

# External Fellowships & Awards

## Application Checklist

### Phase 1: Exploration & Research

- **Learn about opportunities:** Review the list of major fellowships, scholarships, and awards (e.g., Rhodes, Fulbright, Truman, Goldwater).
- **Attend information sessions/workshops** offered by the Fellowships Office or departments (when available) to learn about opportunities.
- **Research eligibility:** Confirm GPA, citizenship, field of study, and graduation date requirements.
- **Reflect on fit:** Consider how each award aligns with your academic interests, career goals, and service/leadership record.
- **Narrow your list:** Select 1–3 priority opportunities to pursue.

### Phase 2: Initial Advising & Strategy

- **Meet with the Fellowships Office:** Schedule an advising appointment to discuss your goals, timeline, and application strategy.
- **Create a timeline:** Map internal and external deadlines (including drafts, interviews, and endorsements).
- **Identify recommenders:** Brainstorm faculty, mentors, or supervisors who know you well and can write strong, specific letters.
- **Request letters early:** Ask at least 6–8 weeks in advance, providing your recommenders with your resume, draft statement, and award criteria.

### Phase 3: Drafting Application Materials

- **Develop a résumé/CV** tailored to the award.
- **Draft personal and project statements:** Start early and expect multiple rounds of revision.
- **Follow-up meeting with the Fellowships Office:** Review drafts, discuss narrative strategy, and plan next revisions.
- **Seek feedback:** Share drafts with the Fellowships Office, faculty mentors, and peers.
- **Revise strategically:** Focus on narrative coherence—connecting your academics, leadership, and service into a compelling story.

### Phase 4: Internal Review & Campus Endorsement (if required)

- **Submit by internal deadline** for campus committee review.
- **Participate in mock interviews/presentations** as part of the endorsement process.
- **Revise again** based on committee feedback.
- **Secure campus endorsement** and confirm official submission process.

## Phase 5: Submission

- **Finalize all documents:** Proofread for clarity, grammar, and formatting.
- **Upload/submit** through the official application portal before the deadline (ideally 2–3 days early).
- **Confirm receipt:** Save confirmation emails or portal messages.

## Phase 6: Interview Preparation (if selected)

- **Research past interview questions** and review the award's mission and values.
- **Practice mock interviews** with staff/faculty panels.
- **Stay current:** Read news, follow global issues, and be ready to discuss your academic and personal interests in context.

## Phase 7: Post-Application

- **Reflect:** Note what you learned from the process (even if not selected).
- **Stay in touch:** Thank your recommenders and update them on outcomes.
- **Plan next steps:** Apply feedback to future applications or related opportunities.