

Knight-Hennessy Scholarship To-Dos

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The deadline to submit your graduate degree program application is November 14, 2018.

Academic Interests

1. Briefly describe your research interests in the PhD field (Social Sciences - Political Science PhD)

750 characters remaining

2. List up to three Stanford faculty members whose research interests best align with yours and who could serve as potential research advisors.

Work Experience

Please share some information about your internships and work experience (full-time and part-time) in the space below. These experiences give you the chance to learn about yourself and about working with others, and to apply your knowledge.

If you've had more than one role at the same organization, then please list that organization once. We can tell by the starting and ending positions that you've changed roles. Report the full-time annualized compensation. For instance, if you have an internship that pays \$10/hour, then the annualized compensation is \$10/hour x 40 hours/week x 50 work weeks/year = \$20,000. If you need to convert your compensation to \$U.S., then please use the same currency conversion scale for starting and ending compensation.

Activities and Interests

We want to understand what you care about and how you spend your time outside of the classroom or the office. Please list up to three community, extracurricular, personal, or volunteer activities and/or interests in order of significance to you (i.e., item #1 on the list should be the activity or interest that matters most to you).

If there are additional activities you wish to tell us about, feel free to include them on your resumé.

Standardized Test Scores

Please list the results of any standardized test recommended or required by your graduate degree program — e.g., GMAT for the MBA Program, GRE (some departments also will recommend or require subject tests), LSAT for the JD Program, MCAT for the MD Program. If you are not required to submit standardized test scores for your degree program application, then you do not need to list scores on this page.

If English is not your first language, you also may be required to submit the results from an approved English proficiency exam. All Stanford graduate programs accept the TOEFL, and the MBA Program also accepts the IELTS and PTE. For more details on this requirement, please refer to the Graduate Admissions website (TOEFL) or MBA Admission website (TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE).

Your unofficial scores will suffice for the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program. While it's helpful and preferred if you have your test scores by the time you apply to the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program, this is not a requirement. You must, however, have any required test scores by the departmental deadline.

Please ensure that your scores are valid for your graduate department application. In general:

GMAT, GRE, and LSAT scores are valid for five years. MCAT scores are valid for three years. TOEFL scores are valid for 18 months for most graduate degree programs at Stanford.

Resumé

Your one-page resumé frames your intellectual, personal, and professional background and accomplishments. It may include information that is duplicated in other sections of your application (e.g., Academics, Employment, Activities, Awards). Think of the resume as a framework for the detailed information that we'll read in those sections.

Our rule of thumb is one page for every decade of work experience. If you've worked more than a decade, then feel free to add a page to your resumé for additional context and depth. Otherwise, please stick to one page.

Recommendation Letters

Your letters of reference provide a different perspective on your abilities and accomplishments. The best letters add depth to an application and bring candidates to life. They highlight the very strongest candidates from a pool of many well-qualified applicants. They focus on aspects of your character and potential that may be difficult to glean from your application.

Two letters of recommendation must be submitted by the application deadline: September 12, 2018 at 1:00pm Pacific Time Register your two recommenders at the bottom of this page as early in the application process as possible.

Choose Your Recommenders

Select two recommenders who know you well, whose opinions you trust, and who want to see you succeed. These individuals must be able to provide specific examples, anecdotes, and evidence of your ability and determination to make a difference. Here are a few things to consider as you choose recommenders:

In general, we care about the content of the letter, not the title or position of the person who wrote it. Your Knight-Hennessy Scholars recommendations are the only reference letters that we will review before we provide input to your graduate program. Once your graduate program shares its feedback with Knight-Hennessy Scholars, we also will review your departmental recommendation letters. As such, your recommendation choices for the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program should make a compelling independent case, and also complement the references of your graduate program. It's fine to ask the same person to provide recommendations for your graduate program and for Knight-Hennessy Scholars, but ensure that he/she submits distinctive letters of reference that address the questions each application requires. We ask your recommenders to assess some character and leadership traits in the reference letters, and to address the following:

- 1. Please explain how you know and interact with the applicant.*
- 2. Please tell us about a time the applicant did something that benefited others.*
- 3. Please tell us about a time the applicant faced adversity.*
- 4. Please tell us about a time the applicant surprised you.*
- 5. Is there anything else that we should know about the applicant?*

Essays and Short Answers

Through other facets of your Knight-Hennessy Scholars application — your academic history, work experience, activities and interests, awards, etc. — we learn a great deal about what you have done. The essays are not the place to repeat those things. Instead, the goal of posing these questions is to require you to engage in disciplined reflection to tell a story that only you can tell.

Essays

Please respond to the two required essay questions using the provided text boxes below. The length of both essays combined should not exceed 1,750 words (e.g., if your response for Essay 1 is 1,000 words, this leaves 750 words for Essay 2).

1. Essay 1: Connect the dots. How have the influences in your life shaped you? You may find it helpful to review the 2005 Stanford Commencement address delivered by Steve Jobs.
2. Essay 2: How will you pursue your life's calling? How will your Stanford education and your Knight-Hennessy Scholars experience support this?

Short Answers

1. Short Answer 1: Please tell us **eight improbable facts** (things that are unlikely but true) about you.
2. Short Answer 2: Please list three goals/objectives that you are working toward right now. (No, being admitted to Stanford and/or being selected as a Knight-Hennessy Scholar can't count as one of those goals.)*

Video

Although we cannot meet in-person with each applicant to the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program, we invite you to submit a video that gives us a chance to “meet” you. There is no attention — zero emphasis! — on the “production value” of your video.

Additional Information

While we believe that we get to know you well through your application, we recognize that no application can fully capture all elements of your life.

You may feel free to use the space below to share essential information not conveyed elsewhere in your application (e.g., a factor affecting your academic performance).