Marshall Scholarships

www.marshallscholarship.org


Fields of Study
Open. Graduate study in the United Kingdom.

Description
The Marshall Scholarships were established in 1953 by the British government to express the gratitude of the British people to the American people for the Marshall Plan. The main objective of the scholarship is to enable intellectually distinguished young Americans, their country's future leaders, to study in the UK. Such study will help scholars to gain an understanding and appreciation of contemporary Britain and to contribute to the advancement of knowledge in science, technology, the humanities and social sciences and the creative arts at Britain's centers of academic excellence. The scholarships are intended to motivate Marshall Scholars to act as ambassadors from the USA to the UK and vice versa throughout their lives thus strengthening British American understanding.

The scholarships support 40 scholars for study towards post-graduate degrees at any university in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland). Several Partnership Scholarships are available to specific institutions. Marshall Scholarships pay tuition and fees, personal travel and book allowances, and a living stipend. They may be for one year, two years, or renewed for a third year for certain programs. Applications expressing an interest in studying at universities other than Oxford and Cambridge are especially welcome.

Criteria for Selection
As future leaders, with a lasting understanding of British society, Marshall Scholars will strengthen the enduring relationship between the British and American peoples, their governments and their institutions. Marshall Scholars are talented, independent and wide-ranging in their interests and their time as Scholars will enhance their intellectual and personal growth. Their direct engagement with Britain through its best academic programs will contribute to their ultimate personal success.

In appointing Scholars the Selectors will look for candidates who have the potential to excel as scholars, as leaders and as contributors to improved UK-US understanding. Assessment will be based on academic merit, leadership potential and ambassadorial potential. Details of the criteria used for selection can be found at http://www.marshallscholarship.org/applications/criteria

Preference will be given to candidates who display a potential to make a significant contribution to their own society. Selectors will also look for strong motivation and
seriousness of purpose, including the presentation of a specific and realistic academic program. Selectors will also be looking for a strong post-scholarship plan.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens who will have earned bachelor's degrees by the following spring or have been graduated within the past three years. A grade point average of 3.7 or higher is mandatory.

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**Application Procedure**

Institutional nomination by WPI is required. Interested applicants should begin work on their application in the spring or summer before the WPI deadline in September. The Marshall application includes a transcript, a web-based application from with employment and activities, a 1,000 word personal statement, and statements about the proposed course of study, and improving US-UK relations.

Four letters of recommendation are also required. These letters should be written by faculty in the United States. Ask your recommenders to submit their letters by the WPI deadline. All application materials must be submitted online—only the official academic transcripts will be mailed to the regional competition.

**2016 Campus deadline:** Applicants for the Marshall Scholarship must be endorsed by WPI. By early September, each applicant should register on Marshall Scholarship application website and submit draft essays and the names and email addresses of four references to the WPI Marshall Representative, Dr. John S. Galante. These materials will be revised by the applicant. To be considered for institutional endorsement, the complete applications materials must be submitted online by September 12 for candidates and by September 26 for letters of recommendation. The complete application will be released online to the national competition by the beginning of October.

The selection boards, situated in British consulates in eight regions throughout the United States, choose applicants for interviews that are held in early- to mid-November. Selections are announced shortly after these interviews. Students accepting a Marshall Scholarship are expected to withdraw from other fellowship competitions. The application materials are then used by the Marshall Commission to secure admission to the British university program proposed by the scholar. Of the 800-1000 nominations submitted nationwide each year, approximately 160 students will be invited to regional interviews to select about 40 scholars.

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**Additional Information**

The Marshall Scholarship may be held at any university in the United Kingdom. The statement of proposed academic program for the Marshall application must indicate a preference for two universities. See the Marshall website for rules for candidates proposing a one-year program or two-year program, or potential for a three-year program toward a doctorate. If one of the preferences is Oxford, Cambridge, or the London School of Economics, then the other preference must be at other institutions.
The Marshall Scholarship program will offer a large number of Partnership Scholarships at specific institutions. Anyone indicating these institutions on the application form will be considered for one of these scholarships.

NOTE: The Marshall Commission will not fund MBA programs, second BA programs, and a variety of specific programs listed on their website. It is permissible to apply for a one-year degree only. Ordinarily, most applicants apply for two one-year programs, a two-year program, or a PhD progression. The Marshall website provides up-to-date information on these restrictions.

See the resources on the web for Study in the British Isles to find a degree program in your area of interest: www.wpi.edu/Academics/FS/britainstudy.html

Prominent past Marshall Scholars include Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer; former Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt; Duke University president Nannerl Keohane; psychiatrist and author Peter Kramer; Pulitzer Prize-winning author Daniel Yergin, Thomas Friedman of The New York Times; and scientist and inventor Ray Dolby.

Marshall Scholars from WPI:

2004:
Ian C. Bonzani ’04, West Haven, CT, biomedical engineering major, for a PhD in Tissue Engineering at Imperial College London.

2003:
Nicholas T. Baker ’03, Milford, NH, computer science and philosophy majors, for an MSc in Computer Games Technology at Liverpool John Moores University and an MA in Digital Games Design at the Surrey Institute of Art and Design.