

**THE GATES CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP** is one of the most prestigious international scholarships in the world. The program was established in 2000 by a donation of US \$210 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to the University of Cambridge – the largest ever single donation to a UK university. While at Cambridge, Scholars pursue full range of subjects available at the University and are spread throughout its departments and Colleges. Gates Cambridge alumni are pursuing further study or employment across many sectors of society. Despite the relative youth of the program, Gates Cambridge Alumni are increasingly taking on leadership roles and applying their knowledge and skills to improve the lives of others. Gates Cambridge Scholarships are highly competitive full-cost scholarships. They are awarded to outstanding applicants from countries outside the UK to pursue a full-time postgraduate degree in any subject available at the University of Cambridge.



**To be eligible for the GATES CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP, you must:**

- ✓ be a citizen of any country outside the United Kingdom,
- ✓ applying to pursue one of the following full-time residential courses of study PhD (three year research-only degree), MSc or MLitt (two year research-only degree), One year postgraduate course (e.g. MPhil, LLM, MAST, MBA, etc.)

**What are selectors looking for in applicants?**

There is no one template for a Gates Cambridge Scholar: each Scholar is different and brings something unique to the programme. But The Trust is looking for four key criteria:

✓ **A good fit with Cambridge**

You should be able to persuade the Trust that your qualifications and aspirations accord with what Cambridge has to offer in its postgraduate programme. It is important that you can make a convincing argument for doing a particular postgraduate degree at Cambridge. It is therefore important that you fully research your proposed degree using the Graduate Studies Prospectus and the website of the department to which you are applying.

**Gates Cambridge Scholars from the University of Iowa**

- Allison Kindig, 2015**
- Emily Alden, 2008**
- Garth Strohbehn, 2008**
- William Liechty, 2007**
- Hans Friedrichsen, 2005**

✓ **Academic excellence**

Gates Cambridge Scholars are expected to be academically outstanding with the ability to make a significant contribution to their discipline while in Cambridge. At the start of the application process, potential Scholars are ranked by the department they are applying to. Only the most outstanding candidates are considered further.

✓ **Leadership potential**

Successful applicants must be able to demonstrate a clear ability to lead. Evidence of leadership can be expressed in a multitude of ways but the capacity of Gates Cambridge Scholars to 'take others with them' is central to the success of the programme.

✓ **A commitment to improving the lives of others**

A defining characteristic of the Gates Cambridge Scholarships is the commitment of our Scholars to working for the greater good. Although broadly interpreted, this concept is nonetheless fundamental and sets this programme apart from others of its kind.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### ROUND 1 | US CITIZENS RESIDING IN THE US

- Mid-October – Fall 2016** | University of Cambridge/Gates Cambridge Application Deadline
- 14 Days after submitting application** | Deadline for supporting documents and references
- Early February 2017** | Finalist Interviews are held in Washington DC
- Spring 2017** | Fellowships offered



Allison Kindig, the U of I's 2015 Gates Cambridge Scholar (Back row, second from left) with her GC Scholar Class in September 2015.

### ROUND 2 | CITIZENS OF COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE US (except UK), US citizens normally residing outside the USA

- Early December 2016** | Application Deadline
- 14 Days after submitting application** | Deadline for supporting documents and references
- Late March 2017** | Interviews in Cambridge, UK

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## EACH APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:

- GRADSAF application form** (which includes a Gates Cambridge section),
- copies of all academic transcripts,**
- Two academic references** (required for admission to the University of Cambridge),
- and an additional personal reference** (required by the Gates Trust).

Thank you for your interest in the Gates Cambridge Scholarship. In my role as the Director of Scholar Development, I am available to offer tailored support and expert resources to:

...**students** as you consider how specific scholarship and fellowship opportunities can support your larger intellectual, professional, and creative goals and

...**applicants** as you craft original essays, personal statements, research proposals, build reciprocal relationships with faculty and community mentors, and prepare for individual and group interview experiences

Establishing an early connection to available scholar development resources, workshop opportunities and one-on-one fellowship advising to students serves everyone involved in this challenging and rewarding process. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact me as soon as you are aware of your interest in an opportunity at [kelly-thornburg@uiowa.edu](mailto:kelly-thornburg@uiowa.edu).

See what is out there and what you could do...Follow [uihpfellows](#) on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Tumblr](#).