

# APPLYING FOR THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

*“No one imagined someone like me would ever be here.”*

## WHY APPLY?

**Over 100 Rhodes Scholars are selected annually from countries around the world. They are young women and men from diverse backgrounds and interests who show potential to be public-spirited leaders for the world's future.**

## RHODES SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection in each Rhodes constituency is by committees comprised of Rhodes alumni and distinguished non-Scholar members of the community. The selection criteria are:

- literary and scholastic attainments
- energy to use one's talents to the full
- truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship
- moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in one's fellow beings.

*The Rhodes Trust warmly welcomes applications from talented young women and men of diverse backgrounds. Selection of Rhodes Scholars is made without regard to gender, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, colour, religion, social background, caste, or disability.*

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

The following eligibility criteria apply to all applicants for the Rhodes Scholarships:

- **Citizenship & residency:** Each applicant must fulfil the citizenship and residency requirements of the Rhodes constituency for which they are applying.
- **Age:** Age limits vary between constituencies and are based on country specific circumstances. The standard age limit is 19-25 by 1 October in the year following selection or less than 28 years for those with a medical degree.
- **Education:** All applicants must have achieved academic standing sufficiently advanced to assure completion of a bachelor's degree by the October following election. Academic standing must be sufficiently high to ensure admission to the University of Oxford, which has very competitive entry requirements, and to give confidence that Rhodes Scholars will perform to a high academic standard in Oxford. Individual constituencies may specify a specific academic level to have been attained.



*“It was the moment  
my life changed.”*

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### 1. Application to the Scholarship:

Applications for Rhodes Scholarships open during the summer of the preceding year.

All candidates for the Scholarship should read the information about the Scholarships applicable globally, and then proceed to their country-specific page.

#### In broad terms, all constituencies will require the following materials in differing forms:

- Evidence of academic record/transcript (complete or in progress) of undergraduate degree and any postgraduate study
- Curriculum vitae/resumé or list of principal activities
- Personal statement or essay (including, crucially, a clear statement of what the applicant wishes to study at Oxford and why)
- Evidence of age/birth certificate/passport
- English Language proficiency (where English is not the first language)
- Photograph (not visible to selectors until after short-listing)
- List of referees (several are required) who can attest in confidential references to the character and intellect of the applicant, including academic, personal, extra-curricular and leadership achievements.

### 2. Choice of course in the University of Oxford:

Subject to limited restrictions, Rhodes Scholars may read for any full-time postgraduate degree (including the BA with senior status over two years) at the University of Oxford. The basic tenure of the Scholarship is two years, subject always, and at all times, to satisfactory academic performance and personal conduct.

**For the full listing of degrees offered by the University of Oxford, visit [www.ox.ac.uk](http://www.ox.ac.uk).**

At the discretion of the Trustees, the Scholarship may be extended for a third year for those who take a recognised route to the DPhil. See the *Conditions of Tenure* on the Rhodes Trust website: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk)

#### Note to applicants

*Successful candidates will be asked to provide original copies of academic transcripts (and other supporting documents as required). References may be checked during application review, and any applications deemed fraudulent will be rejected. Authors of fraudulent applications will be pursued to the full extent possible under the law.*

*A Rhodes Scholarship is confirmed once a successful candidate has been offered a place in a Department or Faculty of the University of Oxford and in a college.*

