

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation—the federal memorial to our thirty-third President—awards merit-based \$30,000 scholarships to college students who plan to pursue careers in government or elsewhere in public service, and wish to attend graduate or professional school to help prepare for their careers in government, the non-profit sector or elsewhere in public service. Truman Scholars participate in leadership development programs and have special opportunities for internships and employment with the federal government.

Mission:

- To find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the non-profit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in the public service; and
- To provide them with financial support for graduate study, leadership training, and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service

Eligibility:

- Attend an accredited U.S. college or university and be nominated by the institution's Truman Faculty Representative [candidates MAY NOT apply directly],
- U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals,
- Complete an application and write a policy recommendation,
- Upper quarter of their junior class, except for residents of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa or the Northern Marianas who must be in their senior class.
- Full-time junior-level student at a **four-year institution** pursuing a bachelor's degree during the 2001-2002 academic year. 'Junior' here means a student who plans to continue full-time undergraduate study and who expects to receive a baccalaureate degree between December 2002 and August 2003, or a student in his or her third year of collegiate study, or a senior-level student who is a resident of Puerto Rico or the Islands

Criteria for Selection:

- Extensive record of public and community service. Scholars have a record of sustained participation (at least two years) in campus service, community service, politics, government, or non-profit organizations.
- Commitment to a career in government or elsewhere in the public sector. The nominee's proposed program of graduate study should be suitable for a career in public service.
- Demonstrated record of leadership and communication skills. Potential leadership is not enough. Scholars need to have had meaningful and substantial leadership experiences.
- Academic performance, intellectual strength, and writing and analytical skills. The competition is not GPA-driven, yet students are chosen as Scholars because they are likely to be admitted the best graduate schools. A student with a 3.6 GPA and an extensive record of service and leadership will prevail over a student with 3.9+ GPA but little service or leadership. Each year students win with lower GPAs if they are exceptional in other areas.
- Heart, compassion, and a desire to influence public policy or education programs. Nominees are evaluated on the likelihood of "making a difference" in public service.

Award:

Scholars are eligible to receive \$3,000 for the senior year of undergraduate education and \$27,000 for graduate studies.

A CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

The Foundation defines public service as employment in government at any level, uniformed services, public-interest organizations, nongovernmental research and/or educational organizations, public and private schools, and public service-oriented nonprofit organizations such as those whose primary purposes are to help needy or disadvantaged persons or to protect the environment.

Programs:

- agriculture
- biology
- engineering
- environmental management
- physical sciences
- social sciences
- technology policy
- economics
- education
- government
- history
- international relations
- law
- political science
- public administration
- nonprofit management
- public health
- public policy

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

The Institution of Higher Education

Two-year and four-year institutions listed in the current U.S. Department of Education **Directory of Postsecondary Institutions** may nominate students. Nominees need not reside in the same state or district as the nominating institution. Institutions may nominate candidates who are participating in junior year abroad programs. Four-year institutions may nominate, additionally, three students who completed their first two years at a community college. Materials must be submitted by the Truman Faculty Representative or the institution's president. Applications are not accepted directly from the candidates.

Nomination Materials:

- a completed Institution Nomination Form from the Faculty Representative
- a letter of nomination from the Faculty Representative
- a completed Truman Scholarship Application
- a Policy Proposal
- a current official college transcript and transcripts for all colleges attended that do not appear on the current transcript (both courses and grades should appear)
- three letters of recommendation

The Harry S. Truman Foundation

712 Jackson Place, NW

Washington, DC 20006

Main Phone #: (202) 395-4831

FAX #: (202) 395-6995

Recorded Information Line: (202) 395-7429

General Email: office@truman.gov

<http://www.truman.gov/>