Timeline for Applying for Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell, Churchill Awards

**March - May**

Review the current information from the UK Scholarship websites: American Rhodes website (www.rhodesscholar.org), Marshall Commission Scholarship (www.marshallscholarship.org), US-Ireland Alliance Mitchell Scholarship (www.us-irelandalliance.org/wmspage.cfm?parm1=34), Winston Churchill Scholarship (www.winstonchurchillfoundation.org), Gates Cambridge Trust (trust.gatesscholar.org). New information and application forms for upcoming competitions will be updated in June or July. Download the updated applications when they are available.

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 1.** 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.

**Aug. 1**

**CAMPUS 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.

**Aug.**

MSU Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell and Churchill Scholarship Committees review applications and arrange campus interviews for students. Interview times will be sent to students by email by Saturday, September 1.

**Sep. Wed. – Fri.**

MSU Marshall/Churchill Committee conducts campus interviews.

**Labor Day Week**

Endorsed candidates will be notified by email by Thursday, September 15.

MSU Rhodes/Mitchell Committee conducts campus interviews. Endorsed candidates will be notified by email by Monday, September 10.

**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!