

online by 23:59 GMT, 31 August 2021. Applicants can track the progress of their references within the application form.

- ix. Please note that your referees may be contacted for further information.
- k. Please do not upload documents, certificates, testimonials or links / URL's other than those required.
- l. All applications must be submitted online. No alternate method of application is accepted. There is no application fee for submission of the Rhodes Scholarship application form.

Selection Procedure

- a. Selection for the Rhodes Scholarship is made without regard to financial means.
- b. Selection for the Rhodes Scholarship is made without regard to marital status, race, ethnic origin, colour, gender, religion, sexual orientation, social background, disability, caste or other irrelevant distinction. The provision of such information in the 'Outreach' section of the application form is optional, but helps us to ensure that our selection processes are fair and that our outreach efforts are effective; those involved in selection will only see summary statistics of these responses in an anonymised format that cannot be tracked back to the individual.
- c. You are applying for a Rhodes Scholarship for entry to the University of Oxford in October 2022; the scholarship cannot be deferred.
- d. The Rhodes Scholarship is confirmed only upon successful admission to the University of Oxford.
- e. No selection will be made if a sufficiently qualified candidate cannot be found.
- f. The decision of the Selection Committee is final.

Procedure after Selection

- a. Please note that successful applicants will need to apply to the University of Oxford very soon after selection. Full details will be given upon selection, however candidates who intend to apply for a course in Medical Sciences and Engineering should note the graduate application deadline is now 3rd December 2021.
- b. The full application of successful candidates will be accessible to Rhodes House, Oxford, where the Scholarship references can be re-used, if appropriate, in support of the successful candidate's subsequent application to the University of Oxford.
- c. Applicants invited to the final interview or newly-selected Scholars who are intending to do a second BA at Oxford can obtain an application form from the Registrar at Rhodes House (registrar@rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk). The completed form must reach the Registrar by **no later than noon GMT Friday 26 November 2021**. Depending on the timing of the final Rhodes Scholarship interviews, candidates must either make a quick submission immediately following selection or they will need to submit the completed form ahead of the final interview. Candidates who are firm in their choice of a second BA may wish to maximise their chances of admittance onto the course by applying via UCAS ahead of the UCAS mid-October deadline. If you miss both the UCAS and the Rhodes deadline for the second BA application, the chances of successful admittance to the University of Oxford to study a second BA with senior status are slim.
- d. Successful candidates will be encouraged to disclose, in confidence, any medical condition or special needs which may require academic or personal support in Oxford. This disclosure is entirely voluntary and is requested only to enable Rhodes House to provide suitable support in Oxford and to make the transition to Oxford as smooth as possible.

The Rhodes Trust may contact you some time after the submission deadline to ask for feedback on the application process and any interactions you have had with the Rhodes Trust staff and volunteers.

Please note – before starting an online Rhodes Scholarship application you should be aware of the Rhodes Trust data protection policy for applications: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/pages/personal-data-cookies/>.

Glossary of terms:

Jurisdiction: See Rhodes Constituency below.

District / Regional / State Secretary: Some constituencies conduct selection by region / district / state / territory. In those cases, the regional selection process is managed by a district / regional secretary, who will oversee outreach, queries, shortlisting and final interviews. Selection across the constituency is still overseen by the National Secretary (see below).

National Secretary: There is one National Secretary for each Rhodes constituency. The National Secretaries oversee the selection process, from outreach, to applicant queries, to shortlisting and final selection. Most National Secretaries will also sit on the Selection Committee, although where a National Secretary oversees multiple regions this may not always be possible. For National Secretary contact details please see the '[Apply](#)' webpage and select the appropriate constituency.

Rhodes constituency: A Rhodes constituency is a country, a group of countries, and/or territories, and/or states for the purposes of administering scholarships. The list of Rhodes constituencies and the countries they cover (where relevant) can be found here: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-constituencies/>

Second BA (with Senior Status): All Rhodes Scholarship candidates will have already completed, or will be about to complete, an undergraduate degree. Successful candidates can apply to do a second undergraduate degree at Oxford University over two years (i.e. with Senior Status). Senior Status is the only basis on which a Rhodes Scholar may pursue an undergraduate degree. Further details can be found [here](#). Please note you can apply for your Oxford BA to be converted to an MA after a few years (see the 'When do graduates become eligible for the MA' question [here](#)). Second BA applications have an early deadline – see the 'Procedure after Selection' instructions above.

Selection Committee: The selection committees conduct the final interviews and make the decisions that lead to the selection of the Rhodes Scholars. The committee will include Senior Rhodes Scholars and distinguished members of the community representing a diverse range of interests and experience.

Useful Links:

An explanation of the types of graduate degrees at Oxford University can be found here:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/introducing-our-courses?wssl=1>

Rhodes House Website: <http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk>

Which Rhodes Scholarship? guidance: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/which-scholarship/>

Guidance on completing your application: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/application-overview/>

Conditions of Tenure: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/files/conditions-of-tenure>

Data protection statement: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/pages/personal-data-cookies/>

Rhodes constituencies list: <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-countries/>

(Please note, that if your country is not listed in the above link, you may be eligible to apply for a [Global Rhodes Scholarship](#))

University of Oxford English language proficiency: <http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/englishproficiency>

University of Oxford Graduate Admissions: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate>

For further information about the Rhodes Scholarship, see www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk

The Rhodes Trust reserves the right to vary these conditions at any time without notice – please visit <https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/apply/> for updates.

**THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP 2022: SYRIA, JORDAN, LEBANON & PALESTINE
& THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SAÏD FOUNDATION FOR SYRIA****GUIDANCE FOR REFEREES**

References must be written in English and **must be uploaded by 23:59 GMT, 31 August 2021**.

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a referee for one of the applicants for the Rhodes Scholarship. References form a crucial part of the selection process, and therefore your reference could make the difference to an applicant's success. The following notes are intended to serve as a guide as you write your reference.

Background Information

The Rhodes Scholarship programme is the oldest (established 1903), and perhaps the most prestigious, international scholarship programme in the world. Administered by the Rhodes Trust in Oxford, the programme offers 100 fully-funded Scholarships each year for postgraduate study at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom - one of the world's leading universities. Rhodes Scholarships are for young leaders of outstanding intellect and character who are motivated to engage with global challenges, committed to the service of others and show promise of becoming value-driven, principled leaders for the world's future. The broad selection criteria are:

- Academic excellence (First Class Honours or GPA of minimum 3.80 out of 4.00, or equivalent).
- Energy to use their talents to the full (as demonstrated by mastery in areas such as sports, music, debate, dance, theatre, and artistic pursuits, including where teamwork is involved).
- Truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship.
- Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in their fellow human beings.

The Committees are looking for outstanding young people who are motivated to engage with the global challenges facing humankind, who are committed to the service of others, and to the promotion of international understanding and peace. In short, candidates will be young people of **outstanding intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service**, who demonstrate a strong propensity to emerge as 'leaders for the world's future', wherever their careers might take them, and in any field. For further details, see: <http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/>.

The Rhodes Selection Committee will be grateful, therefore, if you would supply a frank and confidential statement regarding the applicant's qualifications. Your prompt response to the auto-generated email reference request will be of great assistance to the applicant and to the selection process.

The Selection Committee will have available for consideration a copy of the applicant's university academic transcript, curriculum vitae, and personal statement of academic interests, other pursuits, extracurricular activities and reasons for wishing to study at Oxford. Observations which would enhance the Committee's understanding of these records will be especially welcomed. **Your comments should not exceed two A4 pages (minimum 10 point type).**

A brief introduction of yourself would be helpful, including any connections that you have with the Rhodes Trust, Rhodes Scholars and also the University of Oxford (such connections are certainly not essential).

Proven intellectual and academic quality of a very high standard is the first quality required of applicants. However, and just as important, applicants will also be required to demonstrate integrity of character, interest in and respect for their fellow human beings, the ability to lead, the energy to use their talents to the full and the desire to make an effective contribution to the world around them as described above.

A Rhodes Scholar will undertake postgraduate study at Oxford, a taught or research degree, or a second undergraduate degree with senior status (over two years). In all cases, entry to Oxford is very competitive indeed.

The reference form will clarify which type of reference you have been asked to submit. Whether you have been asked to provide an academic reference, or a character/extra-curricular reference, it is not expected that you will be able to speak from first-hand knowledge of *all* the applicant's qualifications.

Academic referees: If you are primarily acquainted with the candidate through a teacher/student relationship, it is expected that your appraisal will concentrate first and primarily on academic quality and potential, although your assessment of other qualities will be welcomed by the Committee. **Academic referees should note that, in the case of a successful applicant, your letter will be used by Oxford departments and colleges for determining the Rhodes Scholar-elect's academic case for admission to postgraduate study.** Consequently, a detailed assessment of the candidate's academic qualifications and suitability to undertake Master's / doctoral level study at Oxford will be very important. Since the University of Oxford requires the following information from referees writing in support of graduate applicants, you are also asked to comment on:

- a. The applicant's relative academic standing in comparison with other students on the same course at the same institution – e.g. top 5%, 10%, 25%?
- b. How many students in the applicant's year group on their programme of study, i.e. with how many students are you comparing the applicant?
- c. On what basis are you making the assessment - personal assessment/official class rank?

Character referees: If, on the other hand, you are better acquainted with the applicant through non-academic interests, it is expected that you will concentrate on assessment of character and non-academic qualities, in the knowledge that the Committee is looking for scholars who show promise of outstanding achievement in later life.

Please speak of the applicant's limitations as well as strong points. Committees tend naturally to be dubious of appraisals that imply a given individual has no limitations. **Your reply will, of course, be treated as strictly confidential by the Selection Committee.**

All letters of recommendation for applicants should be addressed to the *Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee*. The Selection Committee (and subsequently the University of Oxford) asks **that your letter of recommendation be on headed paper, signed, and uploaded in pdf format.** You will receive an auto-generated email requesting the reference, which will contain instructions for completing and submitting your letter. As well as uploading your reference letter, you will be asked to complete some basic information about yourself and your relationship to the applicant. All letters of reference should be received via the online application system. **Please ensure that you press submit once you have completed the form.** Once you submit the reference both you and the applicant will receive an automated email to confirm receipt; the applicant will not be able to see the submitted reference, which will remain confidential. Please note that during the selection process referees may be contacted for further information.

Please note that Rhodes Scholarship referees should not be personal friends, contemporaries or relatives. If a referee fits into one of these categories, they should make the connection clear within the reference.

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