SPECIALTY FELLOWSHIPS FOR GRAD SCHOOL & GAP YEARS

CARA PICKETT
OFFICE OF NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE AWARDS
WHAT ARE FELLOWSHIPS?

Competitive, merit-based awards that funds things like:

- International study
- Undergraduate and graduate education
- Research (opportunities and recognition)
- Gap years & specialty programs
WHAT ARE FELLOWSHIPS?

Fellowships ≠ Financial Aid

But they can provide $$$ to help you reach your goals
WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?

If you apply:
• Learn how to tell your story
• Clarify your goals and how to reach them
• Improve your writing and interviewing
• Find new or off-the-beaten-path options
• Risk taking & embracing failure

…and if you win:
• Funding
• Prestige and recognition
• Freedom of choice
• Networking and new opportunities
WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?

If you apply:

• Learn how to tell your story
• Clarify your goals and how to reach them
• Improve your writing and interviewing
• Find new or off-the-beaten-path options
• Risk taking & embracing failure

Great practice for applying to grad school—makes the process easier and your applications stronger
FUNDING FOR: Graduate School—STEM

- STEM (fields may vary by award)
- Graduating senior and alumni
- Funds grad school & professional development
- Research experience a plus
- No campus endorsement
- Deadlines: Fall (varies by award)

For US students only
FUNDING FOR: Graduate School—Public/Foreign Service

- Careers in public or foreign service
- Graduating senior and alumni
- Funds grad school & professional development
- GPA minimums (check specific award)
- No campus endorsement
- Deadlines: Vary

For US students only
FUNDING FOR:

Graduate School—International+

• International (+Stanford) graduate study
• Graduating senior and alumni
• GPA 3.7+
• All disciplines
• Highly selective—leadership, service, & academics
• UC nomination required for most
• Campus deadline: Late August

Marshall & Mitchell for US students only
FUNDING FOR: Graduate School/Gap Year Abroad

- Graduate School
- English Teaching
- Research Project
- Arts Project
- Graduate Study

- Graduating senior and alumni
- No GPA required
- All disciplines
- UC endorsement required
- Campus deadline: Late August

For US students only
FUNDING FOR:

English Teaching Abroad
(no campus endorsement)

International Research/Service
(no campus endorsement)

Citizenship requirements vary
WHAT MAKES A STRONG CANDIDATE?

“Passion”— What is most important to you? How do you act on it? How will it figure into your future?

**Intellectual Engagement**—How do you challenge yourself intellectually, in and out of the classroom?

**Leadership/Service**—How do you take initiative, solve problems, give back to your community, make a difference?

**Goal-Oriented**—What impact do you want to have (short & long term)? How are you working towards that?
HOW CAN I PREPARE?

FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES
- Figure out what interests you & what you want to do in the future
- Get involved in activities/organizations that develop your interests & goals
- Give back—find service commitments that are meaningful to you
- Get to know faculty (future references)
- Develop intellectually—get involved in research, attend lectures, read articles & books, study abroad (if you can)

JUNIORS & SENIORS
- Continue doing what you’re doing, but deepen your commitments
- Look for new/continuing opportunities for leadership; be a change agent
- Continue to cultivate relationships with faculty; share your goals with them
- Take challenging courses in your major
- Take concrete steps to explore and identify post-graduate options
OFFICE OF NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE AWARDS

RESOURCES

Learn more at a general info session:
Mondays & Thursdays at noon, Swift 702F

Visit our website for resources and additional awards: www.uc.edu/nca

Follow us on Twitter: @UC_NCA

We also offer:
• One-on-one appointments
• Guidance on finding and applying for fellowships
• Feedback on written applications

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