Applying for Institutional Endorsement at the University of Iowa

Many national scholarship and fellowship opportunities require that each prospective applicant go through a campus nomination competition before they are eligible for endorsement by their institution and for consideration by the sponsoring funding organization. At the University of Iowa, this process is coordinated by our Director of Scholar Development and supported by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and the UI Undergraduate Fellowships Committee (UFC), a diverse spectrum of faculty, staff, and past scholars whose relevant knowledge and experience strengthen the selection and preparation of our national and international candidates.

Each of the opportunities listed below requires that the University of Iowa conduct a preliminary campus nomination process to screen prospective fellowship applications prior to making our official nominations. Interested candidates MUST participate in the UFC’s internal selection processes, by submitting a complete campus application (typically a draft version of the official application) and in some cases, participating in mock interviews or social events to allow us a clearer sense of each applicant’s appropriateness for the designated competition. Each opportunity has its own timeline, application requirements and process, which are outlined in their individual profiles and can be found on Honors at Iowa’s website in the National Fellowships section of UI Scholarships & Fellowships.

Students who move forward from the first stage of applying as campus applicants to the next stage of representing the University of Iowa as institutional nominees are expected to work closely with the Director of Scholar Development and select UFC committee members, as well as with their own community of support – including faculty or research mentors, past scholars, and professional staff – to develop their ideas, draft their strongest application package and prepare for interview experiences.

The UI Undergraduate Fellowships Committee serves as the official nominating body for the following fellowship opportunities:

- Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship
- Harry S. Truman Scholarship
- Beinecke Scholarship
- Rhodes Scholarship
- Udall Scholarship
- Marshall Scholarship
- George Mitchell Scholarship
- Winston Churchill Scholarship
- Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Arts Award
- Carnegie Junior Fellows Program

National Fellowship Opportunities Supported by the Director of Scholar Development
Students are able to apply directly to the fellowship programs listed below, but are strongly encouraged to let us know of their intent to apply and to connect with the Director of Scholar Development and with available application development resources and support.

- National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship (NDSEG)
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP)
- Gates Cambridge Scholarship
- Hertz Fellowship
- James Madison Memorial Fellowship
- Humanity in Action Fellowship
- Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship
- Paul and Daisy Soros Scholarship for New Americans
- Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship

Interested students at the University of Iowa should contact Kelly Thornburg, Director of Scholar Development at 319-335-1874 or kelly-thornburg@uiowa.edu to schedule a conference.