Fellowships Program Information Sheet – Spring Application for Support

Updated: October 28, 2020

Where nomination or endorsement is required ("Smith support"), we work with others on campus to make selections and provide campus support for our endorsed candidates. Our review and selection process serves two purposes:

• We nominate or endorse only candidates who meet the selection criteria of the awards; and
• We help candidates understand their competitiveness for the awards and the preparation process for making strong applications.

Smith will nominate or endorse candidates who demonstrate that they can be competitive applicants for particular awards, understand that the odds are long for actually receiving an award, and are eager to learn from the application process itself.

Where no endorsement is required, but application requirements are similar and competition is intense (the principal awards in this category are also listed here), we offer advising to well qualified candidates (also “Smith support”).

Applying for a Nomination:

Make your internal Application for Smith College Support using the form here: appln4support or scan the QR link here to the right to reach the internal application

Here’s what the internal application involves:

All questions — Example of email applicant gets — Example of email recommender gets

Talk with your advisers before you apply for nomination. In particular, make sure that the person you ask for a recommendation knows you are applying, why, and what you hope the fellowship will permit you to do.

To help you understand what we mean by “competitive,” the data listed in red above are the approximate percentage of awards to applications.

All awards listed are open to US citizens. Individuals with other nationalities may apply for Rhodes, Gates Cambridge, and Knight-Hennessy.

Once you apply for nomination:

Your application for nomination will reviewed and you will receive feedback on your competitiveness for the awards you list. You may be invited to meet members of a nomination and endorsement committee for a short interview. Further information about interview arrangements (by Zoom meeting or via InterviewStream for candidates off-campus) will be provided by email. Candidates who are given a “green light” (enthusiastic encouragement) or a “yellow light” (qualified encouragement) will have the opportunity to prepare applications during the summer. Final confirmation of applications endorsed by the college will follow late August/early September review.

Fellowships Requiring Spring Application for Smith Support:

External applications are made in summer and fall. Percentages in red indicate approximate rate of awards/applications.

UK graduate fellowships requiring nomination or endorsement

Churchill –STEM juniors and seniors apply for 2 Smith nominations– foundation weblink – information sheet – ~12%

Marshall –juniors, seniors, and recent alums apply for endorsement – foundation weblink – information sheet -- ~5%

Mitchell –juniors apply for endorsement – foundation weblink – information sheet – ~4%

Note: Endorsement letters are required only for current students. Recent graduates are encouraged to engage in the endorsement process as the first step in kicking off application preparation and advising.
Rhodes – juniors, seniors, and recent alums apply for endorsement – foundation weblink – information sheet – ~3%

Special Note re Fulbright Postgraduate Study Awards
– if your UK graduate fellowship interests might be pursued via a Fulbright Graduate Degree Grant (1 year), juniors and seniors are encouraged to talk with Margaret Lamb or Andrew Dausch about application, endorsement, and support
– UK Fulbright weblink – US Fulbright Student Program (UK awards) -- Smith Fulbright Fast Track Program – roughly 4% all UK competitions, but % varies award to award

UK graduate fellowship of comparable competitiveness

Gates Cambridge (open to all nationalities except UK) – juniors and seniors encouraged to apply for support
– foundation weblink – information sheet – <4% (US applicants), <2% (all applicants)
Note: Endorsement is not required. Interested juniors and seniors are encouraged to engage in the endorsement process as the first step in kicking off application preparation and advising. Knight-Hennessy does not permit recent alumnae beyond application year graduates to be endorsed; our support is available.

Stanford University graduate school applicants

Knight-Hennessy (optional endorsement) – foundation weblink – information sheet -- <2% (global applicants)
-- juniors and seniors may apply for optional endorsement – program weblink – information sheet
Note: Under Knight-Hennessy Program rules, endorsement letters are an option only for current students or just graduated applicants. Other alumnae may apply but without an endorsement.

Special instructions for completing the Application for Support form:

• Churchill, Gates Cambridge (STEM fields) – Use the research prompt to provide a summary of your research presentations and publications (including those currently in ms. form). In addition, attach as your “additional materials” (Q6.5 in the application for nomination), a 2pp pdf research statement: 1p summary of your most significant research to date (include details of what the research is/was, why it is significant, what you did, what you learned), followed by a 1p statement of the research you would like to pursue at Cambridge.

• Marshall, Mitchell, Rhodes, Gates Cambridge (non-STEM fields), Knight-Hennessy – Attach as your “additional materials” (Q6.5 in the application for nomination) in pdf format: a 1p summary of one particular piece of work (meaning, for example, research, writing, painting, production, or performance) that demonstrates your readiness for the graduate study that will be integral to your fellowship application(s), followed by a 1 p summary of one path you can imagine taking to reach your career goals.

Deadlines:

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<tr>
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<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Express your interest</td>
<td>Monday, March 23, 2020</td>
<td>Monday, April 20, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in applying for any</td>
<td>(email <a href="mailto:mlamb@smith.edu">mlamb@smith.edu</a>)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>of the awards listed</td>
<td>Monday, March 30, 2020</td>
<td>Friday, May 1, 2020</td>
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<td>on this sheet</td>
<td>(appln4support)</td>
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**You are strongly encouraged to participate in Round 1: We will schedule feedback panels for the first round.**

Summary of deadlines that will apply if you are encouraged to proceed to prepare external applications (and information about what the deadlines mean).

Margaret Lamb
mlamb@smith.edu