

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Craig Almeida, Dean of Academic Achievement
Kris Silva, Nationally Prestigious Awards Advisor

COMMON AWARD CHARACTERISTICS

- Highly competitive
- Concerned about professional goals
- Want to see consistency; are your activities connected to your career goal and interests?
- Want to know – Why them? Why you? Why now?
- Expectation for academic excellence
- Not a reward for past good work
- Promise of continued excellence
- How have you made a difference?
- What have you accomplished that others have been unable to do?

OVERVIEW AND GENERAL BENEFITS

National Awards may support...

- Graduate study
- Teaching
- Research
- Service
- International affairs
- Languages
- Internships

National Awards may offer...

- Financial support
- Access to highly prestigious institutions
- Potential for international experiences
- Lifetime recognition
- Network with future leaders

CONDUCTING YOUR SEARCH

What to consider:

- Carefully review the organization's mission, does it match your goals?
- Review profiles of recent scholarship recipients; how do you compare?
- Do you meet all of the basic criteria?
- Can you make a compelling case for yourself?

Where to look:

- [Stonehill website](#)
- [Univ. of Chicago \(FROGS\)](#)

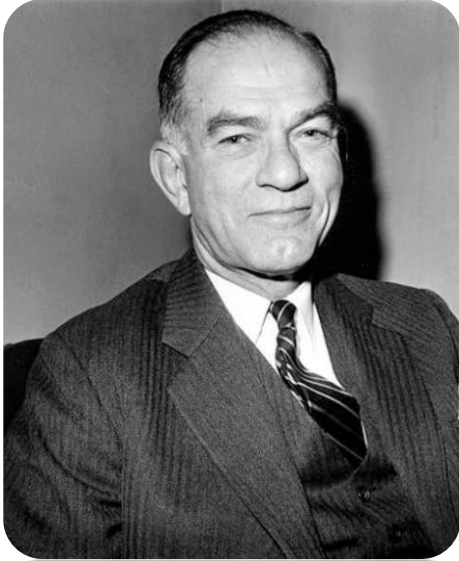
BEFORE YOU DECIDE!

- Odds of success are low
- Serious time commitment
- Intense writing and revising

However... no risk, no reward!

- Through this process, you will learn to formulate and articulate your personal vision.
- This skill will help you in all future endeavors including graduate school and job applications.

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM



Senator J. William Fulbright
ARKANSAS

- 1946: Created by U.S. Congress
- Student Program administered in U.S. by Institute of International Education (IIE)
- Administered overseas by bi-national commissions and U.S. embassies



Goal

*To increase **mutual understanding** between people of the U.S. and people of other countries through exchange*

FULBRIGHT: ELIGIBILITY

Open to:

- Graduating Seniors
- Recent Graduates
- Graduate Students
- Early Career Professionals
including creative and
performing arts/musicians

Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- U.S. Citizen
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
by start of grant
- Country specific requirements

FULBRIGHT: U.S. STUDENT PROGRAMS

Research/Study Grant

- 900 awards
- 8-12 months
- ~140 countries
- Independent research, study in UK
- Limited experience in host country

English Teaching Assistantship (ETA)

- 900 awards
- 8-12 months
- ~70 countries
- Help teach English and U.S. culture in the classroom
- Limited experience in host country

FULBRIGHT: U.S. STUDENT PROGRAMS

Study in the UK

- Opportunity to obtain:
 - MA – Master of Arts
 - MSc – Master of Science
 - MPhil – Master of Philosophy
 - MRes – Master of Research
 - PhD – Doctorate of Philosophy
- Over 130 universities
- Degrees are usually shorter and less expensive than in US

FULBRIGHT: ENGLISH TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP (ETA)

Overview

- Improve students' understanding of English & U.S. culture
- Assistant teach 20-30 hrs/wk
- K-12 or university/college
- New Locations: Ivory Coast and Uruguay

Application

- Basic Personal Data
- Statement of Purpose
- Personal Statement
- Foreign Language Report
- References (3)
- Transcripts
- Affiliation Letter(s) –
(Research/Study only)

FULBRIGHT: U.S. STUDENT PROGRAMS

Fulbright-mtvU Awards

- Projects center around research on an aspect of international musical culture, and should focus on contemporary or popular music as a cultural force for expression.

FULBRIGHT: RESEARCH/STUDY GRANTS

Overview

Research

- Design your own project and work with advisers at foreign universities or other institutes of higher education
- Program requirements vary by country
- High level of academic and/or professional achievement
- Demonstrated leadership ability
- Sufficient language proficiency
- A well-developed feasible project

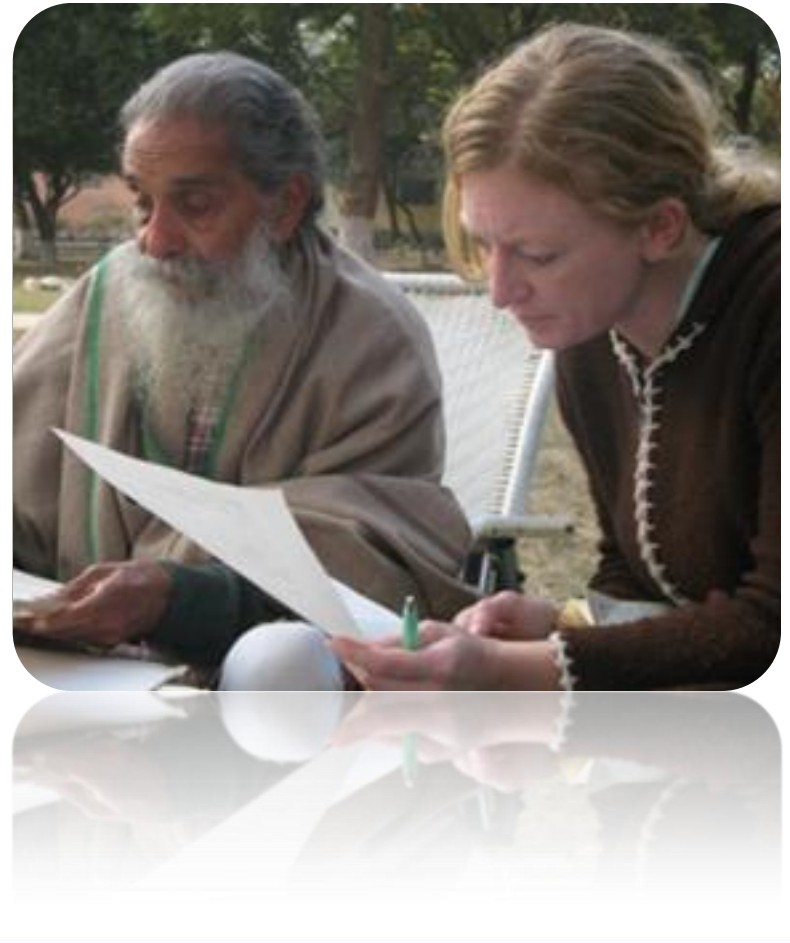
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GRANT BENEFITS

- Round-trip Airfare
- Monthly Stipend*
- Accident & Sickness Coverage
- Other Possible Benefits*
 - Research Allowance
 - Tuition
 - Language Lessons
 - Enhancement Activities
 - Disability-Related Accommodations

* Varies, dependent on grant and host country



THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

Leaders for the world's future

- Established in 1902
- 2-3 years of post-bacc. study at University of Oxford
- Pays all tuition, fees, travel and stipend
- 32 awarded annually
- 16 U.S. districts select two scholars each
- Eligible: seniors or recent graduates; US citizens

RHODES: CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

1. Literary and scholastic attainment
2. Energy to use one's talents to the full, as exemplified by fondness for and success in sports
3. Truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness, and fellowship
4. Moral force of character and instincts to lead and to take an interest in one's fellow beings

Goals:

- Enables intellectually distinguished Americans to study in the U.K.
- Long term (2-3 years) nature allows for total immersion in one field of study or for scholars to pursue two degrees at the same time
- Helps scholars gain an understanding and appreciation of contemporary Britain
- Motivate scholars to act as ambassadors from America to the UK and vice versa throughout their lives thus strengthening British American understanding.
- Promote the personal and academic fulfillment of each scholar

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP: APPLICATION

- 1,000 word personal essay
- Identification of at least 2 graduate degree programs in which you are specifically interested and with whom you have made preliminary contact. Programs may be one, two, or three years in length.
- An essay detailing the reasons for selecting these academic programs and why they need to be pursued in the U.K.
- Essay describing your reasons for studying in the UK and how you will participate in the community
- 4 letters of recommendation

MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP

Named to honor former US Senator George Mitchell's pivotal contribution to the Northern Ireland peace process, this scholarship is designed to connect generations of future American leaders to the island of Ireland, while recognizing and fostering intellectual achievement, leadership, and a commitment to community and public service.



MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP

- Up to 12 selected, ages 18-30
- One year of post-graduate study in any discipline offered by institutions of higher education in Ireland and Northern Ireland
- Provides tuition, accommodations, living expenses and stipend, and an international travel stipend



MITCHELL: SELECTION CRITERIA

Scholarship: Academic excellence and intellectual distinction. Although no minimum GPA is required, a prospective candidate must have the academic ability and preparation to success in a postgraduate program.

Leadership: An outstanding record of leadership that may be evidenced through a variety of activities and accomplishments. These efforts may be on –or off- campus, local, regional, or global.

Commitment to Community and Public Service: A record of and sustained commitment to service and community, on-campus, locally, nationally, or internationally.

MITCHELL: APPLICATION

- Identification of at least three one-year graduate programs in Ireland and/or Northern Ireland
- 1,000 word personal essay describing your background, educational and professional goals. Make a case for how spending a year in the program will help you achieve your goals, as well as fulfill Mitchell's mission of promoting cultural understanding
- 5 letters of recommendation

In October 2000 the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donated \$220 million to the University of Cambridge, establishing the Gates Cambridge Trust. This is the largest single donation to a UK university.

Gates Cambridge Scholarships are highly competitive full-cost scholarships awarded to outstanding applicants from outside the UK to pursue a full-time graduate degree in any subject available at the University of Cambridge.

Criteria:

- Intellectual ability
- Leadership capacity
- Desire to use knowledge to *contribute to society throughout the world* by providing service to communities and applying talents and knowledge to improve the lives of others

Applicants must gain admission to the University of Cambridge.

GATES CAMBRIDGE: APPLICATION

- You must apply for admission as a postgraduate student to the University of Cambridge and a Gates Cambridge Scholarship at the same time, using the one application pack.
- To be considered for postgraduate admission and a Gates Cambridge Scholarship all applicants must submit the following documents to the Graduate Admissions Office:
 - GRADSAF application form (which includes a Gates Cambridge section)
 - Academic transcripts
 - 2 academic references
 - 1 personal reference (for the Gates Cambridge Scholarship)
 - Personal Statement

ENDORSEMENT

- Candidates for the Rhodes, Marshall and Mitchell Scholarships must be endorsed by the College. Fulbright is optional but strongly recommended.
- Prospective candidates must meet with Dean Almeida and Kris Silva no later than May 1st of their junior year to assess their potential candidacy.
- Only candidates officially approved by Dean Almeida will be permitted to prepare an application.
- Those selected will work with Dean Almeida and Kris Silva to complete their application over the summer in preparation for the final submission no later than September 5th.
- All candidates will be interviewed by a review committee who will make the final determination as to which ones will be forwarded on to the national level.
- Interested candidates should consult the scholarship website for information on the type of academic programs available and links to University websites. Students must have an academic profile that makes them admissible to one of the top Universities in the world.

APPLICATION TIMELINE



Notify Dean Almeida of Intent to Apply

By Last Day of Classes

Design Project,
Prepare Application

May - September



Campus Interviews

September

Application Deadline

October

National Screening Committees

Nov / Dec

Commissions/Embassies
Foreign Scholarship Board

Jan - May

Final Notification

March - June

OTHER AWARDS

International Relations/D.C.

- **Carnegie Junior Fellowship** (Sr, Grad)
 - Paid, full-time, 1-year position
 - Strong research and writing skills
- **Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellowship** (Sr, Grad)
 - 6-9 months working in D.C. with non-profit public interest organizations
- **Rangel/Payne/Pickering Int'l Affairs Fellowships** (Sr, Grad)
 - Interest in career in Foreign Service
 - Tuition for 2-year Master's program
 - Summer internships in DC
 - Foreign service employment opportunities

OTHER AWARDS

STEM

- **Hertz Foundation Graduate Fellowship** (Sr, Grad)
 - Pursuing Ph.D. in applied physical, biological, engineering sciences
 - Funds cost of education - new technologies and discoveries
- **Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship** (Senior)
 - 10 week summer program
 - Dept. of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy
- **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship** (Sr, Grad)
 - Pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees
 - Funds cost of education and stipend

OTHER AWARDS

Graduate School

- **James Madison Fellowship** (Sr, Grad)
 - Interest in teaching American Constitution at secondary level
 - Graduate fellowship to study Constitution
- **Soros Fellowship for New Americans** (Sr, Grad)
 - Naturalized citizens or children of
 - Funds Master's degree
- **Davies-Jackson Scholarship** (Senior)
 - First in your family to graduate from college
 - 2-year B.A. program at St. John's College, Univ. of Cambridge
- **Schwarzman Scholars** (Senior)
 - Study at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China

OTHER AWARDS

International

- **Critical Language Scholarship** (Sr, Grad-enrolled)
 - 7-10 week summer study abroad
 - Study critical language: Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Turkish, etc.
- **Global Health Corps** (Sr, Grad)
 - Interest in global health equity
 - Yearlong paid fellowship; International and US sites
- **Humanity in Action** (Sr, Grad)
 - 5-week summer fellowship in Amsterdam, Berlin, Copenhagen, Paris and Warsaw
- **Post Graduate Service** (Sr, Grad)

BASIC CRITERIA AND BASIS FOR EVALUATION

- ✓ Academic Record
- ✓ Activities
- ✓ Personal Statement
- ✓ Essay(s)
- ✓ Letters of Recommendation
- ✓ Transcript

ACADEMIC RECORD/TRANSCRIPTS

- GPA *in context*
- Grade trends
- Appropriate curriculum
- Awards and publications
 - Prior awards imply motivation, merit
 - Independent work is important, regardless of major
 - Bonus: presented at conferences, published in journals (pending), engaged in substantial research
- Transcript: Request from Registrar's Office through website

ACTIVITIES: RESUME/CV

- Work experience
- Academic experience (e.g. research, teaching)
- Community and public service
- Leadership roles
- Awards, honors, special recognitions

ACTIVITIES: LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Sustained commitment
- Reflects values, interests
- Service will continue
- Service beyond campus
- Self-starter
- Outcomes, not titles

ACTIVITIES: INTERNSHIPS AND WORK

- Relevance matters
- Highlight level of responsibility
- Quantify outcomes
- Show progression

PERSONAL STATEMENT AND ESSAYS

- Opportunity to stand out
- Keep the audience in mind
- Give yourself plenty of time
- Organize your thoughts
- Answer the question that is asked
- Convey your goals *and* your personality!
- Create a strong opening and closing
- Write to inform not to impress
- We will provide critique

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Whom to ask? Credible and Relevant!
 - Would the audience respect this person?
 - Is this person's area of expertise relevant?
 - Has this person had relevant interactions?
- Best Practices
 - Approach well in advance (4 weeks minimum)
 - Allow them to say 'no'
 - Explain why you've asked
 - Provide
 - Information on award
 - Detailed instructions on submission
 - Resume/CV; drafts of statements or description of motivation
 - Have letters submitted to Dean Almeida for review
 - Say 'thank you'!!

TRANSCRIPTS

- Transcripts must be requested in writing from the Registrar's Office
- Link on Registrar's website to [request form](#)
- There is no charge
- This request can take time, so make sure you request this well in advance of the deadline.

VALUE OF THE PROCESS

- Stronger sense of who you are
- Clearer sense of your long-term goals and plans
- Strengthens written and oral communication skills
- Personal growth is important to your future success, regardless of the path you choose

OUR ROLE

- Publicize scholarship/fellowship opportunities
- Identify potential applicants
- Provide guidance in preparing written application
- Provide guidance to referees
- Provide instruction in interview strategy
- Organize campus selection committees
- Coordinate campus nomination processes

YOUR ROLE

- Read our emails
- Meet with us
- Research the programs and criteria thoroughly
- Comply with the established deadlines
- Be open to feedback
- Work with a faculty member
- Have your resume reviewed in Career Services
- Follow our advice!

CONTACT

Craig Almeida

Dean of Academic Achievement

Duffy 134

508-565-1840

calmeida@stonehill.edu

Kris Silva

Nationally Prestigious Awards Advisor

Cushing-Martin 135

508-565-1559

ksilva@stonehill.edu