



PRE-APPLICATION FOR RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

for Students in the School of General Studies • Columbia University

The Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest international fellowship. The grant covers tuition, fees, and maintenance costs for two years of study leading to a degree at Oxford University. Students seriously interested in applying for a Rhodes Scholarship should familiarize themselves with the criteria and qualifications for the Rhodes by checking the following website: www.rhodesscholar.org. An institutional recommendation is required for the Rhodes, so you must submit this pre-application on time in order to be eligible to participate in the Columbia University screening process.

Eligibility requirements

- ❑ U.S. Citizen; students from Commonwealth countries are also eligible, but they must apply through their home countries.
- ❑ Senior Class standing in Fall 2008.
- ❑ Cumulative GPA of no less than 3.6.
- ❑ Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 24.

General Information

- The Rhodes Scholarships, the oldest international fellowship, were initiated after the death of Cecil Rhodes in 1902, and now bring outstanding students from many countries around the world to the University of Oxford.
- Thirty-two Rhodes Scholars are chosen each year from among those nominated by selection committees in each of the fifty states.
- Rhodes Scholars are appointed for two years of study at the University of Oxford, with the possibility of renewal for a third year. Rhodes Scholars will not be allowed to pursue a one-year degree at Oxford except after successfully completing a two-year degree or unless it is the required first element of a doctoral degree program.
- There are no restrictions as to the academic field of study. The proposed course of study must be available at Oxford and the applicant's undergraduate program must provide a sufficient basis for further study in the proposed field.
- After the District Committees have named the Rhodes Scholars, the Warren of Rhodes House in Oxford seeks places for them in the faculties and departments of the University and its colleges. Winners of the Rhodes Scholarship do not need to apply directly to Oxford.
- Funding: All educational costs – matriculation, tuition, laboratory and certain fees – are provided by the Rhodes Trustees. In addition, the scholarship provides a maintenance allowance of no less than 735 British Pounds and traveling expenses to and from Oxford. Additional funds for research needs or study-related travel are available upon application and approval of the Rhodes Trust.

Qualities Sought in a Rhodes Scholar

In appointing Rhodes Scholars, the selectors will look for qualities that Cecil Rhodes expressly listed in order to define the type of scholar he desired. Proven intellectual and academic achievement of high standard is the first quality required of applicants, but they will also be required to show integrity of character, interest and respect for their fellow beings, the ability to lead, and the energy to use their talents to the full.

The Preliminary Application Process

- Find out about Oxford University and its individual programs of study (www.ox.ac.uk). The Rhodes application requires a focused academic proposal. Find out how Oxford University and its approach to learning best meets your interests.
- Hand your Rhodes Pre-application in on-time.
If your Pre-application shows you meet all the basic requirements, you will be given a green light to proceed along with information about upcoming application workshops that you must attend.

The purpose of this attached pre-application is to assist you in preparing your application in a timely and thorough way. Complete the application questionnaire; all answers should be typed, not hand-written.

Your GS pre-application must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, March 31, 2008. You may submit the application electronically to gsfellowships@columbia.edu; if sending electronically, the subject line should read: "Rhodes Pre-application" and the application itself should be sent as an attachment, not as the content of the email. You may also hand in a paper application to the Dean of Students Office by March 31. Put the application in an envelope addressed "Rhodes Pre-application" and hand-deliver the envelope to the Dean of Students Office, 403 Lewisohn Hall. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged on April 1; if for some reason we are unable to open an electronically submitted application, students will be notified that a paper copy must be dropped off in the office the next day.

Questions? Contact gsfellowships@columbia.edu.

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for Students in the School of General Studies, Columbia University

Name:

Columbia PID:

Columbia Email:

Main phone number:

Citizenship:

Current Mailing address:

GS Academic advisor:

Major(s):

Departmental advisor:

Concentration:

How many points of transfer credit have you been awarded by GS?

How many credit points have you completed at Columbia to date?

Total number of credit points to date:

Cumulative GPA at Columbia:

Combined GPA from all accredited institutions you have been enrolled in (including GS) toward a degree:

Previous accredited institutions where you have been enrolled toward a degree prior to matriculating at GS:

Other scholarships, fellowships, or grants for which you are applying:

Names and Affiliations of Proposed References for the Rhodes Scholarship:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

Knowledge of Academic Program and Local Contacts

Outline the results of the research you have done about the particular academic program(s) at Oxford you wish to pursue on a Rhodes Scholarship. Provide information relevant to the degree, department, program, pertinent courses and faculty members, and resources.

What local contacts have you made or do you plan to make at Oxford

How does this academic program at Oxford fit your academic ambitions and help you to fulfill the purpose of the Rhodes Fellowship?

What are the particular resources at Oxford or in England that are especially valuable, even invaluable, for your proposed research? (Be specific in mentioning primary source material accessibility or particular institutions critical to your academic project.)

Summary of Proposed Research

Explain the research project you propose to undertake while at Oxford.

What questions will you be asking as part of your research and how do these questions engage with the academic community within your field or discipline of study?

How has your academic background prepared you to follow this particular course of study at Oxford? Provide examples of current and past research or experience which are relevant or foundational to your proposed graduate research.

Key activities that demonstrate leadership

List activities or roles that demonstrate your leadership, volunteerism, and/or dedication to your field. Briefly elaborate on one of these to provide evidence of your dynamism and ability to be a leader.

Long term career goals.

What are your long term career goals?

How are the goals of the Rhodes program consistent with your own career goals?

What do you see as the unique core values of the Rhodes?