MAJOR UK AWARDS APPLICATION TIMETABLE (2011 – 2012)

March - May


Conduct research on the academic programs at the selected universities in the UK (Rhodes= Oxford, Marshall = all UK universities, Mitchell = all universities in Ireland, Churchill and Gates = Cambridge). See especially the graduate prospectuses. Consult MSU faculty about suitable programs, and contact the relevant departments, faculty, and current or recent scholars at UK universities about appropriate degree courses. Note: the academic year in the UK ends in late June; faculty there may be difficult to reach during the months of July and August.

Make initial contacts with your letter of reference writers. The various applications require between 5 and 8 letters of recommendation, 4 of which must be from faculty who have taught you. (I suggest that you acquire 8 letters of reference regardless of the competition you are interested in.) Acquire summer contact information for those who will write letters on your behalf.

Begin work on a personal statement of 1000 words, academic proposal of 500 words, and a list of activities and honors.

June-August

Send draft of personal statement, academic plan, and list of activities and honors to referees. All letters of reference should be sent to the MSU Scholarship Committee (via e-mail to nifs@msu.edu, NIFS Office, Honors College, Eustace Cole Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824) by no later than August 12. Make sure that all referees understand that their letters will first be reviewed by the MSU Committee, and then will need to be resent and RECEIVED by the appropriate national scholarship committee by the October National Deadline. The Honors College cannot forward letters to the national committees.

For Churchill, Gates, and NSF – Register to take the GRE/GMAT/MCAT by no later than Sept. 30.
August 1  Submit draft personal statement and list of activities to NIFS office by August 1. Revise and edit based on comments received.

Mon. Aug. 15  **CAMPUSS DEADLINE (12 noon)** Application materials submitted to the MSU UK Scholarship Committee, c/o Honors College. A complete application includes a contact information/application form, copy of your 1000-word personal statement and 500-word academic plan, detailed resume or list of activities and awards, an unofficial transcript from all colleges attended other than MSU, and your letters of recommendation. **Letters of Recommendation must be received by the MSU UK Scholarship Committee by this date.** The MSU UK Scholarship Committee requires a copy of your 5-8 letters of recommendation, four of which must be from faculty members.

Sept. 8-9  MSU UK Scholarship Committee reviews applications and arranges campus interviews for students. Interview times will be sent to students by email by Saturday, September 3.

Thurs. Sept. 8  MSU **Rhodes/Mitchell** Committee conducts campus interviews. Endorsed candidates will be notified by email by Tuesday, September 13.

Fri. Sept. 9  MSU **Marshall/Churchill** Committee conducts campus interviews. Endorsed candidates will be notified by email by Thursday, September 15.

Sept. 14-16  Endorsed candidates must meet with the Dean of the Honors College to review their applications before the national deadline. Endorsed candidates complete and sign the top section of the institutional endorsement form and return it to Honors College, along with all final application materials, by Monday, September 26.

Fri. Sept. 23  **Rhodes** Final Application Materials must be turned in to the NIFS Office at the Honors College.

Wed. Sept. 28  **Mitchell** Final Application Materials must be uploaded onto the Mitchell system and a copy turned in to the NIFS Office at the Honors College.

**Marshall** Application must be uploaded onto the Marshall system and a copy turned in to the NIFS Office at the Honors College.

Mon. Oct 3  **MARSHALL NATIONAL DEADLINE** for applicants and letters of recommendation. **Applications, endorsement, letters of recommendation and official transcripts are released electronically by the MSU Marshall Representative to the national Marshall competition.**
RHODES NATIONAL DEADLINE FOR U.S. APPLICANTS. All applications must be received by the Rhodes District Committee by this date.

RHODES NATIONAL DEADLINE FOR ALL LETTERS OF REFERENCE. All recommendations MUST BE RECEIVED by the appropriate Rhodes District Committee by this date. MSU sends the institutional endorsement form and letter of support by this date.

MITCHELL NATIONAL DEADLINE. Application, endorsement, letters of recommendation and official transcripts are released electronically by the MSU Mitchell Representative to the national competition.

Deadline for final submission of University of Cambridge’s on-line application, required for Gates and Churchill scholarship consideration. (Be sure to print a copy of the complete application and turn in to the NIFS Office at the HC)

Endorsed candidates should arrange for practice interviews from their colleges.

Mitchell semifinalist interviews conducted via Skype.

Churchill applications due to the NIFS Office at the Honors College. The MSU Churchill Representative (Honors College) to the national competition sends application, endorsement, letters of recommendation, and official transcripts. Must be received in New York, by Tuesday, November 8th, 2011.

District committees notify applicants selected for interview.

Marshall Regional committees interview selected applicants. Winners announced in mid/late November.

RHODES District Committees conduct interviews. Winners are announced.


GRE/GMAT/MCAT scores must be received by the Churchill Foundation. (To ensure receipt, please take test no later than Sept. 30)

Churchill and Gates Finalists informed of interview dates and times. Finalists arrange for practice interviews from their colleges.

National phone interviews for Churchill Finalists.
Early Feb.-Late Mar. National interviews for Gates Finalists held in Annapolis, MD.

Gates and Churchill Winners are announced.

**NOTICE:** The National/International Fellowships and Scholarships (NIFS) Office within the Honors College will accept application documentation if submitted to nifs@msu.edu, for your convenience!