

**Scholar Development and
Fellowships Advising**

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Rhodes Scholarship

Updated May 8, 2017

Website: [Rhodes Scholarship](#)

Campus Contact: Barbara Gorka, barbara.gorka@temple.edu, 215 204 0708

Internal Deadline: July 15 annually

Award Description:

The Rhodes Scholarships are the oldest and most celebrated international fellowship awards in the world. Each year 32 young Americans are selected as Rhodes Scholars, through a decentralized process representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Rhodes Scholarships are tenable at the University of Oxford, and are normally held for two years, the duration of most masters' degrees and bachelors' degrees for those who already have another bachelor's degree, or for three years, the duration of many doctorates. Scholars may do two one-year taught master's degrees, the second subject to a satisfactory outcome to the first year, but may not receive a third year's funding.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

Open to U.S. citizens and permanent residents (see [Rhodes website](#) for permanent resident eligibility requirements). Applicants must be at least 18 but not yet 24 at the time of application. Rhodes Scholars are chosen not only for their outstanding scholarly achievements, but for their character, commitment to others and to the common good, and for their potential for leadership in whatever domains their careers may lead. The average GPA of recipients is typically about a 3.9.

Internal Application Instructions and Checklist:

The Rhodes scholarship **requires institutional nomination**. Applications made directly to the awarding body will not be considered.

Students interested in applying to be among Temple University's institutional nominees are encouraged to meet with Barbara Gorka (barbara.gorka@temple.edu) by May 31 to express the intent to apply.

Submit the following documents to Fellowships Advising at barbara.gorka@temple.edu or feladv@temple.edu by July 15.

_____ **Campus Waiver and Agreement.** Complete the [online agreement](#). (Temple alumni without an active TU ID should request a paper version from barbara.gorka@temple.edu or feladv@temple.edu.)

_____ **Three Letters of Recommendation.** Writers should send letters of support to Barbara Gorka (barbara.gorka@temple.edu) as a PDF attachment by July 15. Two of these should be submitted by individuals from whom you have received undergraduate or graduate instruction, and at least one letter should speak to your character. Letters should address the qualities sought by the Rhodes commission: outstanding scholarly achievements, character, commitment to others and to the common good, and potential for leadership in whatever domains their careers may lead. Please be sure to discuss the scholarship and its criteria with your recommenders when you request letters. (Note that if selected as a nominee, you will need five to eight letters of recommendation.) You may want to send these [Temple letter-writing guidelines](#) to your references.

_____ **Resume/CV**

_____ **Transcripts.** Submit (to Fellowships Advising) an unofficial copy of your Temple transcript or academic record as a PDF. If you earned transfer credit for work at a previous institution, summer school, or study abroad (on a non-Temple program), please provide an unofficial transcript as a PDF.

_____ **Short Essays**

Proposed academic program. State your first-choice university and program to which you intend to apply, explain your choice, and briefly indicate why you are a suitable candidate for the program. (250 words)

Leadership. Describe a situation in which you recognized and responded to a need for leadership. (250 words)

Community or public service. Describe the most significant community or public service experience in which you have been involved over the course of your undergraduate studies. (250 words)

_____ **Personal Statement.** Provide a personal statement describing your academic and other interests. The statement should describe the specific area of proposed study and your reasons for wishing to study at Oxford. Per the Rhodes instructions, the personal statement “should be written in as simple and direct a manner as possible. It should be set in a typeface no smaller than 10 points.” Note that you will be asked to attest that the essay is entirely your own work. (1000 words)