ways to make my parents happy. I acknowledge that this scholarship does not determine my worth and I would work just as hard in my university coursework. Like I mentioned, once I have a “why” in life, no questions of “how” will deter my aspirations or willingness to contribute to society.

Word Count: 99

That sounds great! I think your essay shows how much you like to help others in your community.

However, I think you missed out on the “next four years” part. By this, it doesn’t mean you need to list out what you want to do each semester or each grade, but see this essay as your image of your college year. All I can take from your current essay is that you’ll “work hard even without the scholarship.”

That shouldn’t be the case. They want to see how you can navigate even without this scholarship, but keep in mind that you do want the scholarship. Try to imply that you’re going to find new resources or leverage your skills to find “other financial aid, etc.” as if to show that you’re confident you can obtain a merit-based aid.