**Fellowships Program Information Sheet – Knight-Hennessy Scholarship**

Updated: August 20, 2019

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| 1. Award | Graduate school funding (fully fund 3 years) in any graduate school discipline at Stanford University, plus dedicated leadership program and cross-disciplinary networking for Knight-Hennessy Scholars. Denning House, a new purpose built structure at the heart of the Stanford campus, is home to the Knight-Hennessy Scholars community. | Starting place on the Knight-Hennessy website.  
Note (“All Graduate Programs at Stanford” section) that if degree exceeds 3 years, Stanford home department may award financial aid for balance using its standard funding criteria. |
| 2. Eligibility | All nationalities, apply during final year of study or within 5 years of earning your first/bachelor’s degree, all disciplines, very high GPA. You must meet the eligibility requirements of the Stanford graduate degree program to which you will apply separately. | Eligibility.  
Application for awards is extremely competitive. In its inaugural year, 3600 applications were received for up to 50 awards, and in its second, 4,424 applications for 69 awards (a 1.6% acceptance rate). |
| 3. Timing | Seniors may submit an application in the fall of senior year. Interested juniors and alumnae seeking Smith Fellowships Program advising should make contact as early in the spring semester preceding application as possible. You must apply separately to the Stanford graduate program that interests you. Note that graduate school application deadlines may be brought forward by an application to the Knight-Hennessy Scholars Prg. | -Electronic application opens May 1, and the external application deadline is early-October.  
-Details of application requirements.  
-**Sign up to stay in touch with Knight-Hennessy** and receive a notice when the application opens.  
-Links to 7 Stanford graduate schools. |
| 4. Selection Criteria | Phil Knight: “We’re seeking Scholars who can out-think, out-work, and out-care others.” In 2019 Knight-Hennessy aims to select 80-90 scholars and from 2020 up to 100 scholars per year. The program is looking for independent thinking, purposeful leadership, and a civic mindset. Share this advice for letter writers with the individuals who will provide you a reference for this program. | Selection criteria.  
Note that finalists (probably ~150 of applicants) will be invited to visit Stanford (at the program’s expense) for an Immersion Weekend February. |
| 5. Smith Role | Applicants are required to have two letters of recommendation from writers who know you well and are in a position to assess your leadership experience and potential. Smith offers an optional endorsement letter to applicants who are or were Smith undergraduates. The endorsement process adds value to your application if Dr. Lamb and other mentors or advisors know your plans well. Therefore, an early start to Knight-Hennessy advising is essential. | Pay close attention to #5 discussion of your “Two recommendation letters” |
| 6. Fun fact(s) | The first cohort (2018) of 49 students includes 57% women, 12% first generation college students (23% of those selected from the US), 67% of doctoral students in engineering, 63% non-US passport holders. | Inaugural cohort press release. Second cohort press release. 30% of the second cohort are international students; 48% are women.  
Brief biographies. |
| 7. How to get started | Register for an in person or online information session organized by Knight-Hennessy. Contact Dr. Margaret Lamb for an in person or video discussion. | Details: Knight-Hennessy information sessions.  
Contact advisor to discuss: mlamb@smith.edu 413-585-2580. |