

# Harry S. Truman Scholarship

Prestigious Scholarships at Oregon State University

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THE HARRY S. TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

A handwritten signature of Harry S. Truman in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Harry' and the last name 'Truman' clearly legible.

[Video](#)

# The Truman Scholarship

- Recognizes juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in the public service; and
- Provides them with financial support for graduate/professional school study, leadership training, and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service.

# Truman Scholars receive:

- Up to \$30,000 for graduate/professional school study.
- Leadership training: a week-long program for each new class of Truman Scholars that builds community among them and ensures deep mentoring from more seasoned Scholars.
- Truman Scholars go to Washington, DC, for anywhere from three months to two years—after college but before graduate school—and placed in positions with the federal government or with nationally focused nonprofit organizations.

# Truman Scholarship Eligibility

- Full-time student pursuing a bachelor's degree with junior-level academic standing; or, have senior-level standing in third year of college enrollment.
  - U.S. citizen (or a U.S. national) or expect to receive citizenship by the date the Scholarship will be awarded.
- \* Note: Students who are already attending graduate school are not eligible for the Truman Scholarship.

# Are you a potential Truman Scholar?

## Career and Graduate Study Interests

- Desire to be a "change agent," in time, improving the ways that government agencies, nonprofit organizations, or educational institutions serve the public.
- Concern about conditions in our society or the environment
- Aspiration to work in government, education, the nonprofit sector, or the public interest/advocacy sector to improve these conditions.

# Are you a potential Truman Scholar?

## Career and Graduate Study Interests

- Commitment to work in public service for three of the first seven years after completing a Foundation-funded graduate degree.
- Plan to earn a master's degree, a doctorate, or a professional degree such as a law degree or a Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Social Work, Master of Education, Master of Public Policy, or Master of International Affairs.

# Are you a potential Truman Scholar?

## Community Service and Academic Record

- Extensive participation in two or more of the following activities:
  - Student government and/or campus-based extracurricular activities;
  - Community service-related activities that were not organized by school or fraternity/sorority;
  - Government internships, commissions or boards, advocacy or interest groups, nonpartisan political activities, or military/ROTC ;
  - Partisan political activities and campaigns.

# Are you a potential Truman Scholar?

## Community Service and Academic Record

- Involvement with organizations or activities related to career interests.
- Demonstrated leadership potential.
- Strong grades and coursework to gain admittance to a first-rate graduate institution.
- Regularly read good national newspapers and thoughtful periodicals.
- One or more courses relating to career interests.

# Are you a potential Truman Scholar?

## General

- Appreciate external affirmation of values and goals.
- Desire to become associated with Truman Scholar "change agents."
- Capable of analyzing a public issue in intended career area and presenting findings in a one-page memo to a government official who could take action.

# Are you a potential Truman Scholar?

## General

- Commitment to prepare an outstanding application and policy proposal under the supervision of my Truman Faculty Representative.
- Participate in a challenging interview conducted by a panel of prominent public servants, educators, and former Truman Scholars.
- Need \$30,000 for graduate education.

# Steps in the Truman application process

All Candidates for the Truman must be nominated by their undergraduate institution. OSU is permitted to nominate up to four candidates.

**Step 1:** Meet with LeAnn Adam, OSU Truman Faculty Representative. LeAnn will register you on the Truman application website.

# Steps in the Truman application process

## Step 2: Review the application

- 14 question application
- Personal statement (responses 7-9 and 11-13)
- Policy proposal (500 words)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Updated transcript
- Institutional nomination form and letter

# Steps in the Truman application process

## Step 3: Prepare the application

- Use extensive resources and advice on the Truman website;
- Consult your professors and advisors about your plans for graduate study: Get them acquainted with your ideas and plans;
- Request recommendation letters early;
- Seek feedback on policy proposal and application responses;
- Order transcripts.

# Steps in the Truman application process

Timeline:	
OSU Campus deadline	Monday, January 9
National deadline	Early February, 2017
Finalist posting	Late February, 2017
Practice interviews	Feb/March, 2017
Finalist interviews	March, 2017
Scholar notification	April, 2017
Truman Scholar Leadership Week	Late May, 2017

**For assistance, please contact:**

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