THE APPLICATION TIMELINE

**RHODES, MARSHALL, AND MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMETABLE**

**January–March: information-gathering**

* Attend an information session in late January or early February. Review the application information, forms, and sample essays on this website.
* Research the scholarships and courses of study and degree programs at Oxford and other British and Irish universities.
* Spend some time looking through the [Oxford University website](http://www.oxford.ac.uk/) and other universities for departments or labs that you think would be a good fit with your research plan.
* Contact as many people as possible who might be able to advise you about studying in England, Scotland, and Ireland. Some of these people may eventually write letters of reference for you, but the first step is to learn what they know about ongoing research or interesting work being done in your academic field in the British Isles. Previous applicants report that these conversations can lead to remarkable discoveries that are pivotal to their future plans. Visit your academic adviser if he or she is close to you and talk about your interest in these scholarships. Visit professors during office hours or by appointment to ask them for their insights. Don’t be hesitant to ask advice from faculty members you do not know well if you have reason to believe they would know something about the program you are interested in. They may be able to provide helpful suggestions or contacts.
* You will eventually need 4 to 8 letters of reference (depending on the scholarship for which you are endorsed). You cannot overestimate the importance of recommendations, so give this portion of your application the attention it deserves.
* Recommendations can come from sports coaches, youth group leaders, employers, clergy, or any other person of standing who has worked with or supervised you in some capacity, but the majority of your references should be faculty members who can speak to your talents in the classroom or laboratory. You will want to give your recommenders at least two months' notice, time enough for them to become familiar with your plans, offer advice, and find a convenient time to compose the recommendation. The Provost will write an official endorsement letter in addition to the recommendations you request.
* Optional: Contact Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson ([hdyson@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)) to let him know that you are interested in applying, and in the later stage of your application, he will help you to finalize it, and check for completion.

**April: let us know your plans**

* If you decide that you want to apply for the Rhodes, Marshall, or Mitchell Scholarship, you must first apply for endorsement from the University of Michigan. Although the U-M endorsement deadline is the fourth Monday in August, applicants are strongly encouraged to begin the application process in April by notifying Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson ([hdyson@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)) to let him know that you are interested in applying, so you can take advantage of mentoring from him and faculty members.
* The Rhodes and Mitchell scholarships prohibit students from receiving feedback on their essays from anyone, including faculty mentors, advisors, parents, etc. However, the Marshall allows students to receive feedback. If you are planning to apply for more than one of these scholarships, you need to make sure that you are not inadvertently receiving feedback about your essays that would disqualify you from applying for the Rhodes and/or Mitchell scholarships.

**May-August: preparing for the endorsement interview**

* Stay in touch with Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson ([hdyson@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)) who will offer support throughout the summer as you work on your application.
* Keep in touch with faculty members (and others who will be providing recommendations). Remind them that you will need their letters by the internal application deadline (fourth Monday in August). If you are endorsed by the University, they will need to send endorsement letters directly to the Rhodes secretariat or submit them online for the Marshall and Mitchell Scholarships in early October. Henry Dyson will help with this process.
* You may submit unofficial transcripts for the University of Michigan-level endorsement process, but note that if you are endorsed, you will need to send official transcripts with your final application.

**NOON on the FOURTH MONDAY IN AUGUST: U-M INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION DEADLINE**

* Late applications will not be accepted.

E-mail your application materials to Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson ([onsf.applications@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)). You will need to submit:

* + For the Rhodes: the 1,000-word personal statement, a detailed resume or list of activities and awards, unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended, and between five (5) and eight (8) letters of reference. Ask your referees to e-mail their letters directly to Henry Dyson ([onsf.applications@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)).
  + For the Marshall: Essays (personal statement, proposed academic program, leadership essay, and ambassadorial potential essay) with word limits according to the official Marshall application, unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended, and four (4) letters of reference. Ask your referees to e-mail their letters directly to Henry Dyson ([onsf.applications@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)).
  + For the Mitchell: Essays formatted according to the official Mitchell application, unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended, and four (4) letters of reference. Ask your referees to e-mail their letters directly to Henry Dyson ([onsf.applications@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu)).
* **Note about Letters of Recommendation *(updated 7/20/20)***

ONSF has moved the process to receive Letters of Recommendation to an online form submission.

* + You can ask your letter writers to follow the steps above and email [onsf.applications@umich.edu](mailto:hdyson@umich.edu) OR refer them to submit their letters by using online form: <https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8p4h6GiR8iKOB6Z>
* **ONSF Student Waiver *(updated 7/20/20)***

All applicants must submit an ONSF Student Waiver (FERPA Release Form) prior to collecting letters of recommendation. The FERPA waiver is necessary - not that you waive access, but that you let us know whether or not you waive access - any time that ONSF is storing letters of recommendation as part of your educational record.

* + Students may submit the waiver using this online form: <https://umich.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aeIicUFxSDnbq97>

**Last Week of August/Early September: U-M Internal Review**

* The nominating committee will review applications.
* Invitations to students to be interviewed (to determine U-M endorsement) will be issued by second week in September.

**Mid-September: U-M Endorsement Interviews**

* The nominating committee will conduct campus interviews of selected students to determine who will receive the University of Michigan's endorsement.
* Endorsed candidates will be notified by e-mail. Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson will coordinate and assist candidates with the submission of their final applications before the national deadlines.

**Late September**

* U-M endorsed candidates must finalize their applications, essays, and resumes and work with their recommenders to ensure materials are submitted by the national deadlines.
* Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson will assist with the letters of recommendation.
* Candidates should arrange for the Office of the Registrar to send one set of official transcripts from each college or university you have attended directly to the Mitchell and Marshall regional offices. Rhodes does not require that a hardcopy be sent to their office.

**Early October: NATIONAL DEADLINES for the scholarships**

Exact deadlines vary by scholarship. Final applications, letters of recommendation, and endorsements must be submitted by the deadline. Plan ahead and avoid undue stress! Director of National Scholarships and Fellowships Henry Dyson will assist all candidates with this process.

**Late October/Early November**

The Rhodes, Marshall, and Mitchell national selection committees evaluate applications and conduct interviews at regional (Rhodes and Marshall) or national (Mitchell) centers. U-M stages mock interviews to help prepare U-M students selected to compete at this level. The scholarship organizations announce their new scholars in November.