

University at Albany The Honors College

Applying for Nationally Competitive Scholarships: A Guide and Timeline

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Truman Scholarship
Udall Scholarship

Important Scholarship Contact Information:

For information on applying for the Fulbright Fellowship, please contact **Dr. James Pasquill** at jpasquill@uamail.albany.edu.

For information on applying for the Goldwater Scholarship, please contact **Dr. Alain Kaloyeros** at akaloyeros@uamail.albany.edu.

For information on all other scholarship opportunities listed in this booklet, please contact **Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard** at jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu or make an appointment at LC 31.

Part I: Introduction and General Information

The scholarships described in this guide can provide generous funding for graduate (or undergraduate) study. In addition, they can provide students who receive them with a large measure of distinction.

Students cannot apply for these scholarships on their own. All of these scholarships require institutional nomination, which means that professors and administrators from UAlbany must work with you on your application and the university must nominate you in order for you to be eligible.

This document is a guide for strengthening your academic profile, understanding the criteria for several nationally competitive scholarships, and applying for these scholarships. The first part of this document contains guidelines and suggestions for assuring that you are a strong candidate for one or more of these scholarships. It also contains a general timeline for completing the nomination process. Although the timeline begins with the first year of college, you can still be a good candidate if you do not start preparing for this process as a freshman. While many of these scholarships require long-term planning, you do not need to have a structured plan from your first semester. Also, please remember that all along this path, from freshman year to senior year, our office is here to help you, to answer questions, and to help you weigh your options.

Only a small number of these scholarships are awarded each year. However, do not let the odds of receiving one of these scholarships deter you from applying. Even if you are not awarded a scholarship, the process of applying can help you improve your writing or interview skills, recognize your strengths and talents, build your long-term academic or career plans, or prepare yourself for applying to graduate school. The application process will also bring you into contact with professors and university administrators who may become important mentors for you. Additionally, even to be nominated or to be a finalist for these scholarships imparts a degree of distinction that sets you apart from your peers.

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns about applying for these scholarships, or if you would like to talk about a particular scholarship opportunity. We're here to help you!

Issues with which we can help you include:

- Determining which scholarships you should apply for
- Creating a set of experiences that will increase your chance of receiving a scholarship
- Identifying professors who can mentor you during the application process
- Identifying professors and others who can write letters of recommendation for you
- Refining your drafts of application materials, including personal statements, project proposals, and resumes

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs Email: jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu Phone: (518) 442-9067 Office Location: LC 31	Graduate Assistant to Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard Email: honors@albany.edu Phone: (518) 442-9067 Office Location: LC 31
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Part II: Timelines for Applying for Nationally Competitive Scholarships

During your freshman and sophomore years:

The first part of preparing to apply for these scholarships is to distinguish yourself from your peers. Maintaining a high grade point average (GPA) is essential. Many scholarships expect a 3.7 or higher GPA. However, the administrators of these scholarships do not just look for high grades – they also look for candidates who distinguish themselves in specific ways. The tips below will not only strengthen your profile as a candidate for nationally competitive scholarships, they will also help to prepare you for graduate school, distinguish you in the eyes of employers, and enrich your college experience.

Get to know your professors. Introduce yourself to your professors and talk with them about specific topics in a course, their research interests, current issues important in their field, or other relevant topics. Take two or three courses from a professor who you find interesting. You can also look on academic department websites to find professors' specific research interests that you might share. Creating relationships with professors early can create opportunities for working with them one-on-one. Letters of recommendation from professors will be an important part of your application. The professors writing these letters will need to know you well.

Look at and understand the criteria for the scholarships in which you may be interested. Carefully read the criteria for the scholarships, and think about the ways you might fit the profile of the kind of student to whom they would give a scholarship. Additionally, many of the websites for nationally competitive scholarships include profiles of students who have been granted the scholarship, which can be helpful in determining the kinds of candidates they support. This information may help you decide to apply for certain scholarships or may point you in the direction of which types of activities you should engage in to be a strong candidate for a scholarship.

Demonstrate your interests through your activities. There is no “right” set of activities to pursue, but you should look for ways to demonstrate, through your activities, that you meet the criteria for a scholarship. For example, if you are interested in public service and want to apply for the Truman Scholarship as a junior, you should take on activities as a freshman and sophomore that demonstrate that interest.

Demonstrate leadership. Coordinating activities, starting your own club, or showing initiative, outspokenness, and ingenuity in your activities gives administrators of scholarships evidence of your ability to be a self-starter, to take risks, to take on challenges, to make yourself heard, and to lead others. Being an officer of many clubs or organizations is not sufficient. Rather, it is how you lead while being an officer that matters.

Take challenging courses. When the administrators of scholarships look at your academic work, they do not just look at your grades. They also note the types of courses you have taken. Opting for seminars, writing-intensive courses, and honors courses illustrates your commitment to academic work and shows that you are willing to work hard to excel. Opting for smaller classes also benefits you by giving you an opportunity to get to know your professors better.

Take advantage of special opportunities. Participating in campus opportunities such as the Undergraduate Research Initiative or the Honors Conference not only help to strengthen your academic profile, they also give you an opportunity to get to know professors in your fields of interest better.

During the “applying” years – sophomores, juniors, and seniors:

Most of these scholarships require that your nomination to the national scholarship selection committee be submitted during your senior year (however, the Truman and Udall scholarships are submitted during your junior year, and we will consider them in a separate section (see further below)). The deadline for the nomination by UAlbany is in the fall of your senior year for some scholarships and in the spring of your senior year for others.

UAlbany has to decide as an institution who to nominate for these scholarships. This decision is made by the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The committee will only nominate students who have very strong applications in all of the areas considered important by the scholarships. UAlbany is limited in the number of students it can nominate for these scholarships. Therefore, the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships may have to choose between several highly qualified students.

Since, in many cases, considerable work needs to be done after the decision about whom to nominate is made, you will need to submit your preliminary application to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships about six months before the nomination is due to the national scholarship selection committee. This allows the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships time to make its selections and then work with the candidates to polish their applications so that they are more likely to be successful.

Four timelines are described below. Find the scholarship for which you would like to apply and use the timeline to guide your activities during your sophomore, junior, and senior years. If you are interested in the Fulbright Fellowship or Goldwater Scholarship, you will need to follow different timelines. Please contact the appropriate representatives for the Fulbright and Goldwater Scholarships (listed on the front cover of this guide) to obtain the timelines for those scholarships.

Deadlines listed in bold in this timeline are considered final. Extensions will only be granted in extenuating circumstances.

Some deadlines indicate that materials should be submitted the last weekday in a certain month. If the last weekday is during an official break, the deadline is the last working day before the break. Please contact Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard (jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu, LC 31) if you have any questions about due dates.

Timeline for Churchill, Marshall, Mitchell, and Rhodes Scholarships

Mid-October – By mid-October *of your junior year*, you should identify one or two faculty members who know you well to help you in the application process and provide guidance and support.

Late October – By this time, you should have met with your faculty mentor(s) at least once. When you first meet with them, describe the scholarship you are applying for, its criteria, and what things they might do to help you in this process.

The last Tuesday before Thanksgiving break – Please submit preliminary drafts of your personal statement and resume and submit the name(s) of your faculty mentor(s) to Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard (jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu, LC 31) by **noon** on this date. Your drafts will be returned to you after the break with general feedback from Dr. Haugaard. Over the next few weeks, you should revise your statement/resume and submit the revised version for review by your faculty mentor(s) by the end of the fall semester.

January – Continue refining your personal statement and resume based on feedback from your faculty mentor(s). You can also submit drafts to Dr. Haugaard for review. During this time, you should also identify faculty

members who know you well and from whom you will be requesting letters of recommendation. Check the instructions for the scholarship to determine how many letters are needed and what the letter writers should know about you. You should also begin drafts of any other required application materials (e.g., essays, project proposals).

Early February – Around this time, you should talk with faculty members to see if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation for you.

Early March – Early in March, you should approach faculty members for letters of recommendation. You should give each person who will write a letter for you a folder that contains:

- A description of the scholarship, any specific criteria you must meet, and any specific criteria for letters of recommendation (you can print this information from the scholarship website).
- The date that their letter is due to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.
- Instructions for Letters of Recommendation for Nationally Competitive Scholarships (Part IV of this packet. Copies are also available in LC 31).

Additionally, some professors may ask you to meet and talk with them or give them a copy of your personal statement or resume.

Mid-March – Check in with your letter writers and give them a friendly reminder about the due date for your application. When their letter is completed, they should give it to you in a sealed envelope with their signature across the seal so that you can submit it with your application to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.

Last weekday in March – This is the last date that your completed application and all letters of recommendation can be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. A folder containing all of the required application materials should be submitted in LC 31 by **noon** on this date. See the following scholarship descriptions for a checklist of materials that must be included in your application folder.

April – The UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships reviews all applications and determines which student(s) to nominate. By the end of April, we will contact you regarding the status of your nomination.

Summer and early fall – If you are chosen as a potential nominee by the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships, Dr. Haugaard and your faculty mentor(s) will continue to work with you on fine-tuning your application materials in preparation for submission to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships for final approval by the university.

Early October – Once the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships has endorsed you as a nominee, your application materials are submitted to the regional or national scholarship selection committee during your senior year. If you are selected as a regional or national finalist, the committee will help you to prepare for an interview with regional or national representatives of the scholarship selection committee.

Timeline for Truman and Udall Scholarships

Early October – In early October *of your junior year* (your sophomore or junior year, if applying for the Udall Scholarship), you should identify one or two faculty members who know you well to help you in the application process and provide some guidance and support. You should also begin working on a preliminary draft of your personal statement and resume, as well as any other application materials (such as an essay or project proposal).

Mid-October – By the middle of the month, you should have met with your faculty mentor(s) at least once. When you first meet with them, describe the scholarship you are applying for, its criteria, and what things they might do to help you in this process.

The last weekday in October – By this time, you should have finished a preliminary draft of your personal statement and resume and any additional application materials required (e.g., essays, project proposals). Please submit your drafts and the name(s) of your faculty mentor(s) to Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard (jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu, LC 31) by **noon** on this date. Your drafts will be returned to you within a week with general feedback from Dr. Haugaard. Based on Dr. Haugaard’s feedback, you should revise your statement/resume and submit the revised version for review by your faculty mentor(s) by the following week.

Late October – Around the time that you hand in your drafts, you should also identify faculty members who know you well and from whom you will be requesting letters of recommendation. Check the instructions for the scholarship to determine how many letters are needed and what the letter writers should know about you.

Early November – By early in November, you should approach faculty members for letters of recommendation. You should give each person who will write a letter for you a folder that contains:

- A description of the scholarship, any specific criteria you must meet, and any specific criteria for letters of recommendation (you can print this information from the scholarship website).
- The date that their letter is due to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.
- Instructions for Letters of Recommendation for Nationally Competitive Scholarships (Part IV of this packet. Copies are also available in LC 31).

Additionally, some professors may ask you to meet and talk with them or give them a copy of your personal statement or resume. Also during early November, based on comments from your faculty mentor(s), continue refining your personal statement and other application materials. You may also submit drafts to Dr. Haugaard for further review.

Mid-November – Check in with your letter writers and give them a friendly reminder about the due date for your application. When their letter is completed, they should give it to you in a sealed envelope with their signature across the seal so that you can submit it with your application to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.

Last weekday in November – This is the last date that your completed application and all letters of recommendation can be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. A folder containing all of the required application materials should be submitted in LC 31 by **noon** on this date. See the following scholarship descriptions for a checklist of materials that must be included in your application folder. By the end of the fall semester, we will contact you regarding the status of your nomination.

December – The UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships reviews all applications and determines which student(s) to nominate. By early January, we will contact you regarding the status of your nomination.

January – If you are chosen as a potential nominee by the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships, Dr. Haugaard and your faculty mentor(s) will continue to work with you on fine-tuning your application materials in preparation for submission to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships for final approval by the university.

February/March – Once the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships has endorsed you as a nominee, your application materials are submitted to the regional or national scholarship selection committee.

Timeline for Carnegie Junior Fellowship, Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship, and Saint Andrew’s Society of the State of New York Scholarship

Early October – In early October *of your senior year*, you should identify one or two faculty members who know you well to help you in the application process and provide some guidance and support. You should also begin working on a preliminary draft of your personal statement and resume, as well as any other application materials (such as an essay or project proposal).

Mid-October – By the middle of the month, you should have met with your faculty mentor(s) at least once. When you first meet with them, describe the scholarship you are applying for, its criteria, and what things they might do to help you in this process.

The last weekday in October – By this time, you should have finished a preliminary draft of your personal statement and resume and any additional application materials required (e.g., essays, project proposals). Please submit your drafts and the name(s) of your faculty mentor(s) to Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard (jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu, LC 31) by **noon** on this date. Your drafts will be returned to you within a week with general feedback from Dr. Haugaard. Based on Dr. Haugaard's feedback, you should revise your statement/resume and submit the revised version for review by your faculty mentor(s) by the following week.

Late October – Around the time that you hand in your drafts, you should also identify faculty members who know you well and from whom you will be requesting letters of recommendation. Check the instructions for the scholarship to determine how many letters are needed and what the letter writers should know about you.

Early November – By early in November, you should approach faculty members for letters of recommendation. You should give each person who will write a letter for you a folder that contains:

- A description of the scholarship, any specific criteria you must meet, and any specific criteria for letters of recommendation (you can print this information from the scholarship website).
- The date that their letter is due to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.
- Instructions for Letters of Recommendation for Nationally Competitive Scholarships (Part IV of this packet. Copies are also available in LC 31).

Additionally, some professors may ask you to meet and talk with them or give them a copy of your personal statement or resume. Also during early November, based on comments from your faculty mentor(s), continue refining your personal statement and other application materials. You may also submit drafts to Dr. Haugaard for further review.

Mid-November – Check in with your letter writers and give them a friendly reminder about the due date for your application. When their letter is completed, they should give it to you in a sealed envelope with their signature across the seal so that you can submit it with your application to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.

Last weekday in November – This is the last date that your completed application and all letters of recommendation can be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. A folder containing all of the required application materials should be submitted in LC 31 by **noon** on this date. See the following scholarship descriptions for a checklist of materials that must be included in your application folder. By the end of the fall semester, we will contact you regarding the status of your nomination and let you know of any last-minute revisions of application materials that are necessary.

December – The UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships reviews all applications and determines which student(s) to nominate. We will contact you regarding the status of your nomination.

December/January/March – Once the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships has endorsed you as a nominee, your application materials are submitted to the regional or national scholarship selection committee.

Part III:

Definition of a Personal Statement

Mary Hale Tolar

Deputy Executive Secretary, Truman Scholarship Foundation

(Mary Tolar is a 1988 Truman Scholar and 1990 Rhodes Scholar; served as scholarships advisor at four institutions, and has served on national selection committees for Truman and Rhodes Scholarships. She has helped over sixty students win national scholarships.)

If you are applying for nationally competitive scholarships, for graduate school, or for a number of post-graduate service or employment opportunities, you have seen the vaguely phrased request; in one form or another, it comes down to "tell us something about yourself."

The Rhodes and Marshall competitions require a 1000-word personal essay: the Fulbright, a "curriculum vita." You are asked to share your "academic and other interests." A clearer charge might be: compose an essay that reveals who you are, what you care about, and what you intend to do in this life. Tell this story in a compelling manner, and do so in less than a thousand words. What's so hard about that? Simply make sense of your life (right.) But what does that mean? What will it look like?

Because personal statements are personal, there is no one type or style of writing that is set out as a model. That can be liberating; it can also be maddening. But while every personal statement is unique in style, its purpose is the same.

A personal statement is your introduction to a selection committee. It determines whether you are invited to interview; and if selected as a finalist, interview questions will be based on this material.

It is the heart of your application.

A personal statement is:

- **A picture.** Your personal essay should produce a picture of you as a person, a student, a potential scholarship winner, and (looking into the future) a former scholarship recipient.
- **An invitation.** The reader must be invited to get to know you, personally. Bridge the assumed distance of strangers. Make your reader welcome.
- **An indication of your priorities and judgment.** What you choose to say in your statement tells the committee what your priorities are. What you say, and how you say it, is crucial.
- **A story, or more precisely, your story.** Everyone has a story to tell, but we are not all natural storytellers. If you are like most people, your life lacks inherent drama. This is when serious self-reflection, conversation with friends, family, and mentors, and permission to be creative come in handy.

A personal statement is *not*:

- **An academic paper with you as the subject.** The papers you write for class are typically designed to interpret data, reflect research, analyze events or readings--all at some distance. We are taught to eliminate the "I" from our academic writing. In a personal statement your goal is to close the distance between you and the reader. You must engage on a different, more personal level than you have been trained to in college.

- **A resume in narrative form.** An essay that reads like a resume of accomplishments and goals tells the reader nothing that they could not glean from the rest of the application. It reveals little about the candidate, and is a wasted opportunity.
- **A journal entry.** While you may well draw on experiences or observations captured in your personal journal, your essay should not read like a diary. Share what is relevant, using these experiences to give a helpful context for your story. And include only what you are comfortable sharing--be prepared to discuss at an interview what you include.
- **A plea or justification for the scholarship.** This is not an invitation to "make your case." Defending an assertion that you are more deserving of the scholarship than other candidates is a wasted effort--you've likely just accomplished the opposite.

Most importantly, a personal statement is **authentic**. Don't make the mistake of trying to guess what the committee is looking for, and don't write what you think they want to hear. They want to know you.

So, what must you include in the personal statement? An effective personal statement will answer the following questions:

- Who am I?
- Who do I want to be?
- What kind of contribution do I want to make, and how?
- Why does it make sense for me to study at Oxford (or York, LSE, Cambridge, Sussex)?

For the Rhodes, you will want to include a proposal of study, one or two paragraphs devoted to why Oxford makes sense for you. (For the Marshall and Fulbright, your "proposed academic programme" is presented separately.) Why is this the right place and program? Is it consistent with your studies and activities to date? Draw connections.

Remember the goal: grab the readers' interest, and make them want to meet you for an interview. Get a sense of the experiences and dreams you wish to share, then examine them for a helpful means of making sense of it all. You will find your story; and if you share it honestly, you will have written a personal statement.

Finally, know that writing a personal essay is hard and will take many drafts and much reflection. Don't wait until you have it right to share it with others; their input will likely make it stronger, clearer, and tighter. Don't put it off until you have it right . . . just write!

Part IV:

Instructions for Letters of Recommendation for Nationally Competitive Scholarships

A variety of thoughts about writing letters of recommendation for students applying for nationally competitive scholarships (suggestions come from Ray Raymond, Mort Schoolman, and Mary Tolar).

Selection committees for most scholarships look for an outstanding record of creative and original leadership. Being elected President of Student Government, the student member of the Board of Trustees or editor of the campus newspaper is no longer enough. All selection committees - but especially Rhodes/Marshall selection committees - expect to see proof that the student actually accomplished something significant; that their own creativity, drive and determination made a decisive difference.

All scholarship programs want to see selflessness. Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, and Fulbright look for people with strong records of community service and a deep commitment to bettering the lives of those less fortunate than themselves.

All exceptional scholarship candidates, but especially Rhodes and Marshall finalists, have that special star quality: that rare combination of intellectual brilliance, academic and personal discipline, grace, humility and maturity. They also have a clear vision of their futures with well-defined goals and realistic plans to achieve them with clarity, vigor, and enthusiasm.

Rhodes and Marshall value star quality, academic excellence, creative and original leadership, personal integrity, selflessness, and thorough preparation for the proposed program of study in the UK.

Letters of recommendation should be written by experienced faculty members who know the student well and who can give selection committees as much detailed information as possible. To begin with, faculty members writing letters should ask themselves why the student stands out, why they respect him or her so much. They should give concrete examples to illustrate their arguments about the student's brilliance. Draw upon or quote excerpts from the student's papers, from other original research, or from incisive class interventions. In short, faculty members should use the letter of recommendation as an opportunity give the selection committees deeper insights into the candidate's qualities and potential that the selection committee could not uncover for itself. Faculty letters should not merely duplicate aspects of the student's application.

A glowing letter is necessary but not sufficient. A letter of the sort written for a promising graduate student is not appropriate. In order to write a proper letter, you must know the candidate's work and should be acquainted with him or her personally. Specifically,

- you must be acquainted with his or her scholarship;
- you must have an appreciation of how the candidate would come through in an interview situation;
- you should speak to the relevance of the student's record to the scholarship;
- your letter should be targeted to specific scholarships (Rhodes and Marshall scholarships have websites you can consult to learn about the type of work/individual the scholarships are intended to support).
- letters should be about 2 single-spaced pages.
- One or more candid conversations with the student may be helpful in preparing a letter of recommendation. If it would be helpful, ask the student about his or her characteristics that make him or her a good candidate for a scholarship. You may also ask the student to return papers or other projects that he or she has completed to you.

Please contact Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard (jhaugaard@uamail.albany.edu, 442-5332) if you have any questions about the letter-writing process for nationally competitive scholarships.

Part V: Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply for more than one scholarship at a time?

Absolutely. So long as you meet the criteria for the scholarships, you may apply for as many as you like. Keep in mind that some scholarships may stipulate that you cannot receive other scholarships simultaneously. Take a look at the policies listed on the websites of the scholarships that you are interested in for more information as you begin the application process.

I am interested in applying for two scholarships. It seems as though both of them require some of the same application materials – letters of recommendation, transcripts, resume, etc. Should I hand in two complete, separate application packets, or is it permissible to hand in only one set of information for the parts that they have in common?

For the purposes of evaluating you for nomination, the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships only needs to have one copy of your transcript or resume. Regarding letters of recommendation, it is acceptable in most cases to solicit one set of letters from faculty for the purposes of nomination. As a general guideline, it is sufficient, during the nomination process, to have faculty write letters for the scholarship of the two that has the most specific requirements. Consult the scholarship websites regarding any specific requirements for the letters of recommendation. Say, for example, that you're applying for Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships. The Rhodes letters must be tailored to how you fit specific criteria, whereas the Marshall letters do not have such specific criteria. Having faculty members write a letter for Rhodes would be sufficient for both. If the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships decides to endorse you as a nominee for one or both of the scholarships, your letter writers will be asked to revise their letters accordingly.

If I am not awarded a scholarship in one year, can I try again the next year?

Some nationally competitive scholarships, such as the Udall Scholarship, allow students to reapply in subsequent years while still an undergraduate. Some scholarships for graduate study allow for applications a year or more after graduation. Read the policies listed on the website of the scholarship in which you are interested to determine their regulations regarding reapplying.

I am currently a senior. I am not planning on going to graduate school right away, so I am not sure if I want to apply for a scholarship now. Can I apply after I graduate?

Some scholarships allow you to apply within one year of graduating or even a few years after graduating. Be sure to check the details on the websites of scholarships you are interested in. Our office will continue to work with you, if you like, after you graduate.

Part VI: Requirements and Checklists for Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Carnegie Junior Fellows Program

The purpose of the scholarship:

The Carnegie Endowment offers one-year fellowships to graduating seniors to work as research assistants to the Endowment's senior associates following graduation. Positions are paid, full-time positions. Junior Fellows are currently paid \$2,583 per month and receive a full benefits package.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during the fall semester of their senior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted before the spring semester of the student's senior year. Applicants must be eligible to work in the United States. Candidates should have a strong background in international affairs, political science, economics, history, or Russian studies.

Where do I get an application?

You can get a copy of the application and current projects (available mid-October) from LC 31.

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in November of your senior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Carnegie Junior Fellows Program requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The Carnegie Junior Fellows Program does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- Application form.
- A current resume.
- A short essay describing why you want to be a Carnegie Junior Fellow and which project you are interested in (no more than one double-spaced page).
- A short topical essay of no more than three double-spaced pages. Please email us for the current list of essay topics.
- A copy of your transcript (does not need to be official).
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty members, at least one of which must be from a professor in your major. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the national selection committee.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Churchill Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

The Winston Churchill Foundation offers scholarships for graduate study in engineering, mathematics, or science at Churchill College, University of Cambridge, in England. The scholarship provides all tuition and fees and a living allowance of up to £7,500 (approximately \$13,500).

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during their junior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted during the fall semester of the student's senior year. Applicants must be U.S. citizens between the ages of 19 and 26.

Where do I get an application?

Application forms are available at the Churchill Scholarship website (www.winstonchurchillfoundation.org). You must also submit a University of Cambridge Application Form. These are available online at <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/gradstud/admissions/forms>.

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in March of your junior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Churchill Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The Churchill Foundation does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- A University of Cambridge application form.
- One signed copy of the Churchill Foundation application form.
- One transcript from each institution you have attended (does not need to be official).
- Four letters of reference. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the national selection committee.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

Jack Kent Cooke Scholarships support students with significant financial need in the pursuit of graduate or professional degrees in any subject. Award amounts vary, with a maximum amount of \$50,000 per year.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during the fall semester of their senior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted directly to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation during the spring semester of the student's senior year. You must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better and demonstrate significant financial need. You also must be accepted into a full-time graduate degree program to begin your first graduate or professional degree program in the subsequent fall semester.

Where do I get an application?

All application materials are on the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship website (www.jackkentcookefoundation.org).

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your complete application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in November of your senior year, at noon.

Remember, you are submitting materials that will not only be used to evaluate your nomination, but will be submitted to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation directly by the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships if you are nominated. Please make sure that all materials are complete and are received by the deadline. Also, please remember that your submission of application materials does not guarantee that you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- Application form - one original and four copies.
- Financial information form - one original of each form and one copy.
- Financial attachments – as described in the Jack Kent Cooke application materials. Two copies (originals of tax forms are not required).
- Acceptance letter from a graduate school, including details of financial aid package, if any. Include a separate award letter if the graduate school provided the information in two separate documents. Five copies. Originals not required (These may be submitted to the committee separately from your application, as you may not receive an acceptance letter by late November).
- Resume/curriculum vita – two pages maximum. Five copies.
- One copy of your transcript (Does not need to be official).
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty members – one original and one copy of each. The original and copy must be in separate sealed envelopes with recommender's signature across the seal. On the envelope containing the copy of the recommendation letter, the recommender should write "COPY" clearly on the front. These should be submitted with your application materials.
- Nominee survey form (optional) - one original.
- Optional portfolio for applicants in the arts ONLY. One original – as described in the portfolio instructions (no copies necessary).

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Marshall Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

Marshall Scholarships finance graduating seniors of high ability to study for a graduate degree in any subject in the United Kingdom. Each scholarship is held for two years and includes tuition and living expenses.

Scholarships are awarded to students interested in attending one of a large number of universities in England, Scotland, Wales, or Northern Ireland. The scholarship covers university fees, cost of living expenses, an annual book grant, a thesis grant, research and daily travel grants, and fares to and from the United States.

Approximately 40 American students are awarded a Marshall Scholarship annually. UAlbany can nominate up to four candidates.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during their junior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted during the fall semester of the student's senior year. You must be a U.S. citizen to apply, and must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.7. Additionally, "in appointing Scholars, the selectors will look for distinction of intellect and character as evidenced both by their scholastic attainments and by their other activities and achievements. Preference will be given to candidates who display a potential to make a significant contribution to their own society. Selectors will also look for strong motivation and seriousness of purpose, including the presentation of a specific and realistic academic programme."

Where do I get an application?

You cannot fill out an application until you have been nominated. Please see the checklist below to see what you need to submit to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. Information about the Marshall Scholarship and universities in the U.K. can be found at www.marshallscholarship.org.

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in March of your junior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Marshall Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The Marshall Commission does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- A resume.
- A proposed field of study.
- A personal statement.
- A first and second choice of university in the United Kingdom at which to study, and a statement explaining your institution choices.
- Four letters of recommendation. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the Marshall Commission.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Mitchell Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

The Mitchell Scholarship provides tuition, housing, a \$12,000 living expenses stipend, and international travel expenses for one year for graduate study in any subject at any eligible university in Ireland.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during their junior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted during the fall semester of the student's senior year. Candidates must be U.S. citizens under the age of 30.

Where do I get an application?

You cannot fill out an application until you have been nominated. Please see the checklist below to see what you need to submit to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. A description of the Mitchell Scholarship is available at www.us-irelandalliance.org.

When do I hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in March of your junior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Mitchell Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The U.S.-Ireland Alliance does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- A resume.
- A copy of your transcript (original not required).
- A personal statement.
- A first and second choice of university in Ireland at which to study, and a statement explaining your institution choices.
- Five letters of recommendation. At least three of these must be from university faculty members with whom you have done academic work. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the U.S.-Ireland Alliance.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Rhodes Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

A Rhodes Scholarship provides for tuition and expenses for two years to complete a graduate degree in any subject at Oxford University in England.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during their junior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted during the fall semester of the student's senior year. You must be a U.S. citizen and between the ages of 18 and 24 to apply. The Rhodes Scholarship is guided by four criteria: "literary and scholastic attainments; energy to use one's talents to the full, as exemplified by fondness for and success in sports; truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness, and fellowship; moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take interest in one's fellow beings." The issue of the need to be involved in sports to receive a Rhodes Scholarship remains unclear. Involvement in intercollegiate sports used to be a requirement, but is not any longer. Some suggest that students need to demonstrate "competitiveness" or "assertiveness" through sports or other activities. There is also a sense that being physically fit is important to the selection committees. This can be demonstrated in many ways, such as through intramural sports, dance, running, weightlifting, or other forms of regular physical activity.

Where do I get an application?

All application materials can be found on the Rhodes Scholarship website at www.rhodesscholar.org. The version available on the web will likely be an outdated version. This version is appropriate for submission to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships.

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in March of your junior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Rhodes Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The Rhodes Trust does not accept applications without nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee your nomination.

To be submitted to UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- ❑ A completed application form.
- ❑ An institutional endorsement form, with the appropriate portion completed by you.
- ❑ A signed personal statement describing your academic and other interests. This statement should describe the specific area of proposed study and your reasons for wishing to study at Oxford, and must conclude with the following signed statement: "I certify that this essay is my own work." The statement should not be more than 1,000 words (approximately four double-spaced pages).
- ❑ A succinct list of principal activities and honors in college (including prizes, scholarships, offices held, athletic record, extracurricular interests, etc.) with dates. This should not exceed two pages in length.
- ❑ One copy each of all letters of recommendation. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the Rhodes Selection Committee.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application to LC 31. However, you can also mail your application to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

St. Andrew's Society of the State of New York Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

Saint Andrew's Society of the State of New York awards two \$10,000 scholarships annually for one year of graduate study in Scotland.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during the fall semester of their senior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted directly following the fall semester of the student's senior year. Students can be of any age, and must be able to verify that they are of Scottish descent.

Where do I get an application?

Copies of the application are available to pick up at LC 31.

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in November of your senior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the St. Andrew's Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The St. Andrew's Society does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- An application form.
- A resume.
- A personal statement.
- Two original letters of recommendation from faculty members. These letters should be sealed and signed across the flap. Please write "original" on the front of the envelope.
- One copy each of letters of recommendation. Write "copy" on the front of each envelope. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials.
- A letter from a financial aid officer to certify that financial assistance would be required for you to complete a year of graduate study in Scotland.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Truman Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

These scholarships of \$30,000 each are awarded to students who wish to attend graduate school in preparation for careers in government or elsewhere in public service.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during the fall semester of their junior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted during the spring semester of the student's junior year. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, with a GPA in the top 25% of their class (about 3.6 or higher). Applicants should also demonstrate extensive participation in two or more activities related to school or public service (see Truman Scholarship website at www.truman.gov for details).

Where do I get an application?

You cannot complete an application until you are nominated. Sample application materials can be sent to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. These are available on the Truman Scholarship website (www.truman.gov).

When do I need to hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in November of your junior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Truman Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The Truman Foundation does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- ❑ Sample application form.
- ❑ Sample policy proposal.
- ❑ Three letters of recommendation:
 - One relating to leadership abilities and potential
 - One relating to your commitment to a career in public service
 - One relating to your intellect and prospect for continuing academic success

Forms for these letters are available on the Truman Scholarship website. The letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the Truman Foundation.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Albany, NY 12222
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Udall Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship:

The Udall Foundation offers \$5,000 to university students whose course of study focuses on the environment and to Native American university students who study in the fields of health care or tribal policy.

Who can apply?

Students begin the application process during the fall semester of their sophomore or junior year. Nominations from the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships are submitted during the spring semester of the student's sophomore or junior year. To apply, you must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and have a GPA of at least 3.0.

Where do I get an application?

All application materials are available online on the Udall Scholarship website (www.udall.gov).

When do I hand in my application materials?

Your initial application is due in LC 31 the last weekday in November of your sophomore or junior year, at noon.

Remember, applying for the Udall Scholarship requires the submission of application materials to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships. The Udall Foundation does not accept applications without a nomination. Also, please remember that submitting an application does not guarantee you will be nominated.

To be submitted to the UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships:

- ❑ Application form.
- ❑ An essay of 800 words or less, discussing a significant public speech, legislative act, or public policy statement by Congressman Udall and its impact on your field of study, interests, and career goals. Your essay must be typed in 12-point font, signed and dated.
- ❑ Three letters of recommendation, from:
 - A faculty member who can discuss your potential
 - A faculty member in your field of study
 - Another individual who can attest to your capabilitiesThe letters must be in sealed envelopes and signed across the flap. They should be submitted with your application materials. Letter writers should retain the original copy of the letter. If you are nominated, they will be asked to review their letter and submit it to the Udall Foundation.

It is preferred that you hand-deliver your application materials to LC 31. However, you can also submit your application by mail to:

Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Assistant Vice Provost for Honors Programs
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue, LC 31
Attn: UAlbany Committee on Nationally Competitive Scholarships