THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Covering the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories including Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam and Northern Mariana Islands

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES - for selection for 2023 only
(This Memorandum cancels those issued for previous years)

Background Information
The Rhodes Scholarships, established in 1903, are the oldest international scholarship programme in the world, and one of the most prestigious. Administered by the Rhodes Trust in Oxford, the programme offers over 100 fully-funded Scholarships each year for full-time 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 selection criteria are:

- Academic excellence – specific academic requirements can be found under ‘Eligibility Criteria’ below.
- Energy to use your talents to the full (as demonstrated by success 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, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship.
- Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in your fellow human beings.

Please see the Scholarships area of the Rhodes Trust website for full details: www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/the-rhodes-scholarship/

Given the current situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, aspects of the application requirements and subsequent selection processes may be subject to change. Our website and this document will be updated with any changes, and once you have started an application any changes will be communicated via email. If you have any specific concerns regarding the application requirements, please contact the National Secretary for your constituency.

1. Closing Date
Applications must be submitted online by 23:59 Eastern Time, Monday, 03 October 2022.

2. Place of Application
Thirty-two Scholarships are assigned annually to the United States of America. States and U.S. territories are grouped into sixteen districts for the purpose of making these appointments. Each District Committee selects not more than two candidates who will represent the states and/or territories within each District as Rhodes Scholars at Oxford. The names of Scholarship winners are announced at the close of the District interviews. No alternates are selected.

Applicants apply as a representative of one of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, or one of the U.S. territories. You should apply in a state or territory based on the following criteria:

- The state or territory in which you will have received at least two years of college training and a bachelor's degree before 1 October in the year of admission,
- The state or territory in which they were legally resident on 15 April in the year of application. Applicants should be aware that selection committees are instructed to verify legal residence.
- If you do not meet the above criteria, the US National Secretary advises that US citizens who don’t live in the US can apply in whatever state you feel the closest connection to. Considerations might include the last one resided in, the one resided in for the longest time, the one born in, the one your parent(s) are most closely connected, one where closest relatives reside, or similar. If you have a connection to more than one state, you should consult with the National Secretary for your constituency.
Secretary who will make a decision. Once the choice of state of eligibility is confirmed by the National Secretary, the degree of connection will not be a factor in selection.

Simultaneous application to more than one District Committee in the United States, or to more than one Rhodes constituency, will disqualify an applicant.

3. Eligibility Criteria
   a. Nationality/citizenship: You must be a citizen of the United States OR you must have been admitted to the United States as a lawful permanent resident, and must have maintained, and be expected to maintain, such legal status.

   If you have been granted deferred action under the government’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program AND your status is currently active, then you are also eligible to apply if you meet all other criteria below. It should be noted that the Rhodes Trust makes no representations and does not offer any support regarding (a) the DACA applicant’s ability to travel to the U.K., and (b) the DACA applicant’s ability to return to the U.S. or to travel to another country upon conclusion of the scholarship; DACA applicants must assume this responsibility themselves. DACA applicants, like all others, must apply for the U.S. Scholarship or the new Global Scholarship, but not to both. Where there are risks of legal uncertainty, the applicant must make a determination.

   b. Age: You must meet either of the below criteria:

      i. On 1 October 2022, you must be at least 18 and have not reached your 24th birthday (i.e. you must have been born after 1 October 1998 and on or before 1 October 2004).

      OR (for older candidates who completed their first undergraduate degree later than usual)

      ii. On 1 October 2022, you must not have reached your 27th birthday (i.e. have been born after 1 October 1995) AND you have met or will meet the academic requirements for completing your first undergraduate degree on or after 1 October 2021*

      * A university's policy determines the date of completion of academic requirement for a degree and this may be different from when a degree is considered awarded by the university or the date of a graduation ceremony. In ambiguous cases, the decision of the National Secretary is final.

   c. Academic achievement: You must have already completed, or will have completed by July 2023, an undergraduate degree (normally a Bachelor’s degree) with an academic background and grade that - at a minimum - meets or exceeds the specific entry requirements of your chosen full-time course at the University of Oxford (https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/courses-a-z-listing)

   Given the very intense international competition for places at the University of Oxford, candidates will have a greater chance of successful admission to Oxford if they have:

   • A GPA of 3.70/4.0 or higher (with no rounding)

   *Special GPA exception requests (for candidates with a GPA below 3.70) must be submitted by a university president or another high-ranking administrator designated by the president justifying the exception, and addressing ONLY the questions of scholarly aptitude in the student’s chosen area of study and competitiveness for Oxford graduate admissions. A university should initiate an exception request for candidates who are academically extraordinary and sufficiently compelling to Oxford admissions officers. All such requests must include a copy of the candidate’s transcript and resume and must be directed to American Secretary Elliot Gerson at admin@rhodesscholar.org. Requests should be received no later than 15 September in the year of application to allow a decision to be made in time for the application to be submitted by the October deadline date.

   Please contact the National Secretary if you require further advice about academic requirements of the Scholarship.

   d. If unsuccessful in your first application to the Rhodes Scholarships, you may subsequently re-apply only once more (and this must be in the same constituency), subject to meeting the eligibility criteria.
Multi-jurisdictional Candidates: If you meet the eligibility criteria for more than one Rhodes Constituency, you must only apply to one. You should apply to the Rhodes Constituency with which you have the greatest connection.

Inter-jurisdictional Candidates: If you have strong and demonstrable connections to two or more Rhodes Constituencies but do not meet the eligibility criteria for any of them, you may be eligible to apply for inter-jurisdictional consideration. Please visit the ‘Applying for Inter-Jurisdictional Consideration’ page for further details.

Global Scholarship Candidates: If you are not eligible to apply to any existing Rhodes Constituency (see list here) and you are not eligible to apply for inter-jurisdictional consideration, then you can apply for a Global Scholarship, subject to meeting all other Global Scholarship eligibility criteria and subject to institutional nomination.

4. Application Procedure
   a. You can apply online from 01 July 2022 at https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/applications/.
   b. You must submit your application online, with all supporting documents, by 23:59 Eastern Time, 03 October 2022. 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.
   c. In preparation for making your application, you should carefully read the information held on the Scholarships tab on the Rhodes House website, the Conditions of Tenure for the Rhodes Scholarship, the information in this document and the graduate admissions pages of the University of Oxford: www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate.
   d. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a social engagement (a welcoming reception on the day of the first interviews or the day before) and a final interview. You must be available to attend both, in person, as no accommodations can be made on date and time, or mode, of these events. Interviews will be held simultaneously in the 16 respective U.S. District Meeting City locations on 11 and 12 November 2022. No candidate will be selected without an interview. PLEASE NOTE: All candidates invited to interview are expected to cover their own expenses.
   e. All applicants will be notified with a decision regarding whether or not they will be offered an interview. Winners for the U.S. Rhodes Scholarships are immediately announced in each district, after the conclusion of their respective interviews.
   f. 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/.

5. Documents and details to be submitted with application
   You must submit a completed application form online with copies of the documents and information detailed below. All documents must be submitted in English. If your official documents, such as your birth certificate, passport or transcript are not in English you must submit them with English translations included. Please note that if you are invited to interview, you may be asked to bring the originals of all documents with you:
   a. Your passport or birth certificate or other government issued identification for proof of age and nationality.
   b. For lawful permanent residents who are not yet citizens, you must upload evidence to prove that you are a lawful permanent resident. A lawful permanent resident should submit his or her current and unexpired Form I-551, Permanent Resident Card, also known as a “green card,” with an initial date of lawful permanent residence (indicated by the notation Resident Since:______).
   c. For candidates who meet the DACA eligibility criteria above, you must upload documentation to prove your active DACA status. DACA residents should include a current I-797 letter confirming his or her DACA status along with a valid Employment Authorization Card.
   d. An official transcript from the college or university at which you are studying, or have studied, showing grades achieved (to date).
   e. An endorsement of your application from your college / university - note that this is distinct from the required references, which are explained in further detail below.
f. A full curriculum vitae which should include specific details about academic qualifications, prizes, scholarships, positions of leadership, employment positions, involvement in student, voluntary, community or political activities and any cultural, musical or sporting accomplishments. This should not exceed two letter size pages in length with a minimum 10 pt font. **Please do not include a photograph in your CV. Your CV should be wholly accurate and a fair representation of your achievements. You should anticipate that details will be checked for embellishments and inaccuracies. Material misrepresentation will result in disqualification of an application or, where appropriate, the rescinding of a scholarship. Examples of misrepresentation include exaggeration of roles/accomplishments/participation/biography; embellished publication lists; inflation of GPA/grades.**

g. A head-and-shoulders colour photograph (jpg format). Please note your photo will not be available to the selection committee until after final shortlisting decisions have been made. If you are selected, this photograph will be used on the [Rhodes webpage](http://www.rhodeswebpage.com) unless or until you provide another version.

h. A personal statement of no more than 750 words. The personal statement is your chance to tell your story in your own voice: *Who are you?* Your academic transcript and academic statement of study, your curriculum vitae, and your reference letters will provide the substantive detail of your commitments and accomplishments, whereas the personal statement gives you the opportunity to cast an overarching narrative for the selection committee. 

**Prompts**

In your personal statement of 750 words, we ask you to address each of the following prompts (the word allocation across the three is up to you):

1. **Which Rhodes Scholar quality do you display most strongly, and how are other contexts and people helping you to develop the others?**
2. **What would you like to learn from the Rhodes and wider community in Oxford?**
3. **From your place in the world, what is humanity’s greatest need?**

**Guidance**

The Rhodes selection criteria are powerful and have remained largely unchanged over the past 100 years, having been drawn directly from the founder’s Will. In your personal statement we are asking you to reflect on your experiences, influences and intentions through the lens of those Rhodes Scholar qualities outlined in the three criteria: “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 human beings”. [Note that the fourth selection criterion of “Literary and scholastic attainments” are evidenced in your transcript, academic statement of study and academic reference letters.]

The three prompts are set within the Rhodes leadership development framework that informs the Scholar Program at Rhodes House in Oxford. It asks for reflection and engagement within three interrelated spheres of three voices ‘self, others, and world’:

1st “self”: **Which Rhodes Scholar quality do you display most strongly, and how are other contexts and people helping you to develop the others?** – this asks you to reflect on which of the Rhodes selection criteria you best exemplify. But we don’t expect you to be the ‘finished product’, we want to hear how you intend to evolve further.

2nd “others”: **What would you like to learn from the Rhodes and wider community in Oxford?** – this asks you to reflect on the relationship between self and community, on how you want to learn from the Rhodes and other communities when you come to Oxford, and how you hope to grow through that experience.

3rd “world”: **From your place in the world, what is humanity’s greatest need?** – this asks you to look at the world from the place that you are now and to reflect on what is missing in society, whilst considering the complexity and nuance of the world’s challenges. We are seeking in Rhodes Scholars people who aspire to make a difference and
contribute in some way to “fighting the world’s fight.” Here we want to know your thoughts on what is most needed in the world.

You can find further guidance on the personal statement on the ‘Application Overview’ page of our website. By definition, each statement is individual; there is no single, “right”, model for the personal statement.

Your personal statement should be wholly accurate, and written in your own words from your own perspective. Material misrepresentation will result in disqualification of an application or, where appropriate, the rescinding of a scholarship. It should be entirely your own work, with no assistance received. Through the online application form you will be asked to confirm that the entered / uploaded personal statement is accurate, is your own work and that no external help was given in its creation or editing.

i. An academic statement of study of no more than 350 words.

The reason we ask for an academic statement is that entry to the University of Oxford is becoming ever more competitive and, should you win a Rhodes Scholarship, you will have to submit your application to Oxford within a very short timeframe. Researching and writing this statement will help you prepare for that. You should also be aware that once you are at the University of Oxford it is very difficult to change courses. It is therefore advisable to give some serious thought to your desired courses in advance. Rhodes selectors will use the statement to assess whether you will thrive academically in one of the most competitive graduate environments in the world.

The academic statement of study should, in a factual and concise manner:

i. Tell us your reasons for wishing to study at the University of Oxford, what your chosen course(s) of study is (are), and how this fits in your academic trajectory. Further, you may wish to explain how you hope to be stretched academically at the University of Oxford, or any academic support you imagine might be helpful.

ii. Demonstrate that you are able to at a minimum meet or exceed the specific entry and other academic requirements of the course(s) you have chosen. Tell us how you are prepared for the course(s) academically and otherwise.

It is very important that you have a firm idea of which courses are viable for you to study at the University of Oxford (if you are listing a one-year course, please give an indication of your intentions for the second year). Please read the Oxford graduate studies course pages carefully: http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate. Note that not all University of Oxford courses are covered by the Rhodes Scholarship - and you should refer to the Conditions of Tenure for further information. For applicants interested in pursuing a second BA degree please see guidance under ‘Procedure after Selection’ below.

iii. If you wish to undertake a DPhil, provide a brief outline of your proposed research area, how it contributes to your future career plans, and list both the Department in which you propose to undertake your research and one or more researchers with whom you would like to work in Oxford.

It is a good idea to discuss your proposed course of study and your academic statement with your academic mentors and/or professors or lecturers in that field, and, if possible, with someone who has knowledge of United Kingdom universities.

Additional sources of information are available online at www.ox.ac.uk/admissions, as well as on individual faculty/departmental websites. If you are selected for the Scholarship you will have the opportunity to revisit your course choice.

DPhil candidates: DPhil candidates: a number of Oxford departments recommend that applicants make contact with potential research supervisor(s) before submitting an application to Oxford. Advice on contacting potential supervisors in advance of your application is course-specific and you should follow the guidance found on the individual prospectus pages, most often on the How to Apply tab.

Master’s candidates: please note that Oxford faculty members are not able to correspond with applicants.
You will need to provide a list of at least five, but not more than eight, people (your referees) who are willing to submit references on your behalf:

i. At least four of your referees should be academics who have formally taught and graded you in your undergraduate (or, if relevant, postgraduate) studies and who can comment in detail on your academic ability and how well they think you would fare at Oxford. In addition to uploading a reference, your academic referees will be asked a small number of additional questions, including a request to provide an estimated class ranking. Note – for successful Rhodes Scholarship applicants, these references can later be used to form part of the application to study at the University of Oxford, so it is important that you and your referees bear this in mind. See referee guidance on the final page of this document and on our website: www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/information-for-referees/.

ii. At least one referee should testify to your character and/or your involvement in extra-curricular/service or leadership activities. These referees should be persons who are able to comment critically on whether you fulfil the extra-curricular, non-academic requirements of the Scholarship and who can speak in detail to your character.

iii. You must ask their permission before listing them as referees.

iv. A good referee is one who knows you well, rather than a well-known person who only knows you superficially. Please note that Rhodes Scholarship referees are not typically personal friends, contemporaries or relatives. If a referee fits into one of these categories, they should make the connection clear within the reference.

v. Choose reliable people who are likely to respond to your request for a detailed reference, as their letters will be crucial to your application. If you do not have the minimum number of required references, your application will not be considered by the Selection Committee.

vi. You will need to provide email addresses for all of your referees.

vii. You should forward the Guidance for Referees (available on our website) to your referees. They will receive an automatically-generated email request for a reference once you have completed the referee registration section of the online form. They will also be asked to provide their business and home (or mobile) telephone, as well as their postal address for verification purposes.

viii. Ensure that you register your referees within the application form early, to allow them sufficient time to provide a detailed reference letter. It is your responsibility to ensure that referees submit their references online by 23:59 Eastern Time 3 October 2022. Please note that if your college / university endorsement plus at least five references is not uploaded by the submission deadline date, then your application will be considered incomplete. Any surplus references arriving after the deadline may or may not be considered alongside your application. You 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.

6. 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 ‘Equity and Inclusion’ 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. The information you provide does not form part of your application and is only shared with those involved in selection in an anonymized format after scholarships have been awarded. If you have disclosed a disability and requested additional support at interview stage, your answers for this section may be shared with the National Secretary, who may contact you to discuss
and confirm your requested arrangements for support or suitable alternatives during the selection process. Any requests made will not affect shortlisting, or the progress of your application, in any way.

c. You are applying for a Rhodes Scholarship for entry to the University of Oxford in October 2023; the scholarship cannot be brought forward or deferred to a later academic year.

d. Applications are made in the first instance to the Rhodes Scholarships. Following the Rhodes Scholarship selection process, successful candidates are then required to apply separately to their chosen programme of study via the University of Oxford’s graduate application form. 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.

7. 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 9th December 2022.

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 25 November 2022. 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.

Glossary of terms:
Conditions of Tenure: This document outlines what courses and course combinations are covered by the Rhodes Scholarship. It details some of the exceptions and explains how many years of study are covered by the Scholarship.

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 constituency webpage.
**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: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-constituencies/](http://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](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-constituencies/). 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](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-constituencies/)). 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: [www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/introducing-our-courses?wssl=1](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/introducing-our-courses?wssl=1)

Rhodes House Website: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk)

Guidance on completing your application: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/application-overview/](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/application-overview/)

Conditions of Tenure: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/files/conditions-of-tenure](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/files/conditions-of-tenure)

Data protection statement: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/pages/personal-data-cookies/](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/pages/personal-data-cookies/)

Rhodes constituencies list: [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-constituencies/](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/list-of-rhodes-scholarship-constituencies/)

University of Oxford English language proficiency: [www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/englishproficiency](http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/englishproficiency)

University of Oxford Graduate Admissions: [https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate](https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate)

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For further information about the Rhodes Scholarship, see [www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/the-rhodes-scholarship/](http://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/the-rhodes-scholarship/)

The Rhodes Trust reserves the right to vary these conditions at any time without notice.
ELLiot F. Gerson
American Secretary
The Rhodes Trust, 8229 Boone Boulevard, Suite 240, Vienna, Virginia 22182, United States of America
On Behalf Of
The Rhodes Trust
Rhodes House, Oxford OX1 3RG, England, United Kingdom

District 1 (Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont): JULIE LEVISON, Massachusetts General Hospital, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1600, Boston, MA 02114


District 3 (New York-South [including the counties of Sullivan, Ulster, and Dutchess and those counties to the South, including Long Island]): TALI FARHADIAN WEINSTEIN, 907 Fifth Avenue, Apt. 12W, New York, NY 10021

District 4 (New York-North [including the counties of Delaware, Greene, and Columbia and those counties to the North], Pennsylvania): LAURA E. MCGRANE, Department of English, Haverford College, 370 Lancaster Avenue, Haverford, PA 19041

District 5 (Delaware, Maryland/DC): LISSA MUSCATINE, Politics & Prose Bookstore, 5015 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008

District 6 (Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina): LYNN ENTERLINE, Department of English, Vanderbilt University, 331 Benson Hall, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37235-1654

District 7 (Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands): SETH LANDEFELD, Department of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1808 7th Avenue South, Suite 420, Birmingham, AL 35294

District 8 (Oklahoma, Texas): CAROLYN SEEPErSAD, The University of Texas at Austin, 204 E. Dean Keeton Street, Stop C2200, Austin, TX 78712


District 10 (Illinois, Ohio): STEPHANIE PALMER, Department of Organismal Biology and Anatomy, University of Chicago, 1027 East 57th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

District 11 (Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, West Virginia): ROBERT M. DOW, U.S. Courthouse, 219 South Dearborn Street, Suite 1978, Chicago, IL 60604

District 12 (Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Tennessee): GEORGIE BOGE GERAGHTY, 661 Blackthorn Road, Winnetka, IL 60093-2005

District 13 (Colorado, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming): JANICE R. UGAKI, Firmseek, Inc. 1667 K Street, NW, Suite 250, Washington, DC 20006


District 15 (Arizona, California-North [including the counties of Monterey, Kings, Tulare, and Inyo and those counties to the North], Hawaii, Nevada): ELIZABETH J. MURPHY, Division of Endocrinology, San Francisco General Hospital, 1001 Potrero Avenue, Building 30, Room 3501K, San Francisco, CA 94110

District 16 (American Samoa, California-South [including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernadino and those counties to the South], Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands): BETHANY L. EHLMAANN, Geological and Planetary Sciences, California Institute of Technology and Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 1200 East California Boulevard, MC150-21, Pasadena, CA 91125
GUIDANCE FOR REFEREES

References must be written in English and must be uploaded by 23:59 Eastern Time 3 October 2022.

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a referee for an applicant for the Rhodes Scholarship. References form a crucial part of the selection process, and 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 in the world. Administered by the Rhodes Trust in Oxford, the programme offers over 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 Scholars are for young leaders of outstanding intellect and character who are motivated to engage with global challenges and are committed to the service of others. They show promise of becoming value-driven, principled leaders for the world’s future, wherever their careers might take them, and in any field.

- Academic excellence: the University of Oxford is one of the most competitive graduate environments in the world and applicants must meet or exceed the entry requirements of their chosen course. (candidates will have a greater chance of successful admission if they have a GPA of 3.70/4.00 or higher, or equivalent).
- Energy to use their talents to the full (as demonstrated by success 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, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship.
- Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in their fellow human beings.

For further details, see: https://www.rhodeshouse.ox.ac.uk/scholarships/the-rhodes-scholarship/.

Writing Your Letter of Recommendation

We would be grateful if you would provide a frank and confidential letter regarding the applicant’s qualifications and suitability for the Rhodes Scholarship. You should consider the below points when writing your letter:

- The Selection Committee will have a copy of the applicant’s university academic transcript, curriculum vitae, and their academic and personal statements. We would welcome any observations you have which would enhance the Committee’s understanding of these documents.
- A brief introduction of yourself would be helpful, including any connections that you have with the Rhodes Trust, Rhodes Scholars and the University of Oxford (such connections are certainly not necessary).
- Where you are able, you should comment on how the applicant demonstrates the four selection criteria outlined above. While proven academic excellence is the first quality listed, the other criteria are equally important.
- It is not expected that you will be able to speak from first-hand knowledge of all of the applicant’s qualifications.
- Please speak of the applicant’s limitations as well as strong points. Committees tend naturally to be dubious of hyperbole and appraisals that imply a given individual has no limitations. Your reply will, of course, be treated as strictly confidential by the Selection Committee.
- References must be written in English and your comments should not exceed two A4 pages (minimum 10 point type).

Applicants for the Rhodes Scholarships are asked to seek both character and academic references. The reference form will clarify which type of reference you have been asked to submit.
Academic referees:
If you are primarily acquainted with the candidate through a teacher/student relationship, it is expected that your reference will concentrate primarily on academic quality and potential, although your assessment of other qualities will be welcomed. 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 and so please consider whether the applicant is prepared for their chosen course of study at one of the most competitive graduate environments in the world.

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 applicant’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. You are specifically 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 1%, 3%, 5%, 10%, 25%?

b. How many students are 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 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. With reference to the selection criteria above, please pay particular attention to the following: energy to use their 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.

Submitting Your Letter of Recommendation

- When an applicant has registered your details in the application form, you will receive an auto-generated email, which will contain instructions on submitting your letter of recommendation. The email will include a link to the online reference form where you will be able to upload your reference letter. The form will also include questions requesting basic information about yourself and your relationship to the applicant.
- All letters of recommendation should be addressed to the Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee.
- The Selection Committee asks that your letter of recommendation be on headed paper, signed, and uploaded in pdf format. If you are unable to access an official/institutional letterhead we can, on an exceptional basis, accept references on a personal letterhead that clearly states your institutional affiliation and provides official contact information including an email address and phone number.
- All letters of reference should be submitted via the online reference form. Please ensure that you press submit once you have completed the form.
- Once you submit the reference form, 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 you may be contacted for further information.

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

References must be written in English and must be uploaded by 23:59 Eastern Time 3 October 2022.